



Round Rock Christian Academy
Board of Directors Meeting
June 16, 2023

Directors Present

Russ Agosta (via Zoom)
David Fenwick
Barry Haag
Gregg Johnson
Susan Oglesbee
Allan Keith
Todd Whitley
Alexis Michael

Directors Absent

Clint Sonnier

Others Present

Becky Blauser
Cindy Potts
Kelly Counts
Dan Headley
Tiffany Jaksch
Jason Rice
Seleta Carter

The Board Meeting was called to order at 5:48 pm by Barry Haag. David Fenwick opened the meeting in prayer. The three Principals and the Athletic Director each gave brief presentations and showed appreciation for the Board.

Kelly Counts, PK Principal, spoke first, she is thankful for serving in our Early Childhood program. She shared that we have high quality PK programs which have a huge effect on high scores on attendance, fewer behavior problems, reading at or above grade levels, prepares the student for Elementary in all areas. Kelly shared many recent events and traditions including participation in several service projects, reading stories about patriotism, decorated thank you cards to local veterans. Children learned about different traditions & cultures around the world and were taught to worship the god of the universe which is fundamental. Teaching them biblical truth is the goal and the foundations that they have, becoming leaders for the future.

Seleta Carter, Elementary Principal, thanked the Board and explained how she came to be called to work at RRCA. She had many blessings getting to know families, praying with the families and the children, talking to children about the ways to act when things weren't going the right way. The programs that the children do are amazing and to see the adults that know the depths of what they know. She is confident that God is growing them and deepening their roots. This new year is going to be great!

Tiffany Jaksch, Secondary Principal, shared that the Yondr system was implemented this school year to promote a cell phone free learning environment. Teachers observed an increase in student participation in the classroom and more students engaged. At lunch there was no one looking at their phones but instead they were engaging in conversations. Middle School and High School chapels were split up, giving them separate chapels. New youth pastors were invited to speak at chapels and students were more engaged. Secondary students went to a Camp Tejas team building event with lots of games and fellowship time. On the bus trip they couldn't use their phones and the students were singing songs and talking with each other. STEM projects in the fall were impressive, and other successes were Senior lead chapel, a great Spring Show, MS & HS awards

chapel and Senior graduation. It has been exciting to see Secondary grow and there are already seventy 6th graders next year. It's great to see more students exposed to God's word.

Dan Headley, Athletic Director, shared that we celebrated back-to-back state volleyball championships and Rachel Millikan won state at shotput. Both were great accomplishments for the girls athletics program. This year we put together a JH baseball team and seven MS golfers formed a golf team this year. It's great to see kids be at a private school and enjoy sports and continue to college athletics. This year, 270 kids participated in athletics. Compared to 2016 & 17, there were only 197 participating. Dan Headley thanked the Board for allowing us to hire Jason Rice, Assistant AD, and Casey Bernhardt, Facilities Manager, as they have taken a load off of Becky Blausner and Dan.

James Brenenstuhl's role as Academic Advisor was explained, which includes overseeing the SATs, PSATs, reducing student stress for the SATs, guiding their class scheduling and graduation plan, and academic grade checks. When there are academic struggles, he meets with the student and communicates with the parents. James has college representatives come once per month and Becky has given him permission to do some college visit trips with groups of students. James thanked the Board for the support of his family and for letting him be at home for a length of time during his wife's illness and passing.

Jason Rice shared that our logo doesn't represent our school so for marketing purposes we rebranded our logo to have one font and one style of shield. That will help us be recognized in the community. Jason and the media director can use the new logos to be customizable and represent the different groups and we are trying to trademark it. We have the capability to offer an online store that doesn't have to be managed on a daily basis and items will be shipped directly to our RRCA families.

Becky thanked and excused the admin team for coming and Allan Keith had to leave.

Barry Haag asked if the room had the chance to look at the minutes. Todd Whitley made a motion and David Fenwick seconded it and all were in favor.

Financial Report

Russ said the balance sheet looks good, \$187K in the high yield fund which was put there for the gymnasium. In Liabilities, some are current and when we get the gym done, we'll be in good shape. Income Statement note that the revenue for the \$370 over budget and Becky shared that was from the Employee Retention Tax Credit that came in. Becky said we are going to put excess funds in the high yield account. Alexis suggested some funds be put in a 9 or 12 month CD and get a higher interest rate on it. Becky shared that \$700k of the funds are prepaids for next year so she wants to make it through to July when the Plan A tuition comes in.

Russ liked all of the expenses YTD; Becky is being conservative. We are going to end up being about \$600K ahead. Barry Haag agreed that we are in a great position and suggested we pay early, it's not due until 2024. The rate on it is higher than what we can earn. Once interest rates come back down, we can consolidate everything into one long term note. Barry Haag motioned for the

financials to be approved, Susan Oglesbee seconded the motion, all were in favor, and the financials were approved.

Head of School Report

Becky shared how many staff openings we have. Kristi Roak decided to resign so we are looking for a Secondary Music and History teacher.

Legislative updates, we have our current hair policy, we have a revised hair policy, as administration we would like the board to help us because we don't want to make an exception based on race or ethnicity. If we allow the student whose parents are resisting us, we want to open that up to all students. Administration does not want students to have hair in the face, so we would have to allow ponytails. Becky Blauser has checked with other schools. Literally the only big difference is allowing low ponytails and taking off the length.

Todd Whitley motioned to approve the hair policy, Alexis Michael seconded, all were in favor and the motion passed.

We entered an agreement with Raptor; a system that has an app which allows any teacher to send an alert for a lock down. The alert goes to 911, letting the police know there's a lockdown. It's \$2,400/year. Gave the brochure to the board on the website.

Car allowance: Roger Owens had his own truck and ran it into the ground. When Casey's truck broke down, we had no way to get things from storage, food, etc. Is there something we can do to provide a truck allowance around \$4,800/year OR we can purchase a truck.

Barry Haag stated that we need to make sure that we have insurance coverage when Casey is running an errand for the school. Please follow up with insurance.

School Marshals: We now have two certified school marshals: Christopher Wall, a 20 year police officer, and Casey Bernhardt. Becky stated that the government paid for the trainings.

Todd Whitley motioned to approve. Gregg seconded and all were in favor.

Becky - showed 3 videos about bullet resistant glass, which will be \$20-30k/ door. RRISD is doing the film. One option has single pane, tempered glass and someone shooting through it. Our front door is currently double paned. We can do 2 front doors, 2 doors after entry and every exterior door for about \$13K. A parent called and said parents would pay \$10 additional a month for additional security measures. The cost would be between \$40 and \$50 sq ft installed.

Barry Haag liked that this puts us in compliance. State schools are required to have this provision, but we are not. If something happened, we would have some recourse that at least we did this. Becky plans to get a quote to do our reception glass because it has sliding windows. This will give parents and maybe even teachers peace of mind, and separates us from the competition. The lead time is about two months for the glass.

We have our current policy that teachers have to have their tattoos covered, the teachers are worse than the kids. We are hiring more younger people that have tattoos. Our policy says they have to be covered. Board agreed it's a battle not worth fighting. As long as the tattoos are not offensive or inappropriate, it's okay to change this policy for staff.

In looking at the number of Board members whose terms expire in 2024, we need to be thinking of candidates for replacements. Clint Sonnier, Barry Haag, Susan Oglesbee and Todd Whithey all have terms expiring. We need to have time to transition them in.

If Clint rolls off, Becky has a potential parent to replace him. Susan would like to find a female with an education background.

Barry Haag made a motion to adjourn, Alexis Michael seconded the motion, all were in favor, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:40.

Respectfully submitted,