

## RCMA School Board Meeting

October 4, 2021

1PM – 2:30PM

University of Florida Gulf Coast Research & Education Center  
14625 CR 672, Wimauma, FL 33598

### Join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

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Meeting ID: 834 9681 9371

Passcode: RCMA1965

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## MINUTES

	Board Members	Present	Absent	Staff Physically Present
1.	Bayer, Michael T.	Virtually		Brown, Juana
2.	Bizerra, Susanne A.		X	Chopra, Olivia
3.	Dowling, Aedan J.	Virtually		Flores, Gilbert
4.	Gaffney, Donna		X	Garcia, Isabel
5.	Higgins, Dani	Virtually		Haggett, Mark
6.	Hightower, Sandra	Virtually		Moorman, Gloria
7.	Hinson, Al. J.		X	Olson, Scott
8.	Kendrick, Gloria	In-person		Quintero, Zulaika
9.	Kirk, Steven	Virtually		Resendiz, Elizabeth
10.	Krome, Medora	Virtually		Smith, Misty
11.	Miles-Adams, Linda	In-person		Vega, Kathy
12.	Negrini, Mirta	Virtually		
13.	Perez, Joaquin		X	
14.	Pringle, Richard		X	<b>Guests Virtually Present</b>
15.	Robles-Melendez, Wilma	Virtually		Alvarez, Illeana (auditor)
16.	Rollason, Barbara Mainster	Virtually		Lopez, Marco (auditor)
17.	Salustro, Larry	Virtually		Trevino, Marcela (interpreter)
18.	Tighe, Sonia	In-person		
19.	Vallejo, Ansberto	Virtually		
20.	Weisinger, Jaime	In-person		

### I. Roll Call

Roll call was conducted by Misty Smith. A quorum was reached.

### II. Call to Order/Opening Remarks

Linda Miles-Adams, Vice-President, called the meeting to order. The meeting began at 1:08pm.

### III. Minutes of the Previous Meeting(s) – Action

Linda Miles-Adams asked for a motion to approve the June and July 2021 meeting minutes.

**Motion: Sonia Tighe made a motion to approve the June 2021 minutes as presented. Steven Kirk seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion: Steven Kirk made a motion to approve the July 2021 minutes as presented. Sonia Tighe seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.**

#### **IV. Call for Public Comment**

Lind Miles-Adams made a call for public comment. No public comments were made.

#### **V. Charter School Committee Report**

##### **a. Director of Charter Schools – Overview**

###### **1. Florida State Assessment (FSA) and Accountability**

Mark Haggett and Zulaika Quintero each shared highlights of the accountability data. Mark's presentation highlighted the following: 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduating class, accelerated math placement, math coaching impact at both campuses and dual language impact. Zulaika's presentation highlighted the following: reading results for grades 3-6.

##### **b. Wimauma Community Academy (WCA)**

###### **1. School Data Dashboard**

Mark Haggett provided a summary of the school performance data which included enrollment by grade level, COVID-19 cases, nutrition services, parent enrollment and reading, math and MAPS scores.

Jaime Weisinger asked a question regarding additional partnerships. Juana Brown shared that healthcare was the biggest priority and the school has been able to partner with several agencies to fulfill the needs of families, with some challenges being a factor, such as not allowing families and volunteers on campus as well as not having Spanish interpretation.

###### **2. Out-of-field Teachers – *Action***

Mark Haggett presented the names of the out-of-field teachers along with a brief explanation regarding the purpose of the request.

***Motion: Dani Higgins made a motion to approve the Wimauma Community Academy out-of-field teachers in ESOL and or Elementary Education K-6: Brenda Perez, Shawn Geitner, Nubia Yaruro, Susan Reyes, Jeanette Karvis, Elizabeth Duckworth, Debra Halstead and Carrette Stobbs. Steven Kirk seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.***

###### **3. Teacher Salary Allocation Plan – *Action***

Mark Haggett explained that the funds provided by the school district to provide teacher salary increases was slightly short of the amount needed, therefore Mark requested an approval of a 3% or 4% increase (based on the teacher's current salary) to be covered by the RCMA school budget with retroactive pay effective the teacher contract start date.

Medora Krome caught an error in the report (% typo) and Linda Miles-Adams requested that the names of teachers be blacked-out. Both members requested that the report get updated with the corrections.

***Motion: Medora Krome made a motion to approve the Wimauma Community Academy Teacher Salary Allocation Plan. Barbara Mainster Rollason seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.***

###### **4. Financial Statement – *Action***

Larry Salustro provided a summary of the WCA financial statement adding that the statement was also reviewed by the Finance Committee beforehand. Larry further explained that it was still early in the school year to get a full picture at this time.

***Motion: Larry Salustro made a motion to approve the Wimauma Community Academy financial statement. Steven Kirk seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.***

5. Audit Report – **Action**

Marco Lopez of ZOMMA Group reported the results of the recent WCA audit, explaining that the two charter schools (Wimauma Academy and Leadership Academy) were combined to form WCA and the report reflected the combination. Marco reported that WCA received a clean opinion and no findings. He also reported that new notes were added to the report pertaining to COVID which describe the challenges that WCA faced throughout the school year.

**Motion: Barbara Mainster Rollason made a motion to approve the Wimauma Community Academy Audit Report. Ansberto Vallejo seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.**

c. **Immokalee Community Academy (ICA)**

1. School Data Dashboard

Zulaika Quintero provided a summary of the school performance data which included enrollment by grade level, COVID-19 cases, nutrition services, parent enrollment and reading, math, iReady and MAPS scores. In addition, Isabel Garcia asked Zulaika and Mark Haggett to share insight on contributing factors of low enrollment. Responses included sale of farmland in the Wimauma area which is pushing families out of Ag work and into construction and other non-related work; in the Immokalee area, many families are not migrating due to COVID safety and wanting their children to start the school year on time.

2. Out-of-field Teachers – **Action**

Zulaika Quintero presented the names of the out-of-field teachers along with a brief explanation regarding the purpose of the request. Zulaika also provided additional names that were not included in the Board packet.

**Motion: Sonia Tighe made a motion to approve the Immokalee Community Academy long term substitutes and out-of-field teachers in ESOL and or Elementary Education K-6: Laysa Castaneda, Suaidy Cheo Cruz, Linda Delia, Maria Esquijarosa, Michael Gonzalez, Sanjuana Schellhas and Liliana Vazquez. Mirta Negrini seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.**

3. Teacher Salary Allocation Plan – **Action**

Similar to sister school WCA, Zulaika Quintero presented the list of teachers at ICA who will require a salary increase based on their current salary (between 2% and 4 %.), requesting that the increases be covered by the RCMA school budget with retroactive pay effective the teacher contract start date. Zulaika provide an updated report with teacher names blacked out, uploaded to BoardDocs immediately by Misty Smith.

**Motion: Barbara Mainster Rollason made a motion to approve the Immokalee Community Academy Teacher Salary Allocation Plan. Jaime Weisinger seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.**

4. Financial Statement – **Action**

Larry Salustro provided a summary of the ICA financial statement adding that the statement was also reviewed by the Finance Committee beforehand. Larry further explained that it was still early in the school year to get a full picture at this time.

**Motion: Larry Salustro made a motion to approve the Immokalee Community Academy financial statement. Michael T. Bayer seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.**

5. Audit Report – **Action**

Marco Lopez of ZOMMA Group explained that the charter school went through a name change which was reflected in the audit report. Marco reported that ICA had a clean opinion and no findings. He also reported that new notes were added to the report pertaining to COVID which describe the challenges that ICA faced throughout the school year.

***Motion: Sonia Tighe made a motion to approve the Immokalee Community Academy Audit Report. Jaime Weisinger seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.***

**VI. Old Business**

**a. Charter School Growth Fund (CSGF) Update**

Juana Brown and Linda Miles-Adams provided an update on how the final meeting went with CSGF staff. The presentation was thorough and endured three hours. CSGF staff were very impressed with parent support and the community we have developed, our academic performance and leadership capacity. We were evaluated/scored very highly in each category (four categories). Juana shared that we will know by October 11th if we have been accepted as part their portfolio.

Isabel Garcia responded to a question asked by Jaime Weisinger - that CSGF will fund approximately \$1.27M over the next 4 years for operations, specifically to recruit additional talent to expand our charter schools. Lastly, Juana elaborated a bit more of who CSGF is, how we immediately get designated into Schools of Hope and what would come next if added to their portfolio.

**b. Other**

Jaime Weisinger requested an update on the ICA school expansion renovation. Zulaika shared that three classrooms should be completed by December and two additional classrooms on the second floor should also be completed by December with the hopes of having middle school students in classrooms beginning January 2022.

**VII. New Business**

**a. Other**

None.

**VIII. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 2:48pm.

***Motion: Steven Kirk made a motion to adjourn the School Board meeting. Jaime Weisinger seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.***

Respectfully submitted,



**Misty Smith  
Executive Administrative Manager**