



RCMA Annual School Board Meeting
January 30, 2023
Mulberry Child Development Center, Mulberry, FL
12:30PM – 2PM



Virtual:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89516108198?pwd=VmtHZEJ0Z3B1NVVNU21BRW0yVWRJUT09>

Meeting ID: 895 1610 8198 Passcode: RCMA

By phone: (301) 715 8592; Passcode: 500167

MINUTES

Attendance				
	Board Members-At-Large	Present	Absent	Staff Present In-person
1.	Bayer, Michael T.	In-Person		Avellaneda, Rosalinda
2.	Bizerra, Susanne A.		X	Brown, Juana
3.	Dowling, Aedan J.	Online		Garcia, Isabel
4.	Gaffney, Donna	In-Person		Haggett, Mark
5.	Hightower, Sandra		X	Higgins, Dani
6.	Hinson, Al. J.		X	Maldonado, Elizabeth
7.	Kirk, Steven		X	Moorman, Gloria
8.	Krome, Medora	Online		Olson, Scott
9.	Miles, Linda A.	In-Person		Sepulveda, Catalina
10.	Negrini, Mirta	Online		Vega, Kathy
11.	Perez, Joaquin		X	Quintero, Zulaika
12.	Pringle, Richard	Online		
13.	Robles de Melendez, Wilma	Online		Guest Present In-person
14.	Rollason, Barbara Mainster	In-Person		Coats, Bill
15.	Salustro, Larry	In-Person		Vigoa-Cardet, Lissy (Interpreter)
16.	Tighe, Sonia	In-Person		
17.	Vallejo, Ansberto	Online		
18.	Weisinger, Jaime		X	
Guest Present In-person (Parents)				
	Headley, Eletisha	Pascual, Leonel		De La Cruz, Emig
	Hernandez, Araceli	Valerio, Venessa J.		
	Masum, Wendy	Vargas, Lorenza		
	Wilson, Sheron			

1) Meeting Opening

a. Roll Call

Roll call was conducted by Elizabeth Maldonado. A quorum was reached.

b. Call to Order/Opening Remarks

Linda A. Miles, President, called the meeting to order. The meeting began at 12:40 pm

2) Call For Public Comment

Linda A. Miles made a call for public comment. No public comments were made.

3) Consent Agenda – Meeting Minutes

- a. School Board Meeting Minutes – October 2022
- b. Wimauma Community Academy Committee Minutes
- c. Immokalee Community Academy Committee Minutes

4) Consent Agenda – Academic

- a. Wimauma Community Academy Academic Dashboard
- b. Immokalee Community Academy Academic Dashboard

5) Consent Agenda – Finance

- a. Wimauma Community Academy Financial Statements
- b. Immokalee Community Academy Financial Statements

6) Consent Agenda Approval

- a. Approval of the Full Consent Agenda
Linda A. Miles asked if there was any interest in withdrawing Consent Agenda items. Hearing none, Linda called for a motion.

Motion: Medora Krome made a motion to approve the Full Consent Agenda as presented (reference item numbers 3, 4 and 5 above). Sonia Tighe seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

7) General Discussion

- a. Mulberry Campus and Community Tour - *Update*
Linda A. Miles shared her thoughts and understanding regarding where Mulberry children live after visiting a neighboring housing camp during the tour. The Mulberry Campus and community tour was led by the principal-in-residence, Dani Higgins, along with other center staff. Linda, thanked all for the tour and voiced her appreciation of the passion Dani has for the entire Mulberry community.
Mark Haggett added to the conversation about possibly providing a community tour to the current and incoming Charter school teachers, as for him, the tour gave a different prospective about the children being served. Barbara Mainster Rollason shared her personal experience over more than 40 years in visiting different housing camps and that she was appalled by the Mulberry housing she toured today. Kathy Vega and Venessa J. Valerio shared their thoughts regarding the tour experience, as well.
Dani Higgins gave an open invitation to anyone who would like to tour the Mulberry Campus at their convenience.

8) Leadership Report

- a. Executive Director
Isabel Garcia thanked the individuals for sharing how impactful the tour was for them and how important RCMA's work is to better the academic future of the children served. Isabel shared a board retreat recap PowerPoint that contained key points and information that was covered during the retreat. She highlighted two *RCMA Strategic Goals and Supporting Initiatives* along with the metrics of success. In addition, Isabel, discussed the importance of completing the board advocacy survey as the main goal for that was to identify elected officials known by the board to leverage RCMA in future meetings, tours and projects. Mulberry Charter Academy appropriation timeline was also a topic of discussion. Mark Haggett shared information from attending and speaking along with Dani at the recent Delegation meeting in support of the appropriation request for our septic system.
- b. Charter School Committee Chair
Linda A. Miles shared an update on the silent phase of the Mulberry Capital Campaign by gathering data, stories and helping creating private revenue streams to invest in the future schools. Donna Gaffney shared details on the on-going and preliminary work that the Steering Committee is doing to increase board engagement and expanding capacity by outreaching directly to the board. Donna also added that the heartfelt tour provided will be very important to continue to reach potential donors. In relevance to expanding capacity, Linda shared her recent connection with another board member, Joaquin Perez.
- c. Director of Charter Schools
Juana Brown shared the positive outcome of having a discussion with center staff and parents on the continued family support and work that Charters school do as they build from the center level. Juana highlighted the noticeable leadership growth within the principals and supporting leadership team in connection with the students, families and communities. In addition, Juana, shared the ongoing advocacy work RCMA is doing to raise the state and national profile. Out of two thousand organizations that applied nationwide, RCMA was one of 32 that was acknowledged and

awarded funds by [The Yass Prize](#) organization. Educational legislation was also a topic of discussion.

- d. Principals
Mark Haggett provided a summary of WCA performance data specific to reading and math scores, State incentives to increase performance and a bit on the change of the dashboard setting. A discussion ensued.

Zulaika Quintero provided a summary of ICA performance data specific to closing the gap in reading, Spanish language, testing challenges and a bit on teacher shortages. A discussion ensued.

- e. SAC Parent Presidents
Petra Hernandez, newly elected ICA SAC parent president, shared a few words on the ongoing support and academic work for the charter students.

9) Old Business

- a. 2022-2024 School Board Members List
Isabel Garcia shared the updated board member list, presented Gloria Kendricks resignation and connected a discussion to the *Strategic goals and initiatives* to help identify and fill board vacancies. Linda commented and a discussion ensued.
- b. Other
None.

10) New Business - Action

- a. Wimauma Community Academy Out of Field Teacher Notification
The out of field teachers at Wimauma Community Academy (WCA) are as listed: Nubia Yaruro, Margarita Rozalen, Celso Mendez, Susan Reyes, Noelia Segovia, Katelin Loo, Laura Torrano and Maria C. Vargas.

Motion: Larry Salustro made a motion to approve the Wimauma Community Academy Out of Field Notification as presented. Sonia Tighe seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

- b. Immokalee Community Academy Out of Field Teacher Notification
Michael T. Bayer asked a question regarding the notification list. Zulaika Quintero responded and a discussion ensued.

The out of field teachers at Immokalee Community Academy (ICA) are as listed: Bernice Abrigo, Sarah Anzualda, Laysa Castaneda, Suaidy Cheo Cruz, Maria Esquijarosa, Michael Gonzalez, Camilo Londono, Alexandra Martinez, Delia Quintana, Jordan Rios, Angelica Zaragoza, Liliana Vazquez and Annmarie Morgiewicz.

Motion: Michael T. Bayer made the motion to approve the Immokalee Community Academy Out of Field Notification as presented. Larry Salustro seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

11) Closing

- a. Adjournment
The Annual School Board meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Motion: Richard Pringle made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Sonia Tighe seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Maldonado

Elizabeth Maldonado
Executive Administrative Manager