



RCMA School Board Regular Meeting
October 2, 2023
University of Florida/ Gulf Coast Research & Education Center
Wimauma, FL
12:30PM – 2PM



Virtual:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86025987419?pwd=UIRIYW9RbXJyR05IMXlZdEJ2WDhsUT09>

Meeting ID: 860 2598 7419 Passcode: October

By phone: (929) 436 2866; Passcode: 2140538

MINUTES

Attendance				
	Board Members-At-Large	Present	Absent	Staff Present In-Person
1.	Bayer, Michael T.	In person		Brown, Juana
2.	Bizerra, Susanne A.		X	Garcia, Isabel
3.	Dowling, Aedan J.	In person		Haggett, Mark
4.	Gaffney, Donna	In person		Higgins, Dani
5.	Hightower, Sandra	Online		Johnson, Ashley
6.	Hinson, Al. J.	Online		Johnson, Mandy
7.	Krome, Medora		X	Maldonado, Elizabeth
8.	Miles, Linda A.	In person		Sigala, Abbigail
9.	Negrini, Mirta		X	Sepulveda, Catalina
10.	Perez, Joaquin		X	Vega, Kathy
11.	Pringle, Richard		X	Winter, Edward
12.	Robles de Melendez, Wilma		X	
13.	Rollason, Barbara Mainster	Online		Guest Present Online
14.	Salustro, Larry		X	Diaz, Charles <i>CPA, Zomma Group</i>
15.	Tighe, Sonia	In person		Lopez, Marcos <i>CPA, Zomma Group</i>
16.	Vallejo, Ansberto	In person		
17.	Weisinger, Jaime	In person		

1) Meeting Opening

a. Roll Call

Roll call was conducted by Elizabeth Maldonado. A quorum was reached. One unidentified guest and/or members of the public, also joined the call.

b. Call to Order/Opening Remarks

Linda A. Miles, President, called the meeting to order. The meeting began at 12:46 p.m. Dani Higgins introduced Mulberry Community Academy first graders with a dance presentation.

c. Call For Public Comment

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

d. Changes to the Agenda

2) Consent Agenda – Meeting Minutes

a. School Board Meeting Minutes – July 24, 2023

b. Charter Committee Meeting Minutes

i. Wimauma Community Academy

ii. Immokalee Community Academy

3) Consent Agenda – Academic

a. Academic Dashboards

i. Wimauma Community Academy

ii. Immokalee Community Academy

- iii. Mulberry Community Academy
- b. Charter Out-of-Field Teachers
 - i. Wimauma Community Academy
 - 1. WCA Out-of-Field Teachers are noted as Nubia Yaruro and Celso Mendez.
 - ii. Immokalee Community Academy
 - 1. ICA Out-of-Field Teacher are noted as Alian Lopez, Suaidy Cheo Cruz, Inmaculada Garrido Castellanos, Beatriz Guzman, Freshia Rodriguez, Alexandra Martinez, Mayra Montalvo, Delia Quintana, Jordan Rios, Eliud Trejo, Nathaniel Vaughan, and Angelica Zaragoza.
 - iii. Mulberry Community Academy
 - 1. MCA Out-of-Field Teachers are noted as Veronica Abundis, Jennifer Pagan, Jennifer Suarez, and Sara Garcia.
- c. Policy on Internet Safety
- d. Policy on School Safety
- e. Policy on School bathrooms, locker rooms, and dressing rooms
- f. Policy on Name Deviation
- g. Policy on Protection of Student information
- h. Policy on Threat management
- i. Special Magistrate for Teacher Empowerment Policy
- j. Access Control Policy
- k. Social Media Staff Responsible Use Policy
- l. Charter Academy Employee Handbook

4) Consent Agenda – Finance

- a. Financial Statements
 - i. Immokalee Community Academy
 - ii. Wimauma Community Academy
 - iii. Mulberry Community Academy

5) Consent Agenda Approval

- a. Approval of the Full Consent Agenda

Linda A. Miles asked if there was any interest in withdrawing Consent Agenda items. Michael T. Bayer requested to withdraw the following four business items for additional discussion under New Business:

- 3.b. Charter Out-of-Field Teachers,
- 3.e. Policy on School bathrooms, locker rooms, and dressing rooms,
- 3.f. Policy on Name Deviation, and
- 3.l. Charter Academy Employee Handbook

Linda A. Miles also requested to move forward in presenting the *New Business* items before the *Leadership reports*.

Motion: Michael T. Bayer made a motion to approve the Full Consent Agenda with omission of four business items for additional discussion under New Business or Leadership Report, as listed (3.b., 3.e., 3.f., and 3.l.). Sonia Tighe seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

6) New Business

- a. Wimauma Community Academy Audit

Marco Lopez, CPA of Zomma Group, presented the RCMA Wimauma Community Academy audit and summarizing the financial statements. The finance committee shall review and approve the WCA audit at their next meeting followed by executive committee approval by majority vote with a ratification of the full board at the next School Board meeting. A discussion ensued.

Immokalee Community Academy Audit
 Marco Lopez, CPA of Zomma Group, presented the RCMA Immokalee Community Academy audit and summarizing the financial statements. The finance committee shall

review and approve the ICA audit at their next meeting followed by executive committee approval by majority vote with a ratification of the full board at the next School Board meeting. A discussion ensued.

7) Leadership Report

a. Charter School Committee Chair

Linda A. Miles recognized and expressed her appreciation to staff and board members on the efforts of expanding child and family services to the third RCMA Charter School, *Mulberry Community Academy*. Linda reported on behalf of the recent Charter School Committee, highlighting enrollment goals, reading/math data, teacher feedback on curriculum, policy updates, and lastly, middle school to high school transitions, such as Immokalee Foundation services provided at Immokalee Community Academy.

b. Director of Charter Schools

Juana Brown shared a department update by announcing recent appointments: Mark Haggett the Director of Operations for Charter School/WCA Principal 6-8 grade, Mandy Johnson the WCA Principal K-5 grade, Ashley Johnson the Principal Manager with focus on Curriculum and Academic Leadership.

c. Charter Academy Principals

Mark Haggett, Wimauma Community Academy Principal 6-8th grade, provided a summary of the Charter performance data, highlighting School Readiness enrollments, assessments strategies for the next quarter, and discusses the action request for Out-of-Field teachers for board approval. The teacher salary increase plan will be presented at the next board meeting.

Mandy Johnson, newly appointed Wimauma Community Academy Principal K-5th grade, introduced herself and shared her previous RCMA roles during the last 14 years.

Zulaika Quintero, Immokalee Community Academy Principal, provided a summary of the Charter performance data, highlighting the goal of full enrollment capacity in eighth grade, high number of scholar enrollments in the School Readiness After School program and local partnerships, Out-of-Field teachers board approval, and a bit on building security. Michael Bayer commented and a discussion ensued.

Dani Higgins, Mulberry Community Academy Principal, provided a summary of the Charter performance data, highlighting the anticipation of full enrollments during the upcoming open house, increase the use of social media to increase enrollments, successful opening of afterschool program, explained the updated Out-of-Field teachers for board approval, and a bit on the guardian security guard. Jaime Weisinger commented and a discussion ensued.

d. SAC Presidents

No presentations shared.

e. Charter Policies – *Approvals*

Linda Miles asked Juana Brown to briefly discuss the listed policies pulled from the Academic Consent Agenda. Policies discussed included: 3.b. Charter Out-of-Field teachers; 3.e. Policy on School bathrooms, locker rooms and dressing rooms; 3.f. Policy on Name Deviation; and 3.l. Charter Academy Employee Handbook. A discussion ensued.

Motion: Jaime Weisinger made a motion to approve the listed Charter Policies after discussion: 3.b. Charter Out-of-Field teachers; 3.e. Policy on School bathrooms, locker rooms and dressing rooms; 3.f. Policy on Name Deviation and 3.l. Charter Academy Employee Handbook. Sonia Tighe seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

8) Old Business

- a. Other
- None.

9) General Discussion and New Business Approvals

- a. Mulberry Community Academy Capital Campaign - Update
Linda A. Miles asked Isabel Garcia to share the Mulberry Community Academy feasibility update. Isabel Garcia and Aedan Dowling elaborated on the preliminary feasibility study findings and highlights. Several Board members commented and expressed their support. A discussion ensued.

Motion: Aedan Dowling made the motion to authorize pre-development spending up to \$100,000 between now and December to progress design, due diligence and planning efforts; Finalize consolidated RCMA Inc. (borrowing entity) projections to monitor debt capacity and key metrics for January board meeting. Sonia Tighe seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

- b. Mulberry Predevelopment Discussion
Discussion ensued in the Mulberry Community Academy Capital Campaign topic, see above.
- c. 2022-2023 Health & Safety Policies and Procedures
Juana Brown provided a summary on the program year Health and Safety Policies and Procedures that abides by all three Charter Academies.

Motion: Michael T. Bayer made the motion to approve the 2022-2023 Health and Safety Policies and Procedures as presented. Ansberto Vallejo seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

- d. Other
None.

10) Closing

- a. Adjournment
The school board meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Motion: Sonia Tighe made the motion to adjourn the School Board meeting. Jaime Weisinger seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Maldonado
Elizabeth Maldonado
Executive Administrative Manager