



**RCMA Regular School Board Meeting**  
**April 15, 2024**  
**Hilton Naples**  
**12:30PM – 2PM**



Virtual:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89331904900?pwd=TVVoQ0RVRTE5L29MT0l6bWQxSkM2Zz09>

Meeting ID: 893 3190 4900 Passcode: April2024

By phone: (929) 436 2866; Passcode: 370670974

**MINUTES**

<b>Attendance</b>				
	<b>Board Members-At-Large</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>	<b>Staff Present In-Person</b>
1.	Bayer, Michael T.	In-person		Brown, Juana
2.	Dowling, Aedan J.	In-person		Cobarrubio, Alondra
3.	Gaffney, Donna		X	Garcia, Isabel
4.	Hightower, Sandra		X	Johnson, Ashley
5.	Hinson, Al. J.	Online		Maldonado, Elizabeth
6.	Miles, Linda A.	In-person		Moorman, Gloria
7.	Negrini, Mirta		X	Olson, Scott
8.	Perez, Joaquin	In-person		Sepulveda, Catalina
9.	Pringle, Richard		X	Sigala, Abbigail
10.	Robles de Melendez, Wilma	Online		Vega, Kathy
11.	Rollason, Barbara Mainster	In-person		Villanueva, Lourdes
12.	Salustro, Larry	In-person		
13.	Tighe, Sonia	Online		
14.	Vallejo, Ansberto	Online		
15.	Weisinger, Jaime		X	

**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 12:32 p.m. An invitation was extended to honor the life of Medora Krome at her Celebration of Life. Board members shared impactful stories about Medora Krome and her parents, reflecting on their lasting legacy.

**c. Call For Public Comment**

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

**d. Changes to the Agenda**

Isabel Garcia mentioned that she had included an Executive Director report and expressed her desire to discuss it after the Consent Agenda approval.

**2) Consent Agenda – Meeting Minutes**

a. School Board Meeting Minutes – January 2024

b. Charter Committee Meeting Minutes

i. Wimauma + Mulberry Community Academy

ii. Immokalee Community Academy

**3) Consent Agenda – Academic**

a. 2024-2025 Academic School Calendars

- i. Wimauma Community Academy
- ii. Immokalee Community Academy
- iii. Mulberry Community Academy

**4) Consent Agenda – Finance**

- a. Charter Academies Financial Statements
  - i. Immokalee Community Academy
  - ii. Wimauma Community Academy
  - iii. Mulberry Community Academy
- b. Appraisal Engagement Letter
- c. Charter Schools Auditor Selection and Transition Letter

**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. Linda pointed out some errors in the January School Board meeting minutes and requested that the last names of specific individuals be corrected, as they had been noted incorrectly. Larry Salustro pointed out the need to revise the title pages of the RCMA Mulberry Community Academy Income statement, changing the date to January 2024 instead of July 2023. Additionally, Linda A. Miles requested that item 2.b. Charter Committee Meeting minutes be moved to General Discussion.

***Motion: Barbara Mainster Rollason made a motion to approve the Full Consent Agenda with the noted change to the January School Board minutes and the MCA Income Statement date. Larry Salustro seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.***

**6) Leadership Report**

- a. Executive Director Report

Isabel Garcia presented a comprehensive report on the current state of affairs regarding RCMA's financial and organizational sustainability, focusing on debt management and the progress made in key areas outlined in the Strategic Plan. A brief discussion occurred regarding the restructuring of new charter-related legal entities. Barbara Mainster Rollason, Larry Salustro, and Linda A. Miles provided comments, leading to an in-depth discussion on the matter.
- b. Charter School Committee Chair

Linda A. Miles provided an overview of the Charter committee meetings, emphasizing key discussions on enrollment, graduate support, and providing high school education options. The meetings highlighted the significance of guiding students to select high schools that align with their needs. Furthermore, the meeting underscored the pivotal role of ICA's robust community partnerships in bolstering the community.

During the meeting, Larry Salustro requested a review of the Mulberry Community Academy Committee minutes, specifically focusing on graduate support. He sought clarification from the Director of Charter School regarding any distinct initiatives at Immokalee Community Academy and inquired about RCMA's preparations to ensure scholars have successful careers after graduation.
- c. Director of Charter Schools

Juana Brown discussed various report topics, including leadership transitions at Wimauma Community Academy (WCA), legislative impacts, and the ongoing K-8 principal search for WCA.
- d. Charter Academy Principals

Mark Haggett presented a comprehensive overview of Wimauma Community Academy's (WCA) academic dashboard, covering a range of topics such as enrollment, the plans to add a 6th-grade portable unit, support for graduates, college plans for scholars, social-emotional academic initiatives, and connections with the Hope Fund.

Ashley Johnson presented the academic dashboard for Immokalee Community Academy (ICA), covering topics such as staff vacancies, on-campus teacher recruitment with emphasis on the institution's mission, and strategies to increase the student capacity for middle school classrooms.

Dani Higgins expressed excitement about the successful school year at Mulberry Community Academy (MCA). She reported that most kindergarten students are now performing at grade level compared to their initial performance at the beginning of the school year. Other topics discussed included academic enrichment, career exploration opportunities, teacher transitions, hiring teacher assistants, professional development, improving school culture, and community support.

Larry Salustro has requested a report on WCA's facility expansion and modular expenses. During a recent visit to Mulberry Community Academy, Barbara Mainster Rollason highlighted several positive events, including a teacher's aide getting married, a chess team celebration, and a father and daughter event at the child development center. Overall, many wonderful things are happening at the RCMA community campuses. Isabel Garcia also mentioned the positive feedback from CSGF, Delano, highlighted the success of the enriched RCMA model, wrap-around services, and the community hub.

- e. SAC Presidents  
No reports were shared.

#### **7) Old Business**

- a. Mulberry Capital Campaign  
Gloria Moorman shared the latest updates on the Ring the Bell Campaign, including the status spreadsheet, news about board investments and match opportunities, phases of the campaign, and the outcomes of the first awareness events. She also encouraged board members to participate in awareness events and expressed hope to host one in the future. A discussion ensued.
- b. Other  
None.

#### **8) New Business**

- a. Auditor Engagement Letters FYE 2024  
Larry Salustro mentioned that an audit firm has been selected for the charter schools, but the firm has since broken up. He spoke to those who moved to the new firm and confirmed that the same terms were honored. Additionally, each charter school's GSMDT Audit Services Engagement Letters were presented, and Larry further explained the letter's contents.
- b. Other  
None.

#### **9) General Discussion**

- a. Upcoming Board Workshop  
Isabel Garcia mentioned that a School Board Workshop will be held to discuss Charter School Legal entities before the next board meeting.
- b. Other  
None.

**10) Closing**

a. Adjournment

The school board meeting was adjourned at 2:02 p.m.

*Motion: Larry Salustro made the motion to adjourn the School Board meeting. Michael Bayer seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,  
*Elizabeth Maldonado*  
Elizabeth Maldonado  
Executive Administrative Manager