

BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES – September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

On September 26<sup>th</sup> 2023 the Roosevelt Children’s Academy Charter School Board of Trustees held a teleconferencing Board Meeting pursuant to notice; at the Roosevelt Children’s Academy Charter School, 201 Debevoise Avenue, Roosevelt, N.Y. with Chair Rev Reginald Tuggle presiding.

ROOSEVELT CHILDREN’S ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL

**MOTION TO OPEN MEETING:** Chair Rev Reginald Tuggle officially called the meeting to order at 6:05 P.M. A motion was made by DWashington, to open the Board Meeting. The motion seconded by Burden.

**ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM:** Chair Tuggle acknowledged the Trustees names to be called to establish a quorum. Present: Trustee (Tuggle, DWashington, Arroyo, Burden, Chien, Garner, Vanderburg, Williams) ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES-Steven Martir (Counsel to the Board); Tyra Washington,(Consultant to Board); Dr Toni Walron (Invited Guest); Simone Roberts, Middle School Principal; Reshma Persad, Elementary Principal; Philip Leconte, COO&CFO; Laron Walker, CSBM; Ella Portero, Secretary to the Board.

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS:** Chair opened the meeting with a welcome to everyone, on behalf of the entire board. The Chair thanked the families, school leadership team, faculty/staff for their participation in the Academic Night Program held at Hofstra University on September 20<sup>th</sup>. The Chair further thanked Trustee Wanda Arroyo for addressing the families on the behalf of the board at Academic Night and also thanked Trustee Jamel V. Vanderburg and Toni Burden for attending. The annual program increases transparency by sharing information about the school. This makes it easier for parents and faculty/staff to understand our mutual support of the RCA students. The agenda included, the overview of K-8 Academics/instructional Practices and Response to Intervention (RTI) Services, Charter Renewal Process, (ESSA) Every Student Succeed Act /Title 1, Other School Policies/Procedures and the Emergency Response Plan (ERP). The Chair also noted Trustee Arroyo participation, on behalf of the board, at the distribution of backpacks with supplies event on September 11<sup>th</sup>. In which community partner City National Bank representative, Davi Tserpelis, SVP, was thanked for the organizations continued support to RCA students with these needed/essential supplies each year. Coverage of the event was reported on News 12 Long Island.

**Adopted: September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

A motion was made by Trustee Burden that the Minutes from the September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Board Meeting be approved as written. The motion was seconded by Williams and unanimously approved.

**Ratifying & Confirming Resolution**

**Adopted: September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Roosevelt Children’s Academy Charter School Board of Trustees in the September 26<sup>th</sup> 2023 Teleconference Board Meeting on behalf of the Roosevelt Children’s Academy Charter School authorized unanimously a Ratifying & Confirming Resolution adopting the August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes as written. The motion carried. After which the school reports were presented.

Ayes: 8 Trustee (Tuggle, DWashington, Arroyo, Burden, Chien, Garner, Vanderburg, Williams)

Noes: 0 Absent: 0 Abstentions: 0

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Roosevelt Children's Academy Charter School

Board of Trustees Board Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**SCHOOL OPERATION Budget Update:** – Chief Operation's/Financial Officer (COO&CFO) presented the Updated Enrollment presentation for 2023. Enrollment update presented reflected a student count of 746 as of September 26<sup>th</sup>. Ahead of last year's pace. Of that total 552 students re-registered. Incoming students registered 194. Of that total 74 were incoming Kindergarten. The budget is based on student count of 790.

The APPROVED Budget for fiscal 2023-24 presented as of September 30<sup>th</sup> reflected 2023 Enrollment Budget 790. Total budgeted full year (FY) revenue is \$13.6 million. YTD recognized \$1.3 million. Total budgeted (FY) direct expenses \$9.3 million. Spending YTD \$1.9 million. Total budgeted (FY) indirect expense is \$2.9 million. Spending YTD \$.6 million. On pace to spending 100% of budget

The **APPROVED** Budget for fiscal 2022-23 presented as of September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Enrollment budget presented 790. Budgeted full year (FY) revenue is \$13.6 million. Budgeted direct expenses \$9.3 million. Budgeted indirect expense \$2.9 million.

Other Financial Reports: **UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT as of September 26, 2023**

1. Statement of Financial Position Summary Report as of September 26, 2023
2. Statement of Cash Flows For The Period Ending September 26, 2023
3. Financial Performance Analysis For The Period Ending September 26, 2023
4. Statement of Activities Summary Report For The Period Ending September 26, 2023

**SCHOOL OPERATION: Facilities/Construction:**

1. **Progress update on construction at 111 Pleasant Ave. Steel is being erected.**

**SCHOOL ACADEMIC REPORT**

Principals presented Academic report outlining Academics, Climate & Culture, Meetings with staff, Home /School connections, Communications with CSE, Meetings with operations and CSI.

**Elementary Report: School Climate & Culture**

- COVID Cases
  - For the month of September (same as previous month)
    - 1 confirmed case (student)
    - 0 confirmed cases (staff)
  - From the start of the school year
    - 1 confirmed case (student)
    - 0 confirmed cases (staff)

- Average Student Attendance

<b>SEPT.</b>
<b>81%</b>

- Discipline

	<b>SEPT.</b>
<b>In School Suspensions</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Out of School Suspensions</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>

- Events Overview
  - Open House (Monday September 11<sup>th</sup>)
  - Backpack Giveaway (Monday September 11<sup>th</sup>)
  - Academic Night (Wednesday September 20<sup>th</sup>)

Academics

- i-Ready Assessments
  - ELA
    - Administered on Thursday September 14<sup>th</sup>

- Math
  - Administered on Friday September 15<sup>th</sup>
- DIBELS
  - Testing started week of September 18<sup>th</sup>
- Professional Development
  - Thursday September 28<sup>th</sup> (noon dismissal)
    - Focus: i-Ready training
- CSI Recommendations

Vacancies (5)

- 1 Classroom Teacher
- 2 Teacher Assistants
- 1 Music Teacher
- 1 ELA Instructional Coach

**Middle School Report:**

**ACADEMICS:**

- ❖ Our school year started off well. We welcomed our students with bubbles of love on September 5<sup>th</sup>. Our new students reported that they are having a good experience.
- ❖ The TLAC professional development and the refresher PD on Restorative Practice had a great impact on the tone that was set by staff during the first two weeks of school. Teachers are incorporating many of the techniques within their daily instruction and as result, academics are being focused upon more.
- ❖ The administration of the first iReady diagnostic assessment took place on September 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. In comparison to this time last year, we have a 3% increase in math and remained the same in reading thus far. Students who missed the assessment will have an opportunity to make up the assessment during the week of September 18.
- ❖ The data gathered from the iReady results and daily aggressive monitoring will be used to drive daily groups in both math and ELA.

We have incorporated cursive writing during students' lunch period. Students practice

- ❖ writing 1 to 2 letters each day thus far. This activity is supervised by our teacher assistants.
- ❖ To aid in multiplication proficiency, we plan on students practicing their times table each week. We will start with the 0- and 1-times tables. Then each week we will add another timetable. At the end of each month, we will quiz the students on what they have learned. We will focus on our fifth-grade students with the goal that by the time our fifth-grade students are eighth graders, all students will be proficient in their times table.
- ❖ Coaches and I will begin weekly walk throughs in math and ELA in October. Coaches will then meet with teachers individually to provide feedback on the observations.
- ❖ Our first half professional day will be on Thursday, September 28. The focus will be on IReady (Standards Mastery)
- ❖ Open House took place on September 11. We had a good showing. About 20 to 40 parents per grade level came to Open House.
- ❖ As a middle school, we have established 7 core values (Trust, Empathy, Authenticity, Respect, Being Present, Vulnerability, and Judgement-Free Zone). All classes engage in daily Restorative Circles and Mindfulness activities. This is done during homeroom from 8 am to 8:25 am. Discussions about our Core Values and this month's Character Trait (respect) take place when needed during instructional blocks.
- ❖ We will be starting back Saturday School to provide additional instructional support to our identified level 1s and 2s. Saturday School will begin on January 6<sup>th</sup> and will run through Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. There will be a total of 13 Saturdays.

**ELA:**

- ❖ In ELA, teachers have prepared engaging lessons that center around getting to know their students, developing relationships and skill enhancement. They have integrated the schoolwide core values into their routines and are embracing restorative practice. All ELA classrooms will dive into our EL Curriculum on September 18th.

5th Grade will begin Module 1 which focuses on the essential question “What are human rights and how can they be threatened?” They will read the novel “Esperanza Rising.” They will also be introduced to the “UDHR” which is the Universal

- ❖ Declaration of Human Rights.
- ❖ 6th Grade begins their first module which focuses on the Essential Question: What is mythology and what is the value of studying mythology from other cultures? The accompanying novel is “Percy Jackson” and they will also discuss The Hero’s Journey as relates to the main character.
- ❖ 7th Grade begins their first module with “A Long Walk to Water” novel which focuses on The Lost Children of Sudan and their story.
- ❖ 8th Grade begins their module that focuses on the Essential Question: Why do we see evidence of myths and traditional stories in modern narratives? They will read “Summer of the Mariposas.”
- ❖ This week the ELA Team is assessing students with Writing and Iready Benchmarks.
- ❖ In order to increase scores on the ELA State Assessment we are incorporating aggressive monitoring, small group targeted instruction and explicit vocabulary instruction. We have segmented forty minutes of the ELA block to support RTI, SpEd and ENL pull out services as well as the targeted instruction.

**Math:**

- ❖ 5th Grade Math is currently working on Unit 1: Numbers and Operations in Base Ten Textbook Chapter 1: Lesson 1: Place Value through millions. 6th Grade Math is currently working on writing rates as unit rates. 7th Grade Math is currently working on Textbook Chapter 1: Lesson 4: Proportional and Non-Proportional Relationships. 8th Grade Math is currently working on Textbook Chapter 1: Lesson 3: Multiply and divide Monomials.

**Special Education:**

- ❖ Special Education services have begun as of 9/11/23.
- ❖ Students are receiving resource room services as well as speech, counseling, physical therapy & occupational therapy.
- ❖ We are working more closely with our providers to ensure the academic and social-emotional success of our students.

All teachers have received and reviewed their students’ IEP and are aware of how the IEPs are to be implemented.

- ❖ We currently have 20 Elementary students with IEPs and 27 middle school students that have IEPs.
- ❖ A few students are currently not receiving services to date due to outside agency shortages and scheduling conflicts. Mrs. Johnson is working with the local district and agencies to get services started as soon as possible.

### **RTI**

- ❖ RTI Teachers are wrapping up the first round of assessments to determine appropriate levels for our at-risk population. Based on student levels they will be placed in an RTI group of 5 or less students
- ❖ In Math we are using the Number Worlds curriculum for grade 4-8
- ❖ In Reading we are using both LLI & Achieve 3000,
- ❖ The intervention curriculums we are using are research based and have yielded great results over the past few years, with many students graduating from the RTI program altogether. Students who remained in RTI showed wonderful improvement.
- ❖ The Goal of RTI has and will continue to be to close the achievement gap, when little to no success has been achieved, we will refer students to the CST Team and if student still shows minimal progress, a special education evaluation will be the next step, with the consent of the child's parent.

### **ENL Report:**

- ❖ The ENL department is looking forward to a productive and successful year with our students. In grade 5, 1 student increased in proficiency level (transitioning to expanding). In grade 6, 1 student tested out (commanding) and 4 students increased in proficiency level (all from transitioning to expanding). In grade 7, two students increased in proficiency level (one emerging to transitioning and the other transitioning to expanding) In grade 8, one student increased in proficiency level (emerging to expanding).

During the month of September, the ENL department will be administering the NYSITELL which identifies potential ENL students whose home language is a language other than English as specified on the home language survey. We continue to

- ❖ contact new students' previous school districts to obtain pertinent ENL information for placement at RCA. We are also awaiting the ELA state test scores to find out if any students achieved a 3 on the state test. If ENL students earn a 3 on the state test and a proficiency level of Expanding on the NYSESLAT, they will be able to test out of our program.

**\*Please note that grade levels referred to above are for the 2023-2024 school year.**

**Guidance Counselor:**

- ❖ September 11 - Parents received Middle School Guidance introductory letters with program information, contact information and Remind codes during open house. This information will also be sent to all parents electronically.
- ❖ September 11 – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade parents received a packet of information for Long Island Catholic High Schools during open house which included introductory letter, list of Long Island Catholic Schools, schedule of all open house events, information on the TACHS entrance exam. This information will also be sent to all parents electronically.
- ❖ High School Night will be planned for November (Date TBD)
- ❖ The peer mediation team will be back up and running this month. Students will meet to review procedures, informational posters will be displayed in the hallways, an email will be sent to staff and mediating will begin.
- ❖ Upcoming School Wide School Guidance Activities –
  - Week of October 23 is Red Ribbon Week (Drug Prevention)
  - Week of November 13 is Bully Prevention Week.
- ❖ Students in need of individual school counseling are being identified and will start school counseling in September.
- ❖ The Wellness Committee has begun meeting for the school year.

Mrs. Cralidis and I will be working closely together to promote a positive school culture and climate through restorative practice, mindfulness, and character education



**Discipline Report:**

- ❖ Dean attended two Professional Development weeks of Restorative Circles Training over the summer which focused on implementing restorative questioning and values into daily routines in every classroom. Modeling will be emulated in teachers' classrooms.
- ❖ Teachers are responsible for creating, discussing, and posting core values in classrooms that can be added to as the school academic year progresses.
- ❖ Restorative questioning must be reflected on all lesson plans including specials.
- ❖ Moments of Mindfulness meditation are scheduled every morning and afternoon to create a calm and community environment.
- ❖ Meditation Room has been established as an extra support room for those students who need to reflect on behaviors that are Tier 1 behaviors. Multiple meditation room students will then move to Lunch Detention or other consequences.
- ❖ Deans' professional goals are to become additionally coached in Restorative Practices.
- ❖ Book utilized for Restorative Circles: *Circle Forward: Building a Restorative School Community* by Carolyn Boyes-Watson.
- ❖ Additional Intervention Resource: *Pre-Referral Intervention Manual* (4<sup>th</sup> edition) by Stephen McCarney. The book is a manual that is comprised of learning and behavioral problems in the educational environment with solutions for today's students. Staff can borrow the books as needed.
- ❖ Restorative Justice Practices remains reflected in Lesson Plans as a connective tool for academic and social emotional learning.
- ❖ Ms. DiTucci, Elementary School Dean of Students, and I meet via Zoom/in person every Wednesday morning to discuss various set agenda items such as parent communications, food drives, restorative justices visualized within the classrooms etc. Our latest discussion has been how to prepare the staff with PDs throughout the school year on SEL, Restorative Circles, and Dean's List.

A second professional goal of the Dean is to coach teachers within the classroom setting regarding discipline structure. This task has already started with the seventh-grade team. Several visits have been made with input that will be discussed with the teachers, Ms. Roberts, and team coaches. All information will be documented for resourcing purposes.

- ❖ Teachers/TA’s utilize Deans’ List to record Parent Communication via phone, email, or text message. Administration strongly encourages phone communication. instead of text or email. An August PD was given on the usage of Dean’s List.
- ❖ The Uniform Policy is being enforced daily with several checks throughout the morning. Calls are made when an infraction is found.
- ❖ The Community Service Program will begin with the 8th grade class. Many students will work with teachers in school and parents have reached out to me regarding outside projects. There will be a celebration ceremony for those who have completed the 20 hours at the June 2023 Graduation Ceremony.
- ❖ Communication with administration is paramount. Dean communicates with Principal several times a day to discuss/review and creates strategies to make the middle school a safe and academically successful environment.

	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
<b>ISS</b>	<b>0</b>									
<b>OSS</b>	<b>0</b>									
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>									

**Principal Goals:**

- To maintain high expectations for both students and staff.
  - ✓ Holding staff accountable for delivering rigorous and engaging instruction.
  - ✓ Holding staff accountable for adhering to school policies and expectations.
  - ✓ Implementing programs that foster student academic achievement such as incentive points, awards day, Student Government, etc.
  - ✓ Holding students accountable for following school policies and procedures.
  - ✓ Meeting with Staff quarterly to establish and discuss their personal and professional goals.
- To develop a better home/school community.
  - ✓ Hosting quarterly parental events
  - ✓ Continuing open communication with families

Creating a welcoming environment for parents, students, and staff

❖ **Academic Goals:**

- ✓ In the area of mathematics, it is our goal to have a 20% growth of students performing at levels 3 and 4 on the NYS assessment administered May 2024.
- ✓ In the area of ELA, our goal is to have at least 45% of students performing at levels 3 and 4 in writing by the mid-year Benchmark assessment.

**Vacancies:**

- ❖ 1 math teacher
- ❖ 1 RTI Math Teacher (grades 4 & 5)
- ❖ 1 5<sup>th</sup> grade social studies/science teacher

**COVID:**

- ❖ Since the last Board meeting, we had no known positive COVID case.

**HONORS:**

- ❖ Earth Science will begin in October and will run through June. Classes will be on Saturdays.
- ❖ Algebra 1 Regents will begin in January and run through June. Classes will take place during afterschool on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.
- ❖ We are beginning plans to start our 9<sup>th</sup> year of our RCA High Honor Society Program. Invitation letters will be going home in September and the program is scheduled to begin Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ Semester 1 Awards Day will take place in February.
  - ✓ High Honor Roll: Accumulative Average 95% and above
  - ✓ Honor Roll: Accumulative Average 90% - 94.9%
  - ✓ Merit Award: Accumulative Average 87% - 89.9%
  - ✓ Rising Stars Award: Accumulative Average 80% - 86.9%

**SPECIAL EVENTS:**

**FIELD TRIPS:**

- ❖ Sixth grade trip to see the Radio City Rockets on Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ Seventh & eighth grade trip to Washington D.C. May 20<sup>th</sup> through May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Ratifying & Confirming Resolution**

**Adopted: September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Roosevelt Children's Academy Charter School Board of Trustees in the September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Teleconference Board Meeting on behalf of the Roosevelt Children's Academy Charter School unanimously authorized a Ratifying & Confirming Resolution adopting the COO/CFO report. Being that there were no further discussions, a motion was made by Trustee Vanderburg for the acceptance of the COO/CFO report. The motion was seconded Trustee Burden. The motion carried.

Ayes: 8 Trustee (Tuggle, DWashington, Arroyo, Burden, Chien, Garner, Vanderburg, Williams)

Noes: 0 Absent: 0 Abstentions: 0

**Adopted: September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Roosevelt Children's Academy Charter School Board of Trustees in the September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Teleconference Board Meeting on behalf of the Roosevelt Children's Academy Charter School unanimously authorized a Ratifying & Confirming Resolution adopting the acceptance of the Principal report. A motion was made by Trustee Arroyo for the acceptance of the principal reports. Being that there were no further discussions the motion was seconded by Trustee Burden. The motion carried.

Ayes: 8 Trustee (Tuggle, DWashington, Arroyo, Burden, Chien, Garner, Vanderburg, Williams)

Noes: 0 Absent: 0 Abstentions: 0

**Adopted: September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Roosevelt Children's Academy Charter School Board of Trustees in the September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Teleconference Board Meeting on behalf of the Roosevelt Children's Academy Charter School unanimously authorized a Ratifying & Confirming Resolution adopting the acceptance of the Physical Education Balance Program. A motion was made by Trustee Garner for the acceptance of the Physical Education Balance Program. Being that there were no further discussions the motion was seconded by Trustee Arroyo. The motion carried.

Ayes: 8 Trustee (Tuggle, DWashington, Arroyo, Burden, Chien, Garner, Vanderburg, Williams)

Noes: 0 Absent: 0 Abstentions: 0

**Adopted: September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Roosevelt Children's Academy Charter School Board of Trustees in the September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Teleconference Board Meeting on behalf of the Roosevelt Children's Academy Charter School authorized unanimously a Ratifying & Confirming Resolution approving the acceptance of the authorization of the adoption of Roosevelt Children's Academy proposal for RCAWA Memorandum of Agreement (Unit 1 & Unit !!) **for certain terms of agreement for two-year period September 1, 2023 to August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025**. Trustee Arroyo made a motion that RCAWA Memorandum of Agreement (Unit 1 & Unit !!) **for certain terms of agreement for two-year period September 1, 2023 to August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025**, be approved. The motion was seconded by Trustee Garner and unanimously approved. The motion carried.

Ayes: 8 Trustee (Tuggle, DWashington, Arroyo, Burden, Chien, Garner, Vanderburg, Williams)

Noes: 0 Absent: 0 Abstentions: 0

**Ratifying & Confirming Resolution**

**Adopted: September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Roosevelt Children’s Academy Charter School Board of Trustees in the September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Board of Trustees Teleconference Board Meeting on behalf of the Roosevelt Children’s Academy Charter School unanimously authorized a Ratifying & Confirming Resolution to accepting the approval of personnel actions identified for staffing in the Position Control Form. Being that there was no further discussion, a motion was made by Arroyo approving the adoption of the resolution approving the personnel action items. The motion was seconded by Trustee Burden and unanimously approved. The motion carried.

**New Hire:**

**Aliyah Lewis \_ Teacher Assistant \_\_ Start Date 8-23-2023**

**Miriam Gardner \_ Teacher Assistant \_\_ Start Date 8-31-2023**

**Micheal Farina \_ MathTeacher \_\_ Start Date \_8-29-2023**

**Alyssa Budzynski \_ Music Teacher \_\_ Start Date \_9-05-2023**

**Denise Cardiello \_ ELA Coach \_\_ Start Date 9-14-2023**

**Sherralla Stewart \_ Teacher Assistant \_\_ Start Date \_9-18-2023**

**Earl Holder \_ ElementaryTeacher\_ Start Date \_9-20-2023**

**Cheryl Edwards \_ ElementaryTeacher\_ Start Date \_9-11-2023**

**Javeria Ayub \_ Teacher Assistant \_\_ Start Date 9-18-2023**

**Michael Grieco \_ MiddleSchoolTeacher\_ Start Date \_9-12-2023**

**Jamal Duke \_ RTII MathTeacher\_ Start Date \_9-19-2023**

**Shadean Brown \_ ELA Coach \_\_ Start Date 9-27-2023**

**Sofari Sterling \_ Teacher Assistant \_\_ Start Date \_9-27-2023**

**Patrick Bost \_ ElementaryTeacher\_ Start Date \_9-29-2023**

**Judith Cooke \_ MiddleSchoolTeacher\_ Start Date \_10-2-2023**

**Cassandra Henri \_ Teacher Assistant \_\_ Start Date 10-2-2023**

**Kristy Restivo \_ ELA Coach \_\_ Start Date 10-10-2023**

**Siena Diaz-Colon \_ ElementaryTeacher\_ Start Date \_10-10-2023**

Ayes: 8 Trustee (Tuggle, DWashington, Arroyo, Burden, Chien, Garner, Vanderburg, Williams)

Noes: 0 Absent: 0 Abstentions: 0

**PARENT REPORT:** The beginning of the school year has provided us the opportunity to officially welcome all parents, guardians and community supporters back to RCA. The parent group remains committed to parent focused initiatives, working in harmony with our school calendar and various school activities to help our principals and educators maintain and support an enriching learning environment for our students and healthy partnership with our families. Open House and Academic Night presented the opportunity to further engage new and returning families by providing vital information, receiving feedback and fielding and answering questions. Each of these components work in tandem to help set the foundation for a strong start of the school year and are essential tools to student success.

A number of our parents and families participated in select back to school giveaway events hosted at RCA and UBS Arena. Both events saw collectively over a hundred of our students receive complimentary school supplies and book bags. At UBS arena, students were also provided the opportunity to get free haircuts or have their hair styled by professional stylists. Music, refreshments and games rounded out the event.

We are in the process of coordinating parent workshops with a number of community partners who have expressed a willingness to conduct them on a volunteer basis to our families. We are collecting family recipes and gathering interest in hosting a parent potluck in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month.

Special thank you to our students serving as RCA Uniform Ambassadors. Thanks to their parents these students are helping the school initiate its roll out of our newly updated uniforms, which are distinctly marked with our official RCA logo. These updated uniforms thus far have been warmly received and are receiving positive feedback for their affordability, look and quality from our parents.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Members of the community were acknowledged.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** A motion was made by Trustee Burden to adjourn to discuss collective negotiations pursuant to article 13 of the NY Civil Service Law. The motion was seconded by Trustee Arroyo and passed unanimously without debate. No Board actions were taken during Executive session discussions involving proposed collective negotiations pursuant to article 13 of the NY Civil Service Law.

**ADJOURN.** The Board meeting ended at approximately 7:15 P.M. with a motion to adjourn made by Trustee Arroyo. The motion was seconded by Trustee Burden. The motion was passed unanimously without debate.

Respectfully Submitted by,

*Ella Portero*

Ella Portero, Secretary to the Board