

MINUTES
Governing Board Reading Edge Academy, Inc.
April 20, 2021 Samsula Academy

Governing Board Members Roll Call:

Staff Members Roll Call:

Mike Caldwell	Chair	P	Peggy Comardo	Principal	P
Vickie Foster	V Chair	P	Don Comardo	Facilities	Ex
Arlene Lowery	Secretary	P	Debbie Smoak	AP REA	P
Marianne Stanley	Treasurer	EX	Maryann Roberts	AP Samsula	P
Sandy Kent	Member	P			

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL

This meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM at Samsula Academy by Mr. Mike Caldwell, Chair. The Pledge of Allegiance was said, and roll call was taken. Mrs. Marianne Stanley and Mr. Don Comardo were excused.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The March 2021 financial report was tabled until the May 2021 meeting. A motion was made to do so by Mrs. Arlene Lowery and seconded by Mrs. Vickie Foster. The motion carried 4 – 0 with Mr. Caldwell, Mrs. Foster, Mrs. Lowery and Mrs. Kent approving this motion.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The March 2021 minutes written by Mrs. Arlene Lowery with notes contributed by Ms. Debbie Smoak were presented. A motion was made by Mrs. Vickie Foster to accept the minutes, and seconded by Mrs. Sandy Kent. The motion carried 4 – 0 with Mr. Caldwell, Mrs. Foster, Mrs. Lowery and Mrs. Kent approving the motion.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL’S REPORTS

Reading Edge Academy by Ms. Debbie Smoak

March 30th – Participated in a Virtual meeting with the instructional coach, Paula Ginzl pertaining to upcoming state testing, FSA.

Participated in articulations for 5th graders going to Deltona Middle

March 31st – Central Florida Zoo came to school to visit with the Kindergarten at 10:00 a.m.

April 1st – Paula Ginzl and I met with grade teams (Kindergarten, second, and third) to discuss students of concern that might need “Gift of Time”.

Started a fund raiser “Little Debbie Snack Cakes” – the big box for \$4.00.

Held a parent meeting for those wishing to chaperone the 4th and 5th grade field study to St. Augustine on Tuesday, April 20th.

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April 2nd – Paula Ginzl and I met with grade teams (first, fourth and fifth) to discuss students of concern that might need “Gift of Time”.

Staff was treated to lunch in honor of Teacher Appreciation from Fire House Subs – the first of the April Friday “Teacher Appreciation”.

April 6th – Students in 3rd grade took the first half of the FSA ELA Reading test (80 minutes long) and students in 4th grade took the FSA Writing test (120 minutes long).

April 7th – Students in 3rd grade took the second half of the FSA ELA Reading test (80 minutes long) and 5th grade took the FSA Writing test (120 minutes long).

April 9th – Staff was treated to a Teacher Appreciation luncheon from Tijuana Flats. Volunteers came in to cover teachers’ classrooms or the café so the teachers could eat together in the conference room, which the volunteers had decorated.

April 12th – we held the Code Red and Active Assailant Drill for the month.

All staff members were required to meet with John Simmons, our health insurance agent to renew their insurance for the upcoming year.

April 13th – Began working on the Charter Renewal that is due on the 15th of April.

April 14th – I went to Samsula to continue working on the Charter Renewal with Ms. Roberts.

Attended virtual district update concerning setting aside the State scores this year and all that involves – no mandatory 3rd grade retention.

Spirit Night at Tijuana Flats and Jeremiah Italian Ice, school wide

April 15th – Charter Renewal with documentation was submitted to the district for review.

April 16th – Staff was treated to breakfast from Chick Fil A in recognition of Teacher Appreciation

Little Debbie Snack Cake fund raiser ended

April 20th – Administrative meeting at Samsula at 10 a.m.

4th and 5th grade experienced the St. Augustine field trip from 7:15 a.m. thru 6:15 p.m.

April 21th – Administrative Assistant Day – brought breakfast in for the 3 administrative assistants with a card and monetary gift for their support.

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April 22nd – Debary Golf and Country Club have offered to host a “Happy Hour” for the staff in recognition of Teacher Appreciation from 4 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

April 23rd – Roster Verification was submitted to the district for review.

Staff was treated to lunch provided by Debary Golf and Country Club in recognition of Teacher Appreciation.

April 27th – Field Day for Kindergarten through 2nd grade with volunteers helping.

April 28th – Field Day for 3rd, 4th and 5th grades with volunteers helping.

April 29th – Kindergarten Round Up at 9 a.m. and again at 6 p.m.

Reading Edge Academy’s current enrollment is 274.

SAMSULA ACADEMY by Mrs. Maryann Roberts

March 30th – Charter Renewal Contract was due to Volusia County Schools.

April 1st - Registrar’s meeting was attended by Diane Clements regarding changes to registration procedures.

April 4th - Easter

April 6th – FSA ELA Writing for 4th grade and ELA Reading Session 1 for 3rd Grade.

April 7th – FSA ELA Writing for 5th grade and ELA Reading Session 2 for 3rd Grade.

April 13th – Open Enrollment for Health Insurance took place at Samsula Academy.

April 14th – April 15 Fire and Active Assailant Drills took place.

April 15th – Charter Renewal documentation submitted to VCS.

April 16th – Progress Report Comments are due to the Administration.

April 22nd – B.E.S.T. Standards - virtual training for teachers on the new Florida. Standards. Grades K-2 will be in full implementation next year. Teachers are encouraged to enroll in one of the online trainings being offered.

April 26th - April 30th – Protein Drive for the Jerry Dolinger Food Bank.

April 28th - Progress Reports go home with students.

April 30th – K Round Up - for new K students and parents.

Samsula Academy’s enrollment is currently 171.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Mrs. Comardo, Ms. Smoak, and Mrs. Roberts, as well as all members of the Reading Edge, Inc. Governing Board want to recognize Mrs. Kim Bonfield for her continuing best efforts and extraordinary daily work. Even when she wasn't feeling well, she came to work and helped meet the deadlines for the charter renewals and computer documentations for both schools. We want her to know that she is appreciated, and we thank her.

OLD BUSINESS

Samsula Building Plans – Mrs. Comardo reported that negotiations are still ongoing with the District to improve the buildings at Samsula Academy. Since the online meeting that Mrs. Comardo and Mrs. Foster had on March 16h with Dr. Fritz, there was a letter from the Volusia County School General Counsel, Kevin Pendley. This letter advised that the school board is unable to release the restrictions on encumbrances of the property in the conveyance and charter agreement with Reading Edge/Samsula Academy. Reading Edge Attorney, Shawn Arnold, with Arnold Law Firm, discussed with Mr. Pendley other options that might accomplish our goal. One suggestion was that modulars be installed, and another was that there could be other funding allowed through the District.

Samsula Water – Samsula Academy was reported to be on a temporary fire watch because the electrical panel for the new fire pump had no pressure due to a broken impeller. Until the pump can be repaired, a daily fire log will be kept by Mr. Bill Heasley, Guardian.

Charter Renewals—Both Reading Edge Academy and Samsula Academy have sent their renewed charters with documentation to the District. Attorney Arnold has requested by email an update as to when it might appear on the school board agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

High Performing Status – Attorney Arnold reported by email that if our schools achieve high performing charter status, they are entitled to a 15 year contract.

Next Meeting: May 18, 2021 at Reading Edge Academy

Adjournment: The meeting Adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Arlene Lowery, Secretary
Governing Board
Reading Edge Academy, Inc.