



**Redding School of the Arts**  
California Nonprofit Benefit Corporation  
Adopted Board Meeting Minutes

**Tuesday, March 1, 2022**

**Open Session: 5:30 p.m.**

Meeting called to order by Presiding Officer Jean Hatch at 5:32 p.m.  
Roll Call/Establish Quorum:

Jean Hatch, President	<u>X</u>
Heather Wright, Vice President	<u>X</u>
Lisa Stewart, Treasurer	<u>X</u>
Jonathan Sheldon, Secretary	<u>X (via video conference)</u>
Andrew McCurdy, Community Member	<u>X</u>
Daria O'Brien, Community Member	<u>X (arrived 5:47PM)</u>

**Additional Non-Voting Participants**

Lane Carlson, Executive Director	<u>X</u>
Margaret Johnson, Outgoing Exec Director	<u>X (via video conference)</u>
Wendy Sanders, Special Ed Director	<u>X</u>
Carol Wahl, Principal	<u>X</u>
Cathleen Serna, Business Serv Provider	<u>X (via video conference)</u>
Robyn Stamm, Business Serv Provider	<u>AB</u>
Sophia Zaniroli, Staff Liaison	<u>X</u>

Board Recorder: Adel Morfin

Zoom Video Guests: Lisa Archer, Tessa Braden, Koen & Allison Breedveld, Jennifer Bond, Laura Dunaj, Aaron Hatch, Nicole Iskra, Brayden Jones, Tyler L., Rebecca Lahey, Julia Marie, bond  
Maryann Potts, Cassie Plummer, Marilyn Schack, Linda Schexnayder, Lacy Schmall, Donna Scott, Troy Tieden, John Tucker, Tammy Von Horn, and Katie Vernon.

Onsite Guests: Elizabeth Allison, Ian & Natasha Anderson, Tiffany & Eric Blasingame, Byran Caples, Josselyn Carter, Jessica Christian, Jackalyn Corn, Wade & Renee Darby, Theresa Downs, Richard Gallardo, Katie Gorman, Mari McCurdy, Eleanor Nichols, Candice Percia, Christa Reid, Jason & Erin Richart, Jordan Valenzuela

Board Adjourn to Close Session 5:35 p.m.

- o Conference with Legal Counsel — Anticipated Litigation (Gov. Code section 54956.9(d)(2).): (1)

Resumed Open Session: 6:24 p.m.

**Report on Closed Session:**

No action was taken by the board.

**GOVERNING BOARD CORRESPONDANCE:**

- The board acknowledges having received and reviewed board correspondence from multiple RSA families in regards to face coverings. The board read aloud correspondence from Jill Villalobos and Donnae Grover, as requested.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

*Hearing of persons desiring to address the Board on a subject NOT covered in this agenda. NOTE: 1) Individual speakers will be allowed three (3) minutes to address the Board. The Board President may further limit the speaking time allowed in order to facilitate the progress of the meeting. 2) Complaints presented to the Board must not involve specific reference to employees. Citizens should contact the Director for complaint procedures regarding employees. 3) A charter school cannot take action on a matter that has not been placed on the official agenda. (G.C. 54954.2).*

- Tiffany Blasingame addressed the board regarding board conduct. She spoke on behalf of her family and others at RSA, regarding the disapproval of actions and behaviors of several board members regarding their participation in the anti-masking protest and demonstration on campus. She stated several board members participated and influenced other parents by enforcing their personal opinions and grievances about masking rules into the classroom and on campus. She felt their actions were not in the best interest of the school and violated the school's safety plan, opened the school to official complaints under the Universal Complaints Procedures, exposed the school to potential legal and financial liability, and was in direct violation of board members fiduciary responsibilities citing specific actions.  
She stated the role of a board member was to adopt and adhere to the policies that successfully support the school mission and strategic plan, including the school safety plan, and not use personal opinion, politics, or grievances and force it into the classroom or on campus via students. Board leadership and behavior matter during and outside of board meetings, and those in violation should be held accountable.  
Moving forward she called for the board to uphold the mission and strategic and safety plan of the school, instead of fueling controversy, debate, and angst, where a child's education belongs.
- Byran Caples addressed the board. He mentioned he was running for Shasta County Superintended of Schools. He stated RSA is too concerned about being sued by parents for kids getting sick, but should be more concerned about being sued by the County Superintendent for not doing the right thing.  
He reported having heard of horror stories about what's happening to students who refuse to wear a mask. He feels we should not have to wait to get permission from Governor Newsom to take masks off.  
He stated he wants to work together to solve these problems, but has very little faith in RSA moving forward, based on past practice.

#### **Call for Requests from the Audience to Speak to Any Item on the Agenda:**

*The regular agenda includes those individual items to be discussed by the Board. Some of those items may also require action or approval by the Board. Members of the public will have the opportunity to address the Board on any item at the time that particular item is discussed by the Board, and prior to any action taken by the Board. Individual speakers will be allowed three (3) minutes to address the Board.*

- The following individuals addressed the board with their concerns and protest over the California Department of Public Health's face mask mandate, requiring universal masking indoors for K-12 schools, as well as their child's right to peaceful protest: Jordan Valenzuela (via Zoom), Christa Reid, Jason Richart, Mari McCurdy, Theresa Downs, Jessica Christian, Jackalyn Corn, Katie Gorman, Elizabeth Allison, Wade Darby, Tammy Von Horn, and Ian & Natasha Anderson,  
  
RSA families reported on the harmful and psychological effect's the masking requirement in schools has had on students, families, and staff. They feel masks don't work and limit their child's learning experience.  
They expressed concerns over Administration's handling of their child's right to peacefully protest and refusal to wear a mask in school. They reported students have been bullied, harassed, discriminated against, excluded from school, and have had their first amendment rights violated.  
They ask for the board to take immediate action to end the masking mandate, prior to the state's termination of the mask mandate on 3/12, and make masks a personal choice.
- Richard Gallardo addressed Board President, Jean Hatch and requested she review the Brown Act. He stated the Brown Act allows the board to briefly respond to non-agenized items and ask clarifying questions. He asked voting members of the board to comment on what actions they have taken to refuse and/or deny COVID-19 masks or testing mandates – none responded.
- Allison Breedveld addressed the board and stated she and her family are really happy to be part of a caring school community and appreciate the school and staff. She stated her family supports RSA's current masking requirements in school. She stated she recognizes the COVID infection rates are coming down, but Shasta County still has higher infection rates then other parts of California. She stated that by ending the mask mandate too early, it could cause more students to get sick and miss out on school. She hopes that a decision will be made to wait until Shasta County infection rates are low and stable before RSA lifts the masking mandate.

## **DISCUSSION/ACTION AGENDA:**

### **2.1 Discussion: Review of RSA In-Person Learning Plan – Face Coverings**

Jean Hatch gave some background information on the ongoing issues facing RSA since the start of the year when the state did away with distance learning and schools had to develop a fluid plan for return to in person instruction. RSA sought the advice from legal counsel, its liability insurance carrier, and CSDC on the options available to charter schools. Unfortunately, the decision for mask choice was not an option and failure to uphold the universal masking mandate would expose the school to financial and legal exposure, which could potentially close RSA down.

She stated RSA continues to face the risk of losing its liability insurance, personal liability exposure, and potential revocation of the charter.

The board is concerned with the all the recent masking issues plaguing families and school staff, which is why a Special Board meeting was called in order to address some of these concerns.

She stated the state announced on 2/28 that it plans to lift the universal masking requirement for K-12 schools and childcare settings after March 11, 2022. CDPH strongly recommends that individuals in these settings continue to mask in indoors.

However, masking will be a personal choice for RSA students and staff starting 3/12. Until then, RSA will continue to enforce the mask mandates.

Members of the board stated no one wants kids in masks, however an end date is in sight. They are concerned about the division this issue has created within RSA. The board did not make the masking rules and is working hard to keep the doors of the school open. They asked for families to be patient and work together with RSA over the next eight school days to overcome these issues and take the time to heal as a community.

Andrew McCurdy stated he has a daughter attending RSA and supports her decision not to wear a mask at school. He will continue to support her regardless of his position on the board to follow the state guidelines. He stated this whole situation has been horrible for his family and wants nothing more than to move forward and get back to the way things were prior to COVID.

The board concluded by thanking everyone for attending the meeting and voicing their concerns and options.

## **ADJOURNMENT:**

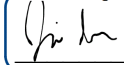
Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

## **NEXT REGULAR MEETING:**

Date: Tuesday, March 8, 2022  
Time: 5:45 p.m.  
Location: Redding School of the Arts/Room 21  
955 Inspiration Place  
Redding, CA 96003

Governing Board Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

DocuSigned by:



BEBGB122384048F  
Jonathan Sheldon

RSA Governing Board Secretary

4/19/2022

Board Approval Date