



Riverside Leadership Academy

1955 Old Airport Road

New Bern, NC 28562

RiversideLeadershipAcademy.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Riverside Leadership Academy Charter School Affirms Seamless Transition in Executive Leadership

May 16, 2024 – New Bern, North Carolina

Amid a period of growth and evolution, Riverside Leadership Academy (RLA) announces the forthcoming transition in executive leadership. Effective May 15th, Mr. Perez, our Executive Director, will transition out of his current leadership position with our school, ushering in the next phase of our opening process. Throughout his time with RLA, Mr. Perez has been instrumental in the successful completion of the Ready to Open process with the Office of Charter Schools. We thank him for his dedication in ensuring that we are able to welcome our students on August 14, 2024.

As we embrace this transition, it is imperative to underscore our unwavering commitment to maintaining stability and fostering continuity within RLA. Mr. Perez's departure signifies a progression in our journey toward continued growth and success, rather than a disruption. We are thrilled to announce that our founding board member and former board chair is stepping in as Interim Executive Director.

We recognize that change can evoke varying emotions, particularly among our valued parent community. Rest assured, our Board of Directors (BOD) is firmly dedicated to facilitating a smooth transition. Our new Interim Executive Director, Siobhan Brewer, doctoral candidate at the Watson School of Education at the University of North Carolina, Wilmington, is highly qualified to ensure RLA's mission, vision, and values are at the forefront of our transition period. Siobhan has been on RLA's BOD since its inception in February of 2022. She began as the Vice

Chair of the BOD and was very active in all local, community events. She transitioned to Board Chair in February 2024 and has been working diligently with the BOD to ensure RLA is the best educational option for the students of Craven County and the surrounding areas.

Siobhan is currently engaging in research for her dissertation on effectively supporting faculty in rural community colleges through professional development. She began her career in Craven County as a 9-12 English and Theatre Arts teacher, where she developed Theatre Arts curriculum and programs for Craven County Schools. After receiving her Master's Degree in Multicultural and Transnational Literature from East Carolina University, she joined Lenoir Community College (LCC) as an English Instructor. Over the past five years, Siobhan has moved into the roles of Faculty Onboarding Specialist and Director of Teaching and Learning at LCC. Her vast experience in building educational programs and supporting teachers makes her highly qualified to uphold RLA's vision of excellence in teaching and collaborative and creative approaches to education. She is also heavily involved in the local community and is excited for RLA to partner with community programs to offer our students the best educational experience. The Board is confident in her ability to provide strong leadership moving forward.

This transition presents an opportunity for RLA to further enhance our programs and initiatives, as we continue to foster an environment of innovation and growth as we prepare to open our doors. We are pleased to announce that our modular facilities have recently arrived and construction continues to remain on-track for our intended opening of August 2024. We are excited about the possibilities that lie ahead and remain dedicated to providing an exceptional educational experience for all our students.

For parents and stakeholders seeking additional information or reassurance during this transition, please do not hesitate to reach out to our board chair, Amy Hobgood at ahobgood@riversideleadershipacademy.org.

Sincerely,

Riverside Leadership Academy Board of Directors