



KIPP New Orleans Schools Board Retreat Minutes: January 20, 2023

A public retreat of the Board of Directors (the Board) of KIPP New Orleans Schools (KNOS) was held on Friday, January 20, 2023, at John F. Kennedy High School located at 6026 Paris Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70122.

The board members participated in a tour of John F. Kennedy high school at 7:45 a.m., led by School Leader, Dr. Joseph Jones, and several John F. Kennedy students. The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.

The following members were present: Donnell Bailey, Sherice Clark, Bruce Hurley, Reginald Jackson, Cianjanae Purvis, Larry Washington, Danielle Willis, Michael Balascio (arrived at 11:06 a.m., departed at 12:27 p.m.) and Drew Marsh (departed at 12:02 p.m.).

The following members of KNOS staff were present: Rhonda Kalifey-Aluise, CEO; Katie Walmsley, CFO (arrived at 10:15 a.m.); Todd Purvis, CAO (arrived at 10:15 a.m.); Kristen Chawla, Director of Engagement and Events, Shawanda Raphael, Executive Assistant, Constance Jackson, COS (arrived at 10:15 a.m.; departed at 11:55 a.m.); Mark Burton (arrived at 10:15 a.m.; departed at 12:15 p.m.).

The following guests attended the meeting: Krystal Allen, K. Allen Consulting (departed at 10:15 a.m.) and John Alford, KIPP Foundation.

Welcome

Mr. Washington welcomed everyone to the retreat and provided an overview of the meeting agenda and purpose. Ms. Kalifey-Aluise greeted the group and welcomed John Alford to the retreat.

DEI Training

This session was attended by the board, Rhonda Kalifey-Aluise and John Alford. This was Krystal Allen's second Diversity, Equity and Inclusion training with the board, building upon their first session with her in January 2021. Ms. Allen discussed effective governance and best practices for highly effective charter school boards.

Break (10:15 - 10:30)

KNOS staff joined the board during their break and remained until indicated departure times.

Audit Update

Mr. Washington advised that the audit update would be provided before the Academics Deep Dive due to Mr. Marsh's early departure. Mr. Marsh advised that the audit has been completed and more information will be provided to the board at the February board meeting.

Academic Deep Dive: School by School Analysis

Mr. Purvis provided details regarding current safety and security initiatives at campuses, an update on charter renewal timelines, and a school-by-school performance analysis. Mr. Purvis also provided an update on academic priorities and information on staff retention.

Break/Lunch (12:15 - 12:30)

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Washington introduced a vote to approve the minutes from the December board meeting. A motion to approve was made by Dr. Hurley and seconded by Mr. Bailey. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Board Step-Back: Composition and Committees

Mr. Bailey began by outlining the current board committees. Members then discussed other initiatives including alumni support. Members participated in a self-assessment exercise about board governance and best practices.

Closing and Next Steps


Mr. Washington thanked board members for their participation in the retreat and their continued commitment to KIPP New Orleans.

Mr. Washington introduced a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:32 p.m. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Ms. Clark. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,


Shawanda Raphael

Approved by:


Larry Washington