

**KIPP New Orleans Schools Board Meeting Minutes: February 29, 2024**

A public meeting of the Board of Directors (the Board) of KIPP New Orleans Schools (KNOS) was held on Thursday, February 29, 2024, at KIPP New Orleans Schools, 1055 St. Charles Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70130.

The meeting was called to order at 5:45.

The following members were present: Sherice Clark, Barrett Green, Bruce Hurley (arrived at 6:00 p.m.), Reggie Jackson, Ileana Ledet, Jay Mussell and Larry Washington.

The following members were absent: Michael Balascio, Shana Handy, Cianjanae Purvis, Ravi Sangisetty (participated remotely) and Danielle Willis.

There were no guests present.

The following members of KNOS staff were present: Rhonda Kalifey Aluise, CEO; Todd Purvis, CAO; and Katie Walmsley, CFO.

Mr. Washington welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Washington introduced a motion to approve the minutes from the retreat in January. A motion to approve was made by Dr. Hurley and seconded by Mr. Mussell. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

**CEO Report**

Ms. Kalifey Aluise summarized the recent OPSB vote to direct-run a school, and board members discussed the implications on the broader landscape as well as the funding decisions that NOLA PS will be engaging in over the next few months in order to support the start-up of the school. Ms. Kalifey Aluise then then previewed themes emerging from the Strategic Planning work with Attuned, committing to a deeper presentation of priorities and initiatives at the April meeting and a full Strategic Plan, along with measurements and progress monitoring, to be shared at the June meeting. Finally, Mr. Purvis shared school highlights from the last two months and discussed the focus on testing preparation throughout the spring.

**Finance Committee Report**

Mr. Jackson shared that the Finance Committee met earlier in the day. The committee discussed an expected end-of-year net income position that exceeds budgeted net income by $1.1 million but also represents a $3.35 million negative variance from previous financial projection. Mr. Jackson relayed that the change is mainly due to the organization’s plan to roll over and defer grant funding in order to stabilize the expected decrease in funding due to the end of ESSR funds. Mr. Jackson and Ms. Walmsley also shared that the committee had begun discussions around potential investments of some of the organization’s cash balance. The committee will continue this discussion at its next meeting.

**Resolution Authorizing Contract Signatories**

Mr. Washington introduced a motion to update contract signatories of KIPP New Orleans Schools. The resolution outlines the employees authorized to sign contracts and service agreements and the maximum allowed contract values associated therewith.

A motion to approve was made by Mr. Jackson and seconded by Dr. Hurley. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

**Governance and Nominating Committee Report**

The board discussed continued cultivation of potential board members, including the opportunity to bring community members in for school tours as well as participate in end-of year activities such as awards ceremonies and graduation. Board members should reach out to the team with suggestions.

**General Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

Mr. Washington asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:41 p.m. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Mussell and seconded by Ms. Clark. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted, Approved by:

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Kristen Chawla Larry Washington, Board President