



### **KIPP New Orleans Schools Board Meeting Minutes: December 7, 2023**

A public meeting of the Board of Directors (the Board) of KIPP New Orleans Schools (KNOS) was held on Thursday, December 7, 2023, at KIPP New Orleans Schools, 1055 St. Charles Avenue, Suite 400, New Orleans, LA 70130.

The meeting was called to order at 5:38 p.m.

The following members were present: Larry Washington, Danielle Willis, Michael Balascio, Shana Handy, Cianjanae Purvis, and Donnell Bailey.

The following members were absent: Bruce Hurley, Drew Marsh, Reggie Jackson, and Sherice Clark.

The following members of KNOS staff were present: Rhonda Kalifey-Aluise, CEO; Katie Walmsley, CFO; Todd Purvis, CAO; and Kristen Chawla, Director of Engagement and Events.

#### **Welcome**

Mr. Washington welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

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

#### **CEO Report and Academic Update**

Ms. Kalifey-Aluise opened the CEO report by updating the board about the two recent school renewals. The Charters for both KIPP East and KIPP Leadership were renewed for a five-year term. Because of the size of our organization, charter renewals will happen regularly. The board will hear a robust academic update about all the schools during the board retreat in January.

Mr. Purvis presented the academic update which included the recent release of SPS scores. As anticipated, the index letter grades are strong across the network and all schools show an increase in growth. Schools have reached or exceeded pre-pandemic scores.

Mr. Purvis also shared updates from the recent KIPP Foundation conference. Regions are expected to focus on the KIPP Priorities which include shared academic goals and leadership development.

#### **Finance Committee Report and Resolution Authorizing Bank Signatories**

Ms. Walmsley presented a resolution to modify the signatories on the KNOS bank accounts with Hancock Whitney and add Rebecca Guarino, Director of Accounting. Mr. Washington introduced a motion to approve the resolution. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Balascio and seconded by Ms. Handy. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Ms. Willis advised that the Finance Committee met December 6<sup>th</sup> to review the audit results as well as the current FY24 financial position. The audit was successful and there are no findings. She also announced that Mr. Marsh's term is expiring at the end of the year and that the committee meeting was his last as a KNOS board member.

Ms. Walmsley then reported that the current forecast for FY24 remains the same and is larger than expected primarily due to strong enrollment. This will allow schools to use funds for additional student experiences and potentially capital improvements on campuses.

**Governance and Nominating Committee Report**

Mr. Balascio informed the board that there are two potential new members. They have been on a school tour, have met with Ms. Kalify-Aluise and other members. Mr. Balascio anticipates that they will be nominated for membership during the January retreat. There are two to three additional people he will begin to engage.

Officer terms are expiring at the end of the year and will be voted on at the January board retreat, as well as any board member terms for renewal.

**Board Retreat Preview**

Ms. Kalify-Aluise reiterated that the annual board retreat will include an academic deep dive about all schools across the KNOS network. The highlighted areas of interest that members previously identified will be comprehensively addressed. These include family survey results, the ELL and SPED populations, identification of barriers hindering sustained academic growth, and strategies for staff retention.

**Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

In concluding the meeting, Mr. Washington announced that in addition to Drew Marsh, Donnell Bailey's term also expires at the end of 2023, and neither is renewing their terms. Mr. Washington thanked Mr. Bailey for his years of service to the organization.

Mr. Washington asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:21 p.m. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Balascio and seconded by Mr. Bailey. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kristen Chawla

Approved by:



Larry Washington, Board President