



## KIPP New Orleans Schools Board Meeting Minutes: August 19, 2021

A public meeting of the Board of Directors (the Board) of KIPP New Orleans Schools (KNOS) was held on Thursday, August 19, 2021, at 5:45 p.m., at Booker T. Washington High School, 1201 South Roman Street, New Orleans, LA 70125.

The meeting was called to order at 5:55 p.m.

The following members were present: Donnell Bailey (departed at 6:45pm), Sherice Clark, Stanwood Duval, Jr., Lauren Hitt, Robert Hudson, Kelt Kindick, Drew Marsh, Larry Washington, and Danielle Willis (attended via telephone).

The following members were absent: Bruce Hurley, Jr., Roddrick Jones, and Steve Usdin.

The following members of KNOS staff were present: Rhonda Kalifey-Aluise, CEO; Katie Walmsley, CFO; Todd Purvis, CAO; Brad Rosenblat, Managing Director of Finance and Accounting; Jamiela Sekou, Director of Finance; Kevin Barnes, Managing Director of Engagement and Events, Kristen Chawla, Director of Engagement and Events, and Shawanda Raphael, Executive Assistant.

There were no guests in attendance at the meeting,

### Welcome

Mr. Washington welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### Approval of Minutes

Mr. Washington introduced a vote to approve the minutes from the June meeting. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Marsh and seconded by Mr. Duval. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Washington asked for a motion to adjust the order of the meeting agenda and the CEO Report will be moved to later in the agenda after the Governance and Nominating Committee Report. Additionally, Mr. Washington asked for a motion to strike the Executive Session, listed on the agenda. The motion to change the order of the meeting agenda, and the motion to strike the executive session agenda item were made by Mr. Kindick. Both motions were seconded by Mr. Marsh. The motions passed by a unanimous vote.

### Finance Committee Report

Mr. Marsh opened the Finance Committee report and advised that the Finance Committee met on August 16<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Marsh shared that the committee had a detailed discussion of Cyber Security for the organization. He stated that the committee shared feedback related to mitigation efforts against cyber security attacks, including but not limited to ensuring that organizational data is secured from cyber breaches. He reported that the finance department is working with I.T. to ensure that the organization is adequately protected. Ms. Walmsley then provided a detailed report on the organization's financial summary and noted that KNOS projects a FYE21 adjusted fund balance of just over \$25 million, and that the fiscal year will close in a positive net operating position of over \$800k. This position is several thousand dollars better than predicted at the last Board meeting, due in part to some federal revenues coming in higher than expected, and due in part to the need to recognize some future year non-restricted grant pledges as revenue this year. This projected final position is superior to the almost \$3 million operating deficit that the organization expected when the Board approved the FY21 budget; at that time, the majority of federal relief in response to the COVID-19 pandemic had not been passed by Congress and allocated to LEAs. Ms. Walmsley reiterated that this financial position enables the organization to enter FY22 - the year when per-pupil funding will

reach its lowest point due to the delay in sales tax reductions on school revenue – better positioned to navigate the pandemic’s financial challenges and programmatic imperatives simultaneously.

After briefly discussing the FY22 year-to-date financial summary, which did not reflect a consequential variance to approved budget, Ms. Walmsley also provided a comparison of the FY22 proposed budget and FY21 board-approved budget, detailing the variance between expenses in the two fiscal years. She advised that approximately \$4M of the increase is recurring and due in part to enrollment growth, and that over \$10 million of the increase is designed to be non-recurring to address COVID recovery, missed academic content, and mental health supports, made possible by non-recurring federal revenue. Lastly, Ms. Walmsley reviewed a multiyear revenue trajectory through FY25, including funding sources, projected enrollment and projected per pupil cost.

### **FY 22 Budget Adoption**

Mr. Marsh advised that Ms. Walmsley and Mr. Rosenblat would be providing an overview of the proposed budget that was presented to the board at the previous board meeting. Mr. Rosenblat advised that there have been no changes to the information that was previously provided to the board, and reviewed the board summary, which was attached to the agenda. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Marsh and seconded by Mr. Kindick. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

### **Governance and Nominating Committee Report**

Mr. Bailey advised he has begun scheduling engagement meetings with each of the board member to determine what interests are related to supporting KNOS schools. Additionally, Mr. Bailey has been stewarding a potential new board member and plans to introduce her as a candidate soon. He will email the board and set up time for board members to meet her as well. He also reminded members about the upcoming homecoming games and encouraged their attendance.

### **CEO Report**

Ms. Kalifey-Aluise provided a Covid update that detailed the number of positive students and staff, as well as the number of staff currently quarantined. She also advised that Covid testing will begin at various school locations. KNOS staff are now required to be vaccinated or must agree to be vaccinated by the end of September. Ms. Kalifey-Aluise also informed the board of the current bus driver shortage and how it is affecting KNOS schools. She stated the KNOS is introducing a stipend program to provide support to parents who can drive their students to school.

### **Academic Committee Report**

Mr. Purvis provided an academic update detailing week two attendance, as well as information related to the current bus transportation issues KNOS schools have been experiencing. KNOS is actively supporting schools with Covid staffing and financial capacity including goals that 80% of high school students and 70% of age eligible middle school students are vaccinated by the target deadline. Additionally, adding Covid capacity will allow school leaders to prioritize high quality instruction. Increasing school Covid capacity may include the addition of stipends to staff who are willing to temporarily take on added responsibilities to address Covid matters.

### **Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

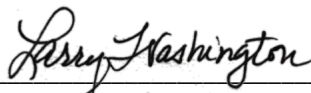
Mr. Washington introduced a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:51 p.m. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Marsh and seconded by Mr. Kindick. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Approved by:



Shawanda Raphael



Larry Washington, Board President