



## **KIPP New Orleans Schools Board Retreat Minutes: January 14, 2022**

A public retreat of the Board of Directors (the Board) of KIPP New Orleans Schools (KNOS) was held on Friday, January 14, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. at Junior Achievement of Greater New Orleans, 5100 Orleans Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70124.

The meeting was called to order at 9:17 a.m.

The following members were present: Donnell Bailey, Stanwood Duval, Lauren Hitt, Bruce Hurley (arrived at 10:02am), Roddrick Jones, Drew Marsh (departed at 2:09pm), Steve Usdin (departed at 1:30pm), Larry Washington, and Danielle Willis.

The following member was absent: Sherice Clark.

The following members of KNOS staff were present: Rhonda Kalifey-Aluise, CEO; Katie Walmsley, CFO; Todd Purvis, CAO; Joey LaRoche, CSO; Kristen Chawla, Director of Engagement and Events, Shawanda Raphael, Executive Assistant, Mark Burton (arrived at 11:15am; departed at 1:15pm), Towana Pierre-Floyd (arrived at 12:56pm; departed at 2:11pm), and Korbin Johnson (arrived at 1:00pm; departed at 2:11pm).

The following guest attended the meeting: John Alford, KIPP Foundation.

### **Welcome**

Mr. Washington welcomed everyone to the retreat and provided an overview of Junior Achievement of Greater New Orleans and its mission. Ms. Kalifey-Aluise greeted the group and welcomed John Alford to the retreat. She advised that two school leaders would be joining the group for lunch to share updates regarding their experiences leading during the pandemic.

### **Approval of Minutes**

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

### **Governance Session**

Mr. Bailey began the governance session by thanking board members for their contributions throughout the year and highlighted the positive impact these contributions have had on our schools. The board then participated in a working session which included a review of their core responsibilities as board members, a board self-assessment, and a discussion of engagement opportunities for the upcoming year.

### **Election of Officers and Renewal of Directors**

After a lengthy vetting process, Mr. Bailey and the Governance and Nominating Committee recommended Ms. Cianjanae Purvis as a candidate for consideration. He referenced Ms. Purvis's resume and letter of intent to join the KNOS Board of Directors. He invited others to share their impressions, and several board members and staff endorsed her candidacy.

Mr. Washington introduced a vote to elect Ms. Purvis to join the KNOS Board of Directors. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Ms. Hitt. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Bailey reviewed current board members whose terms are being renewed: Ms. Hitt, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Washington, and Ms. Clark. He thanked former members, Mr. Hudson, and Mr. Kindick whose terms expired at of end of 2021, for their commitment and service to the board.

- Mr. Washington introduced a vote to approve Ms. Hitt for a renewed term as a KNOS Director. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Washington and seconded by Mr. Usdin. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.
- Mr. Washington introduced a vote to approve Dr. Hurley for a renewed term as a KNOS Director. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Washington and seconded by Mr. Duval. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.
- Mr. Usdin introduced a vote to approve Mr. Washington for a renewed term as a KNOS Director. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Hurley and seconded by Mr. Bailey. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.
- Mr. Washington introduced a vote to approve Ms. Clark for a renewed term as a KNOS Director. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Washington and seconded by Ms. Hitt. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote

Mr. Bailey reviewed the slate of officers to serve a renewed term in their current role.

- Mr. Usdin introduced a vote to approve Mr. Washington for a renewed term as Chair of the KNOS Board. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Usdin and seconded by Mr. Bailey. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.
- Mr. Washington introduced a vote to approve Mr. Duval for a renewed term as Vice-Chair of the KNOS Board. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Usdin and seconded by Dr. Jones. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.
- Mr. Washington introduced a vote to approve Ms. Hitt for a renewed term as Secretary of the KNOS Board. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Washington and seconded by Mr. Marsh. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.
- Mr. Washington introduced a vote to approve Mr. Marsh for a renewed term as Treasurer of the KNOS Board. A motion to approve was made by Ms. Willis and seconded by Mr. Usdin. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

#### **Break (11:15 - 11:30)**

#### **Growth Strategy**

Mr. LaRoche and Mr. Burton discussed growth opportunities and strategies for KNOS and provided an overview of KNOS's efforts to explore expansion into Baton Rouge, which would build on the existing partnership with Capitol High School. The board engaged in a robust conversation about this opportunity.

#### **Lunch (1:00 - 2:00)**

Mr. Kalifey-Aluise introduced school leaders, Towana Pierre-Floyd and Korbin Johnson, who joined the board for lunch to share their thoughts on the effects of the pandemic on their schools.

#### **Closing and Next Steps**

Mr. Washington thanked board members for their participation in the retreat and advised that the board looks forward to next steps to address board engagement and committee alignment with goals for the upcoming year.

Mr. Washington introduced a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:13 p.m. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Dr. Hurley. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Approved by:

  
Shawanda Raphael

  
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Lauren Hitt, Board Secretary