

### KIPP New Orleans Schools Board Meeting Minutes: February 17, 2022

A public meeting of the Board of Directors (the Board) of KIPP New Orleans Schools (KNOS) was held on Thursday, February 17, 2022, at KIPP New Orleans Schools, 1307 Oretha Castle Haley, New Orleans, LA 70113.

The meeting was called to order at 5:51 p.m.

The following members were present: Donnell Bailey, Sherice Clark (arrived at 5:52p.m.), Lauren Hitt, Bruce Hurley, Drew Marsh, Cianjanae Purvis, and Steve Usdin.

The following members were absent: Stanwood Duval, Roddrick Jones, Larry Washington, and Danielle Willis.

The following members of KNOS staff were present: Rhonda Kalifey-Aluise, CEO; Katie Walmsley, CFO; Joey LaRoche, CSO (arrived at 6:43p.m.); Jamiela Sekou, Director of Finance; Alisha Saul, Accounts Payable Manager; Kristen Chawla, Director of Engagement and Events (departed at 6:50p.m.); and Shawanda Raphael, Executive Assistant.

The following guest was in attendance. Amanda Lu, Ph.D. Candidate, Stanford Graduate School of Education.

#### Welcome

In the absence of Mr. Washington and Mr. Duval, Ms. Hitt, board secretary, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance. She then welcomed the newest board member, Ms. Purvis, as it was her first board meeting. Ms. Hitt also welcomed returning guest, Amanda Lu. Ms. Lu observes charter school board meetings as she studies charter school governance for her doctoral studies at Stanford Graduate School of Education.

## **Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Hitt introduced a vote to approve the minutes from the January retreat. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Mr. Marsh. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

#### **CEO Report**

Ms. Kalifey-Aluise provided an update to the board regarding a recent presentation from New Schools for New Orleans detailing an enrollment landscape analysis. The analysis was designed to provide insights on the impact of enrollment changes on the local schools, that academic quality and financial sustainability are being impacted by this problem, and that advocacy is necessary if we expect NOLA PS to right-size the district.

Ms. Kalifey-Aluise then shared that KNOS continues to support Capitol High School in Baton Rouge; however, no final decisions have been made regarding future expansion to Baton Rouge.

### **Academic Committee Report**

Ms. Kalifey-Aluise provided an academic update detailing current attendance at KNOS schools, which is at approximately 84%. Schools continue to work on increasing daily attendance post-Omicron. She advised that attendance is improving, but chronic absenteeism is of great concern.

### **Finance Committee Report**

Mr. Marsh opened the Finance Committee report and advised that the Finance Committee met on February 15. The committee reviewed enrollment data and how enrollment may affect FY23 budget planning. Ms. Walmsley reviewed the

financial summary with board members, which showed a positive net change from December to February, with a current surplus to the approved budget. Ms. Walmsley also advised that both revenue and expenses have increased. Lastly, Ms. Walmsley reviewed the FY23 Enrollment Forecast for KNOS schools with board members.

### Resolution Authorizing Bank Signatories

Mr. Marsh introduced a resolution to authorize bank signatories on all bank accounts held by KIPP New Orleans, Inc. The designated signatories are the Chief Financial Officer, the Controller, and the Director of Finance. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Mr. Hurley. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

### Governance and Nominating Committee Report

Mr. Bailey advised that this month's report is more of a follow-up to the January retreat planning session which discussed organizational priorities, including but not limited to risk management, employment, and mental health. Mr. Bailey also advised that the committees will be an ongoing, multi-year discussion. Suggestions for new board committees included an Executive/Strategy Committee and a Health & Wellness Committee. The Executive/Strategy committee would include all committee chairpersons. Board members also discussed the Academic Committee and the possibility of reviewing the bylaws to review committee requirements. Members considered that academics should be discussed by the full board, and not necessarily a committee of board members. Ms. Kalifey-Aluise will schedule time with board members, Mr. Bailey and Ms. Hitt, along with legal counsel to further discuss the bylaws and committee requirements.

Lastly, Ms. Hitt advised that Ms. Purvis completed her first new board member onboarding session, and she is excited to continue her onboarding process by meeting members of the leadership team. Board members were also informed of upcoming school tours with newly elected city council members. Invitations to board members will follow.

# **Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

Ms. Hitt introduced a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 p.m. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Usdin and seconded by Mr. Marsh. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shawanda Ranhael

Approved by:

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