

Académie Lafayette
Board of Director's Meeting
(Zoom Virtual Board Meeting)
April 13, 2020

MINUTES

Board Members Present:

Jon Otto, President
Marvin Lyman
Harriet Plowman
Kelly Baker
Beth McCarthy
Chad Phillips
Gwen Poss
Karla McBane
Michael Bland
Tanja Heinen

Board Members Not Present:

Rene Schloss

Stakeholder Comments – None

Approval of Minutes

Jon Otto asked for approval of the March regular board meeting minutes and March special board meeting minutes with amendments.

Michael Bland moved to accept as amended and Harriet Plowman seconded. Board **VOTED** to approve.

PTO Report – Leslie Kohlmeyer

Updates

- GoFundMe account set up to assist families experiencing crisis during COVID-19 .
- EIP postponed - some donations were received and possible refunds made if necessary.
- Cancellation of school for remainder of year and the activities that are now cancelled such as field day and end of year picnic.
- Elections for this year to be coordinated.

Head of School Report – Elimane Mbengue

- AL COVID-9 Task Force was established.
- Communication with community has been organized and is working well.

- Task Force was meeting daily and is now meeting on Mon., Wed. and Fri.
- Food Service has been provided to families. Sack lunches on Mon., Wed. and on Friday a sack lunch and hot meal is being distributed. Also, groceries provided by AL families have been part of the meal distribution.
- Google website developed by social workers that assists families to help in getting support in various areas needed.
- Survey sent to families to determine the need for chromebooks and hot spots and those families needing this technology to participate in the live classroom teaching have been picking up the chromebooks and/or hotspots.
- Distance teaching and learning - All teachers were trained on how to do Google classroom, google slide and google form and Google meet. A description of all classes being taught was provided. Teachers also offer support via office hours to students who have questions or needed additional guidance on participating in the online classes.
- Professional Development for teachers is scheduled for April 17.
- Classes for K-1 were specifically developed.
- On-line classes all have an additional person assisting them while classes are being taught to assist by watching the chat and student behavior.
- Social workers are tracking student attendance and ensuring that disadvantaged students are not being left behind.
- Survey was sent to parents requesting feedback on how the on-line classes.
- Human Resources – moving forward with teacher recruitment and have received agreements from some of the contracts offered.
- Human Resources - discussed teachers returning and those not returning.
- Human Resource consultant hired to assist with personnel tasks.
- AL IB High School – furniture ordered and should be received by mid-May. Some improvements made in space use. IB diploma coordinator hired. Accreditation process being completed.

Admissions and Recruitment Update – Robyn King

- Admission update provided for the 2020-2021 school year presented. Discussion followed.
- High school waitlist discussed and the schools that were approached regarding enrollment in the AL high school was mentioned.
- Teachers are still being recruited for the high school.
- Last day of school for students is Friday, May 22. The last days will be used for teacher prep and updates.
- Graduation discussed and it was mentioned that options are being suggested, but no definite decision has been made.

Development Committee Report – Chris Nehr

- Annual Fund update
- GoFundMe to assist with families discussed.

- Funders are being updated on the school's situation and that the high school is still on track to open this coming school year. Appreciation given to funders for their efforts in supporting the school and families.
- Update on funding from Foundations provided.
- Musketeer March cancelled for this year.
- Update on renovations at Oak and Cherry given.
- School partnerships discussed.
- Funds were received to assist students planning to travel to France.
- Technology needs being evaluated to determine if additional grants/funding is needed.

Discussion followed.

Finance Committee Report – Jacque Lane

Accounts Payable

Jacque Lane gave a detailed update of the March accounts payables. She also provided explanation of some of the expenditures.

Motion

Harriet Plowman moved to approve accounts payable for March. Karla Mcbane seconded. Board **VOTED** to approve.

April Financial report

The April financial report was presented providing budget projections and actual revenue. Information and explanations on specific expenses were given.

Discussed schools' foundation formula payments, district and charter schools' classroom trust fund and Proposition C payments and districts and small schools grant payments. Jacque Lane also provided information on DESE and mentioned that DESE is working on a process for districts and charter schools to request that their prior year ADA be used for payment.

Finance Committee kapproved Payroll Protection Plan application (PPP).

The impact of the COVID-19 discussed.

Jon Otto gave an update on funds from the state and how it will help schools.

Governance Committee – Beth McCarthy

- Michele Markham recommended to Board seat and was interviewed by the Governance Committee. Steps will be taken to follow the process in place to fill open board seats.
- Summer Retreat discussed and planned for June 27 and a board self-assessment prior to the retreat will be completed by each board member.

Diversity Committee Report – Kelly Baker

- Follow up on Diversity Forum being completed. Kelly Baker mentioned that student and staff training is recommended. She listed the key recommendations and action steps planned.

Discussion followed and it was stated that some training with staff has already started as part of the professional development for teachers.

President's Report – Jon Otto

- Legislative update related to funding and areas that can assist the school with communicating with parents and staff was provided. Charter school funding equity legislation is moving forward. The Funding Bill has moved to the House Floor. Budget regarding funding to schools being reviewed and updates will be provided as they become available.
- Mr. Mbengue provided information regarding the cooperation with a school in Springfield to provide on-line geometry to student(s) who are eligible.
- Meeting date to be set to discuss the proposed budget. Budget meeting with Board set for April 20 ,at 6:00 and Finance Meeting on Wed. , May 15 , at 6:00.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.