

Académie Lafayette
Board of Director's Meeting
February 14, 2022

MINUTES

Board Members Present

Beth McCarthy, President
Michael Bland, Vice President
Michele Markham
Harriet Plowman
Jon Otto
Gwen Poss
Dr. Jennifer Goldman

Board Members Absent

Kelly Baker
Marvin Lyman

Staff Present

Elimane Mbengue, Head of School
Jacque Lane
Jean Claude Diatta
Maritza Paul
Heather Royce
Christy White
Carlos McClain

Guests

Dana Cutler, Attorney

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Beth McCarthy, President.

Approval of Agenda

Beth McCarthy, President, requested approval of the agenda for the Feb. 14, 2022, meeting as presented.

Motion

Harriet Plowman moved to approve the agenda. Jon Otto seconded. Board **VOTE** to approve.

Stakeholder Comments

None presented.

Approval of Minutes

Beth McCarthy, President, asked for approval of the January minutes as presented.

Motion

Michele Markham moved to accept the January 10, 2022 minutes as presented. Gwen Poss seconded. The Board **VOTED** to approve.

Governance Committee – Beth McCarthy

- Legislative Update provided in detail by Imani Harris, Dir. of Advocacy/MCPSA. Charter schools missing \$54 million due to misappropriated funding from the state. Discussion.

Beth McCarthy asked if there was any action that is needed by the Board at this time and the response was that ultimately the main need is for parents and others to make phone calls and send letters to the capital to draw awareness to the funding issues for charter schools. Also, there are surveys that can be completed. She mentioned that the KCPS are extremely supportive of the legislative Bills needing to be passed. Senate Funding Equity bills HB-1552 passed the House Budget Committee and Senate Bill 869 passed the Senate Educational Committee.

- Title IX training for the board was presented and by Dana Cutler, Legal Counsel. The current changes and new changes related to Title IX were presented and discussed.

Dana Cutler mentioned that we need to revise the way complaints are handled to ensure that the school is in compliance. She indicated that a procedure is in place and should be followed.

- Planning for the June 11th board retreat discussed.
- Upcoming training on Sunshine Law requested for next board meeting.
- Board meeting in March will be on March 7th due to Spring break.

Finance Committee Report – Jacque Lane

Jacque Lane asked for approval of January accounts payable.

Motion

Harriet Plowman moved to approve accounts payable for January. Michelle Markham seconded. Board **VOTED** to approve.

- Jacque Lane continued with a detailed report and presentation explaining the overview of revenues. Drivers of revenue projection changes discussed.
- Actual revenue and expenses presented in detail and discussion followed.
- Discussed expenses incurred that were over budget.
- ADA is being assessed monthly and changes to projections are made.
- RFP for bus service have gone out.
- RFP for food service is being completed with the assistance from DESE.
- Discussion and planning for review of loans have begun.

- Received building capital assessments from management company.

Jacque Lane mentioned that an extension for the 990's was made and a motion is needed for approval.

Motion

Motion made to approve the 990 for Académie Lafayette and Académie Lafayette Real estate for 20-21.

Michael Bland moved to approve. Jon Otto seconded

Motion

To approve the 990 for AL for 20-21

Jacque Lane asked for approval to approve bid of up to \$425,000 for painting Cherry campus classrooms.

Motion

Michael Bland moved to approve in and out painting bid up to \$425,000 for Cherry first floor classrooms. Harriet Plowman seconded. The Board **VOTED** to approve.

Jacque Lane asked for approval to renew \$360,000 line of credit with Country Club Bank.

Motion

Michael Bland moved to approve the renewal of \$360,000 line of credit with Country Club Bank. Jon Otto seconded. The Board **VOTED** to approve.

Development Committee – Celia Liptak

- Strengths of school presented to include, but not limited to:
 - School reputation, performance and expansion which has been attractive to donors.
 - Building strong relationships with our key foundations.
 - Working on the database to provide accurate and up to date information.
- Weaknesses presented
- Annual fund appeal
- Generations Day/Special Person week of April 18-22 with a community kick off
- Evening in Paris event has sold out. A few sponsorship opportunities still available
- Silent auction will be virtual
- Q&A for Evening in Paris available on link

Diversity Committee Report

- Mr. Seydi has been leading the process of what books are being read in classrooms to ensure books provide adequate representation of different races, topics and cultures.
- A potential survey tool has been identified and utilized to get feedback from parents on how they feel about the school. Tentative date for survey is late March.
- Discussing ways to create belongingness in the classrooms.

School Performance Committee

- Discipline Report presented and discussed.
- Attendance Report presented and discussed.
- Discipline by ethnicity/race presented.
Suggestion made to present information on a more detailed level in terms of students that are included in the numbers more than once which presented an inaccurate count.
- Discipline by gender presented.
- Saturday school stats by race/ethnicity and grade levels was presented.

Admissions and Outreach Report – Christy White

- A month to month comparison of all grades over 4 years was presented.
- Breakdown of applications for 22-23 school year shown. Also, breakdown for kindergarten applications by minority and/or non-minority presented.
- Show me KC school sponsored open house held at the Oak Campus and there were 129 in person attendees.
- 2022-2023 Enrollment Caps presented for approval.
 - Kindergarten: 220 students
 - First Grade: 210 students
 - 9th Grade: 35 students
 - 10 Grade: 28 students
 - 11th Grade: 20 students

Motion

Harriet moved to approve the enrollment caps as presented. Michael Bland seconded. Board **VOTED** to approve.

Head of School Report

- Staff Recognition
 - Oak – 4th grade team showing organizational skills and capacity to manage the 4th grade student body.
 - Cherry – Culture Committee for organizing monthly celebrations for black history.
 - Armour – Entire team for showing leadership, collaboration and great team spirit during our time of crisis. Teachers were generous, empathetic and supportive of each other.
- Covid-19 Update
 - Staff members are largely vaccinated
 - Low in booster shots
 - Student vaccination numbers provided.
 - Racial breakdown for vaccinations in each building presented.
 - Update on testing participation in each building provided.
- School Calendar – 2022-23 presented.

Motion

Harriet Plowman moved to approve the School Calendar 2022-2023. Jon Otto seconded.

- High School Update provided.
 - IB verification visit March 1st
 - Teachers sending photographs of student's work and activities
- Academic Program: - Leadership
 - 3rd grade chromebooks
 - Parent volunteers
 - Open house – good turnout
- Planning for 2022-23 school year and request made to authorize the hiring of 10 positions. K – 5 - 3 teachers; HS - 7 teachers; Armour student services (1 Special Ed and 1 social worker) presented and discussed.

Motion

Harriet Plowman moved to approve 12 new positions for school year of 2022-23. Michael Bland seconded. Discussion. Board **VOTED** to approve.

- Planning for 2022-23
 - Bamboo a new Human Resources platform for recruitment and hiring is in place.
 - J-1, H-1B renewals and green cards for some teachers continuing.

President's Report – Beth McCarthy

- BlaqueKC board recruitment discussed.
- Doug Thaman, Executive Director, MPCSA is coordinating training for new board members.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.