

Académie Lafayette  
Board of Director's Meeting  
March 7, 2022

**MINUTES**

**Board Members Present**

Beth McCarthy, President  
Michael Bland, Vice President  
Michelle Markham  
Kelly Baker  
Dr. Jennifer Goldman  
Harriet Plowman

**Board Members Absent**

Marvin Lyman  
Jon Otto  
Gwen Poss

**Staff Present**

Elimane Mbengue, Head of School  
Dr. Maritza Paul, Principal MS/HS  
Heather Royce, Principal Cherry Campus  
Jean Claude Diatta, Principal Oak Campus  
Jacque Lane  
Christy White  
Celia Liptak  
Carlos McClain

**Guests**

Dana Cutler, Attorney

**Meeting Opened**

Beth McCarthy, President at 6:33 p.m.

**Approval of Agenda**

Beth McCarthy asked for motion to approve agenda.

***Motion***

Michael Bland moved to approve the agenda as presented and Beth seconded. Board VOTED to approve.

**PTO Update – Alonda Lona**

- Block Party on April 30<sup>th</sup> at Armour Campus location.

- End of school year skating party being discussed.
- Teacher Appreciation events scheduled in May are being planned.
- Discussing how to get new parents involved in the school activities/events.
- Scheduling the last PTO meeting.

### **Approval of February Minutes**

Beth McCarthy asked for approval of February minutes.

### ***Motion***

Michele Markham moved to accept the February board minutes as presented and Harriet Plowman seconded. Board **VOTED** to approve

### **Governance Committee Update – Michele Markham**

- **Sunshine Law**  
Dana Cutler, Attorney, gave a presentation on Sunshine Law. Ms. Cutler gave the guidelines and specifics on the Sunshine Law with regards to requests being made of the Board.
  - What is a meeting. Guidelines for when it is or isn't a meeting outlined.
  - Open meeting requirements explained. When a meeting is public or not and when and where it is posted with definition of why the meeting is being held should be included. Also, ways to make minutes of meetings or live meetings available to anyone requesting that information.
  - Public meetings are not open to public interaction.
  - Closed meeting items that are public information or closed session information were clarified.
  - Info not subject to Sunshine meeting laws explained (examples given).
  - Board minutes – what should be disclosed in minutes and stipulations of who can vote on approval of minutes, timeframe for posting.
  - Sunshine Records Requests – what can be requested and timeframes for release of info, etc. discussed.

Discussion on Sunshine Law followed.

- Legislative Update from (MCPSA) given
- June Retreat Update discussed.
- Board Training info provided.
- Board election process and time frame for notifying parents discussed as well as election timeline.
- “Fixing the Cliché in Jeff City” - discussion.

### **Finance Committee – Jacque Lane**

- Accounts Payable for February presented and details of the reported provided. Jacque Lane asked for approval of the report as presented.

#### ***Motion***

Harriet Plowman moved to approve the accounts payables for February. Michael Bland seconded. Board **VOTED** to approve.

The following budget items with details were presented:

- Overview of Revenue
- Average Daily Attendance Budget to Actual
- YTD Actual/Budget Variance
- Expenditures Budget to Actual
- Summary of budget with forecast and budget included provided and explained
- Finance Summary and forecast
- Motion requested to approve sign-on stipend for staff referring someone who hires on as teacher.

#### ***Motion***

Harriet Plowman moved to approve stipend of \$500 to be paid to staff for new teacher referrals. In the event of a referral being hired the teacher making the referral will receive one half of the stipend paid at the initial hiring of the new teacher and the balance at the end of the school year. Kelly Baker seconded. The Board **VOTED** to approve.

- Approve meeting date to review and approve preliminary budget – suggested date is for March 30, 2022

### **Development Committee – Celia Liptak**

- Capital Campaign update provided.
- Annual Generations Day Art Walk is April 19-22, 2022 (Armour 4/19, Cherry 4/21 and Oak 4/22).
- EIP update provided. An alternative for the EIP event is being created for those who are not able to attend.

### **Diversity Committee – Kelly Baker**

- Panorama community survey will be in late March.
- Working with SchoolSmart KC for school family partnership.

### **Head of School Report – Elimane Mbengue**

- Purpose of Saturday School presented.
- 10 reasons for Saturday school warnings provided and explained. Also, breakdown by ethnicity and number of students attending Saturday school provided as well as ISS/OSS numbers by ethnicity.

- Covid-19 update presented in detail.

### **Recruitment and Admission Update**

- Month by month comparison total of all applications over 4 years was presented.
- Month by month comparison total Kindergarten applications over 4 years presented.
- Application breakdown of kindergarten sibling/employee applications for current year presented. Discussion followed with more explanation being provided.

#### February events:

- Show Me KC School high school & Beyond school registration.
- School App KC's President's Day canvassing.
- Show Me KC Schools pre-K cooperative fair.

#### Staff Recognition

- Cherry literacy committee
- Oak – Marlowe Braley for Title I
- Armour – Katy Wilson – IB diploma program
  
- Multiple positions posted for elementary and high school.
- Professional Development Day: Immersion 101
- High school IB Diploma program authorization visit made which included interviews with all our high school faculty and administration. The final report towards our final authorization for the diploma program will be given.
- Chemistry, Biology, physics and art room being renovated.
- Furniture and equipment is being ordered for classrooms in high school.

#### Transportation

- Working with Apple Bus Company who was bought by another company, but think they will be able to offer transportation to AL. Final decision pending.
- Meeting held with City Wide to discuss AL taking over the bus company and they have provided us with a business plan. Discussion followed.

### **President's Report**

- Covid 19 Update
- Academic Program Update
- Planning for 2022-2023 school years
- Resuming In person Board meetings discussed

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.