



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 18, 2014

Location 1: Aspire Public Schools 1001 22nd Ave Oakland, CA 94606

Location 2: Aspire Junior Collegiate Academy and Aspire Titan Academy, 6724 S Alameda St, Huntington Park, CA 90255

Meeting Conference Line: 1-719-325-2630; Passcode: 804315

I. Public Business Meeting

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 9:36 AM. Quorum for the meeting was confirmed.

Board Members Present: Beth Hunkapiller, Steven Merrill, Jonathan Garfinkel, Jim Quigley and Leslie Hume were present at Location 1 in Oakland. Warren Felson was present at Location 2 in Huntington Park.

Staff Present: James Willcox, Elise Darwish, Heather Kirkpatrick, Viraj Patel, Chris Padula, Emmile Brack, Delphine Sherman and Shireen Burns were present in Location 1. Kate Ford was present in Location 2.

II. Changes to the Agenda: The Delegation of Authority to the Executive Committee re: Corporate Structure was removed from Part C under Discussion, Action Items and Reports.

III. Public Comments Not on the Agenda: Rene Cardona thanked Aspire for supporting LAUSD schools.

IV. Chairperson and CEO Comments: Beth Hunkapiller thanked Rene for being supportive of charter schools in LA. James Willcox explained that a letter has gone out to the Aspire team about the recent Ferguson and New York court decisions, and out of respect to Aspire families and staff, a moment of silence was observed at 9:45 AM.

V. Discussion, Action Items, and Reports

A. Nomination of Jim Quigley to the Board of Directors –Jim Quigley’s nomination to the Aspire Board of Directors was moved by Steven and seconded by Jonathan; unanimously approved.

B. Nomination of Leslie Hume to the Board of Directors –Leslie Hume’s nomination to the Aspire Board of Directors was moved by Steven and seconded by Jonathan; unanimously approved.

C. Delegation of Authority to Executive Committee

i. Corporate Structure –this was not discussed.

ii. Aspire Antonio Maria Lugo Academy Construction Contracts –Viraj Patel gave a summary of the construction timeline and costs for the AMLA site, seeking to delegate authority to the Executive Committee to approve construction contracts of up to \$11.6M. Steven moved and Jim seconded; it was unanimously approved.

iii. Aspire Antonio Maria Lugo Academy Bridge Financing –Management made the Board aware of bridge financing options for up to \$7.75M for AMLA. It was decided that this item would be further discussed at a future Board meeting when a plan for the specific type of bridge financing could be recommended to the Board by management. No approvals were made.

D. Q&A –2014-15 Board Dashboard Results –The latest results of the organizational health dashboard were presented and the Board had a chance to ask questions and discuss the data with management.

Break: The Board adjourned for a break at 11:08 AM.

Call to order: The Board reconvened at 11:18 AM.

E. Financial Stewardship –Evolution of School Support Structure–Emmille Brack explained to the Board that regions and schools will be gaining more budget decision making power through the transition of Home Office



College for Certain

support to a national infrastructure. This will be accomplished by increases in LCFF funding over the next few years, a small increase to the Home Office fees and establishing a regional fee.

- VI. **Adjournment to Closed Session:** The Board adjourned for lunch at 12:27 PM and then adjourned to Closed Session at 12:37 PM.
- VII. **Closed Session**
 - A. **Existing Litigation**
 - i. **Aspire Public Schools v. West Contra Cost Unified School District** –this case was discussed. No action was taken.
 - B. **Anticipated Litigation** –two cases were discussed. No action was taken.
- VIII. **Reconvene to Public Meeting:** The meeting reconvened at 2:29 PM.
 - A. **Report out on Closed Session Items:** No actions were taken on litigation. The Board Chair reported no other Closed Session actions were taken other than those already noted in Section VII.
- X. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 2:29 PM.

Approved this 21st Day of January, 2015 at Oakland, CA.



Emmille Brack, Interim Board Secretary