



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 26, 2015

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

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

I. Public Business Meeting

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 9:45 AM. Quorum for the meeting was confirmed.

Board Members Present: Beth Hunkapiller, Jonathan Garfinkel, Warren Felson, Dick Spalding, Steven Merrill, Leslie Hume, Jim Quigley and Jim Boyd were all present in Oakland, CA.

Staff Present: James Willcox, Elise Darwish, Emmile Brack, Heather Kirkpatrick, Chris Padula, Carolyn Choy, Erik Brown and Shireen Burns were present in Oakland, CA. Allison Leslie was present in Memphis, TN.

II. Changes to the Agenda: There were no changes to the agenda.

III. Public Comments Not on the Agenda: There were no public comments.

IV. Chairperson and CEO Comments: Both Beth Hunkapiller and James Willcox welcomed Jim Boyd, and thanked him for his support with Aspire schools in Memphis. James announced that Chris Padula would be reaching out to Board members about the upcoming May 20th annual fundraiser to discuss outreach and sponsorship. James also updated the Board on the upcoming Memphis Home Week, in which all Aspire leaders come together to share and learn, and then showed a video to the Board members about how Memphis teachers, principals and students think about college readiness. There were no other Board Member comments.

V. Discussion, Action Items, and Reports

A. Nomination of Jim Boyd to the Board of Directors –Jim Boyd was nominated to the Aspire Board of Directors. Dick moved and Jim Q seconded; unanimously approved. Approval: Yes: 7 -Beth, Warren, Jonathan, Steven, Dick, Leslie, Jim Q; No: 0; Abstain: 0.

B. Resolution to Approve Board of Directors Terms –The resolution to approve the Board of Directors Terms was moved by Leslie, and seconded by Dick; unanimously approved. Approval: Yes: 8 -Beth, Warren, Jonathan, Steven, Dick, Leslie, Jim Q, Jim B; No: 0; Abstain: 0.

C. Memphis Growth Strategy –Allison Leslie, Memphis Executive Director, discussed with the Board the goals, challenges and progress made in the Memphis schools around test scores and retention in the first years of operation, as well as strategies for school boundaries, student academic progress and the growth and expansion of schools in future years.

Break –The Board adjourned for a break at 11:00 AM. They reconvened at 11:07 AM.

D. Aspire Antonio Maria Lugo Academy Bridge Financing Strategy –Carolyn Choy, Senior Financial Analyst, presented the Board with an overview of the bridge financing options for Aspire Antonio Maria Lugo Academy, as well as management's recommendation. Steven moved and Jim Q seconded management's recommendation to use \$2.5M from the Charter School Growth Fund, \$1.5M from The Pacific Companies, and \$4M from the Umpqua Bank line of credit for AMLA bridge financing, with the requirement that the Finance Committee must review remaining cash needs before drawing down the line of credit.; unanimously approved. Approval: Yes: 7 -Beth, Warren, Jonathan, Steven, Dick, Leslie, Jim Q; No: 0; Abstained/Recused: 1 –Jim Boyd.

Break –The Board adjourned at 11:33 AM for lunch. They reconvened at 11:45 AM.

E. 2015-16 Budget Decisions and Approval Timeline –Emmille Brack, Vice President of Operations and Chief of Staff to CEO, and Erik Brown, Director of Finance, gave an overview to the Board on the timeline for the 2015-16 budget,



College for Certain

including a review of existing policies approved by the Board, budget assumptions for California schools and a draft recommendation for the newly competitive teacher salary schedule and next steps. Steven moved and Jim Q seconded management's proposed teacher salary schedule for 2015-16, pending the expected state budget passes through the legislature in June; unanimously approved. Approval: Yes: 8 -Beth, Warren, Jonathan, Steven, Dick, Leslie, Jim Q, Jim B; No: 0; Abstain: 0.

Break –The Board adjourned at 1:42 PM for a break. They reconvened at 1:52 PM.

F. CEO Search Process and Progress –Jonathan Garfinkel introduced Jennifer Bol and Kristine Johnson of Spencer Stuart to the Board, who were hired to conduct the CEO search. Jennifer and Kristine listened to thoughts from Senior Leadership Team members on the qualities they seek in the next CEO so that the Board could be given more context and insight into the search process.

VI. Adjournment to Closed Session: The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 2:38 PM.

VII. Closed Session

A. Anticipated Litigation –One case was discussed. No action was taken.

B. Public / At-Will Employment –CEO –The public /at-will employment of the CEO was discussed. No action was taken.

VIII. Reconvene to Public Meeting: The meeting reconvened at 4:22 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 4:22 PM.

Approved this 12th Day of March, 2015 at Oakland, CA.


Emmille Brack, Interim Board Secretary