



**Board of Directors Retreat**

Thursday, November 3, 2016

Location 1: Aspire Hanley Academy 680 Hanley St., Memphis, TN 39114

Location 2: Aspire East Academy 6870 East Winchester Rd., Memphis, TN 38115

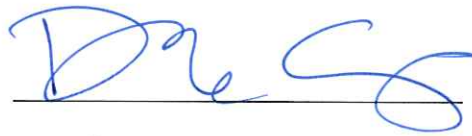
Location 3: National Civil Rights Museum 450 Mulberry St, Memphis, TN 38103

Meeting Conference Line: 1-415-655-0381; Passcode: 382-455-687#

<u>Agenda</u>	
	<p><b>Public Business Meeting</b>  <b>Board Members Present:</b> Jonathan Garfinkel, Kay Hong, Beth Hunkapiller, Nisa Frank, Warren Felson, Jim Boyd, Steven Merrill and Leslie Hume were present in Location 1, 2 and 3 at the designated times.  <b>I. Staff Present:</b> Carolyn Hack, D'Lonra Ellis, Alejandra Chavez, Mary Cha-Caswell, Mala Batra, Delphine Sherman, Allison Leslie and Bess Kennedy were present in Locations 1, 2 and 3 at the designated times. Memphis regional office and school site staff were also present.  <b>Call to Order:</b> The meeting was called to order by Jonathan Garfinkel at 9:00 am. Quorum for the meeting was confirmed.</p>
II.	<b>Changes to the Agenda:</b> There were no changes to the agenda.
III.	<b>Public Comments Not on the Agenda:</b> There were no public comments.
IV.	<b>Chairperson and CEO Comments:</b> Jonathan Garfinkel, Board Chair, welcomed Nisa Frank to her first Board Meeting at Aspire. Carolyn Hack, CEO, shared the three goals for the retreat: 1. For the Board to experience firsthand our commitment to Memphis students, their families and the community. 2. To give the Board time to engage deeply in conversations about our work in Memphis. 3. For the Board to get a deeper understanding of the cultural, historical and political context of Memphis.
V.	<b>Observation and Discussion</b>
A.	Malika Anderson, Superintendent of the Achievement School District, shared with the Board the work that the Achievement School District is doing and how Aspire can work with the ASD to improve educational outcomes for the bottom 5% of students in Tennessee. The Board and staff then broke into two groups and did a walkthrough of Aspire Hanley Elementary School 1 and Aspire Hanley Elementary School 2. Each team was guided by a school site leader. The walkthrough consisted of visiting classrooms while in session in order to get a firsthand experience of what students are learning and how. After the walkthrough, each team shared what they saw, what they liked and what they thought could improve.
B.	The Board and staff traveled to Aspire East Academy.
C.	Aspire East Academy's Principal Monique Cincore presented an overview of the opening of Aspire East Academy and the first few months of instruction to the Board. Bradley Leon, Shelby County School's Chief of Strategy & Innovation, talked to the Board about the work Shelby County is doing in Memphis and what it expects from its charters in Memphis. Next, a panel of parents shared with the Board their involvement and experience with Aspire. Finally, the Board toured the school and visited classrooms.
D.	Board traveled to the National Civil Rights Museum.
E.	The meeting adjourned for lunch.
F.	A docent took the Board and staff on a guided tour of the National Civil Rights Museum.

G.	The Board engaged in a panel discussion with Beverly C. Robertson, Principal of TRUST Marketing and the former President of the National Civil Rights Museum, Dr. Beverly Cross, the Lillian and Morrie Moss Chair of Excellence in Urban Education at the University of Memphis, and Dr. John Smarrelli Jr., President of Christian Brothers University. The Board learned about the educational political climate in Memphis and had the opportunity to ask questions.
VI.	<b>Adjournment:</b> The meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Approved this 8<sup>th</sup> Day of December, 2016 in Oakland, CA.



D'Lonra Ellis, Board Secretary