

Board of Director's Meeting  
February 9, 2009  
**MINUTES**

**Board Members Present:**

David Cozad, President  
Mike Zeller, Vice President  
Kirk Farmer  
Jane Alley  
Pam Gard  
Herb Hardwick  
Harriett Charno  
Melissa Thomas  
Brian Hendrickson

**Staff Members Present:**

Eric Nelis, Principal  
Eric Roskam, Vice Principal  
Jacque Lane  
Rachael Gordon  
Patrick Sprehe  
Jean Claude Diatta

Meeting called to order by David Cozad and he welcomed guests present.

Dave Cozad then extended a welcome to Dr. Moore who is considering and being considered as an Academie Lafayette board member. Dr Moore then gave a brief description of his position and background.

Kirk Farmer and Herb Hardwick asked Dr. Moore to give an explanation of why he is interested in being a board member.

Dr. Moore stated that his interest in the school is due to the French immersion program, our academic success, and diverse staff. He mentioned that he was also drawn here because our school is in demand. He stated that he feels he would be an asset in helping to maintain and increase our diversity. He informed the group that he is not currently serving on any other charter school boards, but does work periodically with schools in helping them to improve minority students' academic skills to keep them in line with their peers.

Dr. Moore stated that due to his schedule, he would not be able to begin serving on the board until May.

### **Questions & Comments from Stakeholders:**

Deri Obrien- would like a space left (cross walk) by the steps where children exit to the busses by the steps on both sides of the street. Kirk Farmer stated that since we own some of the block, it might be a reasonable request to make to the city. David Cozad indicated that we would look into it and report back. Deri offered her assistance if needed.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the January 12, 2009 meeting were unanimously approved prior to the meeting. The minutes have been posted to the website. Minutes were approved electronically.

### **Parent Association Report – Anne Moren:**

- Book fair is up and running.
- There is the possibility of purchasing a screen for the Auditorium.
- Trash bag sale ends Feb. 10, 2009.
- Evening in Paris planning is well underway.
- Parents are working with Kayla McCrite on ideas for the upcoming kindergarten round-up.

## **Building Update - Kirk Farmer**

Kirk Farmer informed the group that two off-site locations had been toured and are under consideration: Broadway Methodist Church and the former Benjamin Banneker School. A motion was then made to go into closed session to discuss the off-site building lease agreements.

### **Motion**

David Cozad moved to go into closed session to discuss off-site building lease agreements. Herb Hardwick seconded. The board unanimously approved.

### **Open Session Reconvened:**

#### ***Board Member Appointment:***

Mike Zeller moved to add Dr. Moore to the Academie Lafayette Board of Directors. Kirk Farmer seconded and the Board unanimously approved.

### **2009-2010 Kindergarten Enrollment Update**

Kirk Farmer gave a financial update on pursuing the Broadway United Methodist Church location (see overview & spread sheet attached).

The group was also informed that we have accepted the 131 students who enrolled during the open enrollment period.

Discussion ensued regarding the length of the lease at Broadway United Methodist Church and our ability to end the lease. The risks of leasing were discussed as well as the amount paid to our school by the state and the total number of students we plan to have enrolled. Feedback thus far is that the state is planning to keep education funding in place at least at a flat rate. It was

mentioned that the target date, if we move forward with the expansion, is 2011.

Discussion regarding the additional location was held as follows:

- Debt for the new building and interest costs.
- Jane Alley mentioned that there a market study is completed annually regarding teacher's salaries alternating with staff salaries.
- Church space and costs.
- Staffing needs, which include: 2 new kindergarten teachers, art teacher, music teacher and 2 office staff.
- BIST staffing and additional staff & materials will be needed.

The goal is to have 5 adult staff members who are that is not classroom teachers to provide support at the new location.

Discussion regarding finance, class sizes, and number of classes, space at the church location as well as security and general use of the building followed.

At that point, a motion was made to accept all the children that were enrolled during the open enrolment period.

### **Motion**

Mike Zeller moved to accept all the children that were enrolled during the open enrollment period. Kirk Farmer seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Approval giving Kirk Farmer permission to pursue a lease agreement with Broadway United Methodist Church under the provision of the terms discussed in closed session was requested.

### **Motion**

David Cozad moved and Brian Hendrickson seconded with unanimous Board approval.

The procedure to inform families of acceptance as well as informing current families that we will be adding an additional campus location for kindergarten was discussed.

## **General Discussion**

*Items to be discussed at next meeting.*

- Summer school plans
- Ways to promote interaction with new families

*Other Topics:*

- Hiring Staff  
The Human Resources Committee recommended that Eric Nelis move forward with hiring additional teachers.

### **Motion**

Kirk Farmer moved to allow Eric Nelis to pursue the recruitment of new teachers for next year. Pam Gard seconded and it was unanimously approved.

- Expansion Loan  
Kirk discusses need to keep discussions going with the loan company and architects for new space and he mentioned that IFF has a program that is appropriate.

### **Motion**

Herb Hardwick moved to allow Kirk Farmer permission to continue financial discussion with IFF regarding the financing of the building expansion. Jane Alley seconded and the motion carried.

## **Charter Renewal Info:**

Jacque Land gave an update on the contract and attachments for UCM Charter Renewal.

She mentioned that, in essence all renewals are new Charters and she will be reorganizing info and that on-going meetings are continuing with organizing details and preparing the contract. UCM. She also mentioned that some parts of the contract are non-negotiable i.e., A-J. Contracts with attachments A-J will need to be signed before March 7<sup>th</sup>. There was discussion about having Board members review parts of the contract before the meeting on Thursday. Discussion ensued regarding the various pieces of the contract and attachments. Kirk Farmer suggests that after review, everyone on the Board provide Jacque with feedback by Wednesday at noon.

Dave Cozad, after the meeting with UCM, will contact the Board to see if there is a desire to have a special meeting to further look at the Contract and attachments.

#### Additional Comments/General Info

- Patrick Sprehe- compliments the Board on working on diversity and suggests that they continue to do that for next year as soon as possible.
- Letter passed out about us being a Gold Star School and the qualification involved.

It was recommended that the meeting be adjourned.

#### Motion

Kirk Farmer moved to adjourn and Mike Zeller seconded. The Board approved.

Respectfully submitted by

Joe Wilkinson

(Revised and reviewed by Carlos McClain)