Academie Lafayette
Board of Director’s Meeting
August 12, 2019

MINUTES

Board Present:
Jon Otto, President
Harriet Plowman
Kelly Baker
Marvin Lyman
Chad Phillips
Renee Schloss
Tanja Heinen
Carla Mcbane
Beth McCarthy

Board Absent:
Michael Bland

Meeting called to order at 6:34 p.m., by Jon Otto, President

Approval of Agenda

Jon Otto, President, asked for approval of the agenda and to move agenda item #10 before item #9.

Motion
Marvin Lyman made a motion to move item #10 on the agenda to item #9. Harriet Plowman seconded. Board VOTED to approve.

Stakeholder Comments
Jon Otto, asked for stakeholder comments and Leslie Kohlmeyer gave information and criteria on the importance of starting a high school.

Approval of Minutes
Jon Otto, President, asked for approval of the July minutes.

Motion
Marvin Lyman moved to approve July 8th minutes. Beth McCarthy seconded. Board VOTED to approve.

PTO Report – Leslie Kohlmeyer
- New school year has had a great start. She commented that the PTO would like to see more involvement from some of the fathers/men.
• PTO needs a treasurer.
• Preliminary budget was drafted and Leslie Kohlmeyer met with Mr. Mbengue regarding the money given to the school by the PTO and stated that it is unrestricted. There are some items such as trips, fruit cart, etc. which are not part of those given to the school.

**Head of School Report – Mr. Mbengue**
• Thinks Leslie Kohlmeyer for report and cooperation in working with him and school.
• Introduced Dr. Maritza Paul, the new MS principal at Armour and gave a brief overview of her background/experience.
• Randi McCreary and Jessica McDowell are still in charge of the IB program.
• Enrollment is currently 1,131, which is below the budget, but there are 6 K spots available and 12 spots in 1st grade.
• New teacher orientation was completed and there are five teachers to still arrive.
• American school culture and function of school was discussed
• Tuesday will be the back to school day for all staff and some of the founders will speak to the staff and share the experience of starting AL as well as staff and student culture and student achievement and parent engagement.
• Working with UMKC to offer math college credits to students.
• Citizens of the World Charter school’s first school day was today.
• **HR Update** – all teachers have arrived minus five whose appointment with Embassy is pending.
• **2019 MAP** - math and ELA have been shared by DESE, but are still embargoed; science will be out in October; APR will be out in late September.
• **Discussion** re: academics, i.e. math college credits, etc.

**Admissions and Community Outreach Report – Robyn King**
• Distributed ink pens representing the 20th Anniversary for staff, board, and funders. Students will receive bookmarks and lanyards.
• Discussed enrollment numbers.
• Chad Phillips asked for the demographic breakdown by grade indicating the school the students are attending.
• Community Service Event was very successful with 50-60 volunteers participating. The event was covered by the news.
• Met with a foundation to discuss funding the school Outreach Program.
• Visit held today with the Diverse Charter School’s Coalition representative.
• Phone call will be held with some of the new schools.
• Tours will begin on Sept. 2, and open house dates are being set.
• City School Fair is Nov. 9th
• Open application dates for 2020-2021 were presented:
  - Nov. 9, 2019 – applications open
  - Mar. 2, 2020 – applications are due to be entered into lottery
- Mar. 4 2020 – schools notify families of results at 4:00 p.m.
- Mar. 27, 2020 – families must accept or decline lottery offers by 11:59 p.m.

Jon Otto asked for a motion to approve the dates for the lottery and notification dates.

**Motion**
Marvin Lyman approved. Chad Phillips seconded. Board VOTED to approve.

**Development Report – Chris Neher**
- Annual Fund was $256,857 2017-18
- Annual Fund $251,486 18-19 down 1.9%

- Armour library pledge has been closed and contributors are currently paying on their pledges.
- Meeting held with possible funder who seems to be inspired by the excellent work being done by Robyn King, Admissions and Community Outreach Coordinator.
- Founder’s Day- Aug 30th, and there are currently 59 people attending; Quinton Lucas will be joining us as well. The AL PTO and UCM are providing funding for this event.
- Raffle is gearing up for a launch on Aug 30th, and will run until the Boo Bayou, which is scheduled for Oct 26th.
- Plans are to increase amount raised from last year.
- Boosterthon has been booked to again run our Musketeer March next year.
- Meetings have been held with PTO, they have agreed to turn over all funds from EIP to the school. The PTO and the development staff will work together this year on the event and next year the school will have a more active role in oversight and strategy.
- Chris Neher stated that he will be working on a development plan for the department and along with the committee, will be looking for ways to maximize exposure of the school thereby increasing funds.
• Michele Markham is finding opportunities with Kansas City organizations to get in front of the Kansas City business community in hopes of building awareness and sponsorship opportunities for events and other funding for the school.

• Soccer bids have been received for completing both fields at the approximate cost of $350K, which includes a 6% overage. Meetings with Brookside soccer have been held regarding the possibility of renting both fields on just Saturdays, which would yield us around $9,000 annually. Replacement fund-cost uncertain. Construction is possible to begin next summer if we have raised the necessary funding. Chris Neher also mentioned that there is a possibility of receiving funding from a possible sponsor.

**Diversity Committee Report – Kelly Baker**

• Meeting held and Kelly Baker and Beth McCarthy have begun participating in an outside parent group/book club and are discussing diversity in the schools and community with the group.

• Beth McCarthy and Mr. Mbengue met with some of the parents from the group and discussed how to work on improving diversity in the school.

**Governance Committee Report – Beth McCarthy**

• Discussed possible additional members being added to the board.

Jon Otto, President, then asked for a motion to accept the two newly appointed board members, Gwen Poss and Lori Wilkinson.

**Motion**

Marvin Lyman moved to accept Gwen Poss and Lori Wilkinson to the board in a 3-year capacity. Harriet Plowman seconded. Board VOTED to approve.

• Draft of board calendar presented and discussed.

• Board goals and training scheduled were questioned in terms of whether these areas have been met and scheduled.

• AL e-mail addresses will be given to the board members.

• Suggested that new board members should be oriented to the culture of the school, i.e. French immersion (why and how it works). Mentioned that this could be part of board training.

• Jon Otto asked that the Board calendar be sent to members for further review. Discussion held. September meeting could include Sunshine Laws and signature line.

• All committees were encouraged to set meeting dates for the year.
President’s Report – Jon Otto

- Board Retreat held last month and preliminary goals for HOS discussed. Strategic Plan reviewed and evaluated in terms of where we are in meeting the plan.
- Meeting held to discuss funding.
- MCPSA meeting held and was attended by some of the board members, which involved funding cuts, strategies to address and legislative update. Chad continued by explaining the state funding basic formula and how to get the state to increase funding for Charter schools. Discussion on strategies used in the past and possible new strategies held.

Finance Committee– Harriet Plowman

Jon Otto asked for approval of the July accounts payable. Discussion held.

Motion
Harriet Plowman moved to approve the July accounts payables as presented. Marvin Lyman seconded. Board VOTED to approve.

High School Board Meeting Update

The following was discussed:

- ADA Funding discussed re: AL vs. State.
- 2017 Projections for two campuses K-8, Oak and Cherry only.
- 10 year financial projections comparison with 4 scenarios
  - K-8 Oak and Cherry only
- Chad Phillips gave a breakdown of the funding for the last few years. He also presented 10-year financial projection comparisons with 4 scenarios. Lengthy explanations and discussion held.

Jon Otto, asked the board to look at the projections for the high school and he mentioned that the board would prepare to look at developing plans to announce the high school plans to families and the outside community.

Adjournment

Jon Otto, President, adjourned the meeting at 8:46 p.m.