

Crescent Leadership Academy
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
August 14, 2012
To Be Approved

In attendance were members: Kim Rugon, Anthony Doty, Jr., Marlin Ford and by phone Ginger Berrigan. Others present were: ROP representatives, the ESP, Tracy Joseph, Ski Broman, CJ Jenkins-Bower and Stephanie Parker.

The meeting was called to order by Board President K. Rugon at 4:45pm at Crescent Leadership Academy, 4300 Almonaster Ave., New Orleans, LA.

Board President Rugon made a motion to accept the agenda, it was seconded by Member Doty and APPROVED unanimously.

Management began by giving an overall report on the first day of operations. Board President Rugon and Member Doty were on hand the night before and the first day and commented on how productive it was for a smooth first day of school.

Member Berrigan made a motion to approve the July 18, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes, Member Doty seconded and the motion was APPROVED unanimously.

The Education Director reported on the activities of the first day. With 198 students registered, 73 were in attendance the first day. Although it is not uncommon, staff is actively contacting those families to ensure their status, seventeen (17) of the students that did not show up were assigned students by RSD and CLA will need to report on their status. There was a great traffic plan for the day and parents commented on how safe they felt and were very pleased with CLA. Parents actually walked their students to their classrooms and stayed to learn more about the school.

The ED advised that RSD is currently on an intensive Corrective Action Plan for Special Education and CLA is will be providing information on our Special Education Program to assist in compliance. If the school is not in compliance next year the Corrective Action Plan will be a burden of CLA as opposed to RSD.

The School Calendar and Bell Schedule was distributed and reviewed. Board Members were invites to visit the school as their schedules would permit.

Management explained that the initial plan was to provide the Culinary CTE in year two of the charter however, due to feedback from students this CTE will begin first year. It is anticipated a culinary instructor will be hired in September to begin instruction.

CLA Administrative staff has been asked to present to other charters on implementing CTE's.

The ED advised she was contacted by an education reporter who is conducting an assessment on alternative schools. She will share more as the project develops on what pieces of CLA will be included.

Management provided an overview on the finances beginning with the Balance Sheet and advised CLA has \$159k in the bank as of end of July, 2012. CLA was pre-funded for 200 students to start and that will be modified based on average daily population determined in October. Funds should help cover 80% of the rent at Almonaster since we did not receive a location from RSD as negotiated.

Management advised the budget most definitely will need to be re-visited and probably need to be modified in October due to several factors. Some of the items were not in the initially approved budget for the charter application such as the security officer. Based on teacher and school administration feedback it was decided to

be in the best interest of CLA to provide. Another item was the unexpected rent for the Almonaster location. Initially RSD was to provide the facility.

Management also distributed and reviewed the Accounts Receivable and Accounts Payable and reviewed by line item to include i3 Grant items. Management advised although CLA as a non-profit is not required to do so, we capitalize items that with a value of \$5k or more. Management and staff re-reviewed the previously Board approved budget hat was submitted with the charter application.

The ED advised that CLA was not awarded the Walton Family Foundation (WFF) Grant. WFF does not have a grant for alternative education so it was a difficult process. WFF did say they were still interested in seeing if there was a way we could track data that will help us meet their criteria. They encouraged us to apply in January.

Board President Rugon asked members if they had a chance to review the resumes of Marlin Ford and Steven Hartman who had both expressed interest in joining the CLA Board of Directors. Member Berrigan made a motion to approve the nominations of Marlin Ford and Steven Hartman for Board Membership., Member Doty seconded and the motion was APPROVED unanimously.

The ED provided the final draft of the Student Code of Conduct Manual with the requested edits from the Board and approved at the last meeting. Management explained further for the benefit of the new members that this concept manual is based on Evidence Based Practices for the students and was customized for CLA. Some of the parents shared positive feedback on the concepts and expectations within the manuals such as the policy on public address and dress code.

Management reported there was active parent involvement witnessed today with parents not only walking students into classrooms but staying for a while in the classrooms.

Board President Rugon led discussion with the Board about rescheduling The High Bar training. It was decided to wait until after the next meeting when 1-2 more new board members are anticipated.

The Board and Management discussed having a community event at the school with students and their families to get to know CLA better. The decision was made to combine it with student conferences September 11 and will take the form of a barbeque at CLA.

Board President called for any Public Comment. None requested.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 18 at 4:30pm at Crescent Leadership Academy.

Member Doty made a motion for adjournment and was seconded by Member Ford and approved, the meeting was closed at 5:47pm