

**Crescent Leadership Academy
Regular Board Meeting Agenda
Thursday, January 21, 2016
5:30 pm @ Crescent Leadership Academy
2701 Lawrence Street
New Orleans, LA 70114**

Board Members Present: Warren Atkins Jr., Jim Letten (until 6:10), Rachael Coe, Maurice Lightfoot, Brooks Duplessis-Barnes, Natasha Noah-Riley, Amelie Wax (board candidate)

Board Members Not in Attendance: Tommy Maginnis, Sean Ranson, Dhruva Chakravorty, Brooks Duplessis-Barnes

CMO Present: Nick Dean, Nancey Carter and Tracy Joseph; CJ Bower via phone

I. Roll Call @5:39pm.

II. Maurice Lightfoot moved to approve the Agenda and December 17, 2015 meeting minutes, Jim Letten 2nd the motion; all in favor, so moved.

III. ESP Reports

1. Superintendent Report – Tracy Joseph
Reminder of Ritz Gala and Pancake Breakfast

Ms. Joseph and Mr. Lightfoot are meeting with Superintendent Patrick Dobard; Mr. Dobard is coming to visit the CLA campus next month; Mr. Lightfoot suggested the Board propose a 140-150 student model for CLA so the student population is not a moving target, staff do not have to be laid off and the school can be successful. Ms. Joseph encouraged the board to decide who that other special population of choice students is. Once the meeting is scheduled, Ms. Joseph will contact the board. Mr. Lightfoot asked the whole board to be in attendance for the meeting with Mr. Dobard so they can relay what is viable for the school.

At least three churches are interested in renting the church and working with the CLA students. The RSD would like to know the projected cost to renovate the rectory so they can assist with obtaining funding for renovations; they will also need to know the vision for population and services.

Jim Letten move that the SEAL discussion be discussed in Executive Session; Rachel Coe and Maurice Lightfoot agreed. Nancey Carter to send out an email to find out everyone's availability.

2. Type 5 Charter Progress Report/Activities Calendar—Nick Dean
Basketball is in session; he will send out a calendar of all the currently scheduled games. Members of the Federal Bar Association held workshops to prep students in presentation/public speaking skills and for the mock trial.
Quarter 3 is underway and students are showing gains in assessments and grades, particularly in Math.
NOLA for Life team is in discussions; have signed an MOU as well as data sharing agreements to meet with parents; the program should start around 2/1/16.

3. Financial Review– CJ Bower

Income Statement and Balance Sheet were reviewed; no questions from the Board.

IV. Board Updates and Action Items

1. Board Member Recruiting Update

- a. Ms. Amelie Wax, referred by Brooks Barnes, introduced herself, described the work she does at Dillard, and explained why she would like to be a member of the board, as well as how she feels she could assist the school and students. Board indicated they would like to vote her in, but Jim Letten left early so membership could not be approved. She will return for the next meeting.
- b. Dr. Sean Ransom sent in a notice of resignation due to time constraints precluding him from participating fully on the board.

2. Subcommittee Updates (Discussion/Action)

a. Compliance/Governance Committee

Mr. Lightfoot and Ms. Coe indicated the desire to have additional members in this subcommittee.

b. Fundraising Committee

- i. Mardi Gras parking progress and resource needs
- ii. Other fundraising events, possibly Titan Fest or Golf Tournament. Mr. Warren proposed a celebrity men cook-off fundraiser for scholarships; he will send a blueprint for next month's meeting.

3. Update Board Calendar for 2016 to include two noon meetings; will send calendar out for approval at the next board meeting.

4. Future Agenda Items: Follow up with approval of Ms. Wax for board membership, celebrity men cook-off fundraiser and 2016 Board Calendar.

V. Public Comment-no members of the public called in or in attendance.

VI. Adjournment at 6:20 pm.

Minutes transcribed by Nancey Carter for Maurice Lightfoot. ##