

**Crescent Leadership Academy
Regular Board Meeting Agenda
Thursday, February 18, 2016
5:30 pm @ Crescent Leadership Academy
2701 Lawrence Street
New Orleans, LA 70114**

Board Members Present: Warren Atkins Jr., Rachael Coe, Maurice Lightfoot, Brooks Duplessis-Barnes, Natasha Noah-Riley, Tommy Maginnis

Board Members Not in Attendance: Jim Letten, Dhruva Chakravorty

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

Other Participants: Mike Higgins (Executive Session, only)

- I. Roll Call: Maurice, Rachael, Brooks, Warren, Natasha, Tommy, Nick; via phone: Nancey, Tracey, CJ
- II. Review and Approval of Agenda and January Meeting Minutes (Action): Maurice Lightfoot moved to approve the Agenda and January Meeting Minutes, Rachael Coe 2nd the motion; all in favor, so approved.
- III. ESP Reports
 1. Superintendent Report – Tracy Joseph (Discussion)

Superintendent Dobard rescheduled due to RSD issue; spoke with him and his team and they've asked that all CMOs commit to being compliant with state assessments. RSD will send out an independent monitor to show DOE that schools are serious about state testing. They are bringing in a 3rd party test security service, and has not bearing on the extension or framework.

Volunteers of America will potentially give us funding to be able to pay for CNA or other CTE programs in the future.

Funding formula throughout state of LA is changing; there is a committee to look at it based on Act 432. Students with disabilities, more severe or higher needs, will garner additional funding for schools that service that type of student; this might hurt us because we don't have that higher needs student. Have a meeting next week to get more info and to present questions on behalf of CLA and will have more info to report at the next board meeting.

Ms. Joseph to follow up with Mr. Dobard and email the board when the meeting is set.
 2. Type 5 Charter Progress Report/Activities Calendar—Nick Dean (Discussion)

Student activities: mid-quarter progress reports are out; basketball is in full swing and the teams are doing okay.

Louisiana Bar Association came out and met with a select group of students who learned about the legislative process; culmination of the exercise will be for students to visit the US Attorney's office and listen to a bill being discussed. They will take a trip to Baton Rouge and meet the legislators. Students are interested and engaged in the process and are doing very well.

Testing begins next month for GLE and LEAP; teacher Professional Development is continuing every month.

In mid-April, CLA will be holding a breakfast to reach out to agencies with the ability to hire our kids and perhaps recruit more teachers.

There are three months left in the year and the established group of teachers are meeting two days a week, looking at the data.

Nine new students enrolled this week now that the February count has passed.

Intense professional development will be taking place during summer.

Currently, there are 17 projected graduates.

3. Financial Review– CJ Bower (Discussion)

Balance sheet: cash in bank higher than Jan; A/R up slightly. They were waiting for the RSD money owed from last year, and it has been received in full in February.

Income statement: revenues are down; count on Feb 1 about 10 kids lower than what was anticipated; expulsion revenue up in January, but down in February. Continue to get expulsion revenue, but historically kids come in after Feb 1; hoping to see this into the six digits to make up for losses during the beginning of the year. School is in the black for January; school supplies and staff development continue to be overspent, but overall, January was a good month.

IV. Board Updates and Action Items

1. Board Member Recruiting Update

- a. Mr. Lightfoot made a motion to approve Amelie Wax's board membership, Rachael Coe 2nd; all in favor, so moved. Ms. Was is not at the meeting, but Ms. Carter will reach out to her and let her know.

2. Subcommittee Updates, if any (Discussion/Action)

- a. Compliance/Governance Committee-No updates.
- b. Fundraising Committee

- i. Mardi Gras parking results

Not enough volunteers to be able to actualize the event.

- ii. Celebrity cook-off

Outline distributed by Mr. Atkins. Event will be open to the whole community in order to give people the option to give more and donate.

Need to discuss setting up an EventBrite for RSVPs and donations. Can set up a direct link from the online donations into the donation line item on the CLA budget. Mr. Lightfoot would like the focus to be on this fundraiser rather than put efforts into several different ones.

- iii. Other fundraising events-none at this time.

3. Board was in favor of approving Board Calendar for 2016, as is, without revisions.

4. Future Agenda Items: Start looking at dates for the board retreat.

V. Public Comment: no one from the public in attendance. Meeting moved into Executive Session at 6:44pm.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pursuant to La.R.S. 44:17(A)(2), executive session will be held to discuss with counsel potential litigation following formal written demand by S.E.A.L. If necessary, a vote on motions following the executive session discussion will be made once the board has returned to its regular, open meeting. Began at 6:50pm

- a. Proposed motion regarding S.E.A.L. contract (Discussion/Action)

- b. Board has asked attorney Mike Higgins to move forward in contacting SEAL's attorneys.

VI. Adjournment