



Crescent Leadership Academy
Regular Board Meeting Draft Minutes
Thursday, October 20, 2016
5:30 pm @ Crescent Leadership Academy
2701 Lawrence Street
New Orleans, LA 70114

I. Roll Call @5:38pm

Board Members: Warren Atkins, Jr., Kisha Laurent Gaudin, Tommy Maginnis, Jim Letten

CMO Members: Tracy Bennett-Joseph; CJ Bower and Nancey Carter via phone

II. Review and Approval of Agenda and September Meeting Minutes is tabled for next meeting due to lack of quorum.

III. ESP Reports

1. Superintendent Report – Tracy Joseph (Discussion)

Homecoming today, so combining reports as Mr. Dean is attending the game. OPSB meeting about schools returning under their governance; no discussion about alternative schools transferring over, so probably closer to 2018. They will be honoring the BESE alternative framework and Ms. Joseph is on the task force for that transition. Many schools are unsure what their grade is going to be once under OPSB expectations.

Going through renewal process before going under OPSB. Need to see how CLA will fit into that bigger picture because of our unique population.

The board has decided not to pursue legal action regarding the limitation on population.

Partnership with Children’s Bureau has been a challenge because we are not getting the amount of students we need to make the program successful. Have received notification that first payment is due but will discontinue services right away.

2. Type 5 Charter Progress Report/Activities Calendar—Nick Dean (Discussion)

RSD visit today for renewal; they conducted classroom observations and audited SPED files. RSD auditors indicated that CLA’s SPED files are exemplary and they would like to use our format as a model. Background checks are in compliance, but the computer lab needs more structure. State Assessment scores showed improvement in English, but not Math and they want to know what interventions are being put into place to improve the Math scores. CLA will find out in December if their charter is renewed and will go in front of the BESE board at the beginning of the year.

On a sad note, CLA recently lost two former students to violence in their community; administration is working with families, staff and the community to provide support.

3. Financials– CJ Bower (Discussion/Action)

The CLA budget reflected an estimated 113 students at the October 1st count, but came in at 83; this deficit of 30 students to the budget equates to about a \$240K loss to the budget. Also projected 30 SPED students but only have 20 which is an additional loss.

Revenue is down about \$37K this month with roughly a \$51K loss and \$95K year to date.

Expulsion numbers are very close to the amount of youth assigned this time last year. Ms. Bower will work on a revised budget, but so far expulsion revenue should be accurate.

External auditors are not finished with the audit; should be completed within next week or two.

IV. Board Updates and Action Items

1. Subcommittee Updates, if any (Discussion/Action)
 - a. Compliance/Governance Committee-no updates
 - b. Fundraising Committee
 - i. Celebrity cook-off update and resources needed (Discussion/Action)
Mr. Atkins will meet with Ms. Lilly next week and will send out an email with all the info and resource needs.
2. Election of new Board Treasurer is tabled for the next meeting. Mr. Atkins has encouraged the board to communicate nominees via email to discuss at November's meeting.
3. Determine Date for Board Retreat based on Doodle invite. Mr. Atkins will ask Ms. Coe to send out the invitation again as some members did not receive it. OPSB Superintendent will be in attendance for the November meeting.
4. Future Agenda Items: Mr. Atkins is working with a Math teacher from Delgado as a potential Math and ACT prep tutor. Will determine what funds can be utilized to pay him, and also what the actual need is.

V. Public Comment: no one from the public present or on the phone.

VI. Adjournment: 6:06pm by consensus.

Meeting Minutes transcribed by Nancey Carter for Warren Atkins, Jr. ##