



**Crescent Leadership Academy  
Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, September 21, 2017  
5:30 pm @ Crescent Leadership Academy  
2701 Lawrence Street  
New Orleans, LA 70114**

I. Roll Call @5:41

**Board Members:** Warren Atkins, Jr., Maurice Lightfoot, Tommy Maginnis, Avery Foret, Amelie Wax, and Jim Letten; Farrah Parker via phone.

**CMO Members:** CJ Bower, Tracy Joseph; and Nancey Carter via phone

II. Review and Approval of Agenda and August Meeting Minutes (Action). Mr. Maurice Lightfoot moved to approve the Agenda and the August Meeting Minutes; Ms. Amelie Wax 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion; all in favor, so moved.

III. ESP Reports

1. Superintendent Report – Tracy Joseph (combined with the Type 5 Charter Progress Report)
2. Type 5 Charter Progress Report/Activities Calendar—Tracy Joseph (Discussion)  
Currently have 56 students; new students are coming in but students are also withdrawing students. Need to conduct more marketing of the accelerated program because as of right now, there are only three students. Need to look at younger population as we are competing with Renew and The Net; maybe we take on an 8<sup>th</sup> grade accelerated program as we currently have 14 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders, almost all are eligible for accelerated track. Kunjan Narechania from the RSD will be here next Thursday to take a tour and discuss further.

Last Monday, roughly eight staff from the RSD were on campus for about two hours.

During the first hour, they participated in a tour and looked in classrooms. All of our students were engaged in their lessons showing the increase in rigor this year. For the second hour, RSD staff sat with counterparts to discuss previous issues. They provided great feedback and it was a very positive visit.

Also, finalized partnership PASS for a 1-year grant and they're working with us.

Unfortunately, 30 students should have been school direct, but the RSD had the wrong data, so we were the top school in NOLA. Introducing new ways to address culture and behaviors by learning martial arts and providing other resources to the students.

Had an incident today on the bus that was handled very well.

Took 17 students to a college fair yesterday. Ms. Parker asked if there is a challenge with schools coming to CLA; Ms. Joseph responded: yes, because our students don't always test as high as colleges are looking for. Rebranding what we want to be at CLA is really the focus, as well as getting that out to the community. We are always open to new ideas and are trying to market and spread the word. Ultimately, we need to take advantage of any platform available to put the word out.

Student government will be the ambassadors for the school; they will need a different attire to look more professional.

The news is doing a story about one of our students who graduated last year. The board wants to know what they can provide to help the school. Ms. Joseph asked if they can help with partnerships that bring services into the school for our students Ms. Williams suggested starting up a Drum Line and a Media program. Suggested we distribute satisfaction surveys to the students.

3. Financials– CJ Bower (Discussion/Action)

Ms. Bower indicated she needs to revise the budget based on the current enrollment that was budgeted; salaries are right on target, and most of the other line items were under budget. Currently, about \$24K in the negative which is not good. Not being paid for over \$100K of expulsion funds from last year; the school accountant is working hard to resolve that issue and receive the money.

IV. Board Updates and Action Items

1. 17-18 SY Budget Approval (Action)

Mr. Lightfoot moved to adopt budget as it was presented; Ms. Foret 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion; all in favor, so moved to adopt the current 17-18SY budget.

2. Board Recruitment Update: Vote to approve Ms. Liz Horn, Ms. Farah Parker, Ms. Cassandra Williams and Mr. Will Snowden (Discussion/Action)

Mr. Atkins moved to accept M. Liz Horn, Ms. Farah Parker, Ms. Cassandra Williams and Mr. Will Snowden as new board members, Mr. Lightfoot 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion; all approved, so moved. Ms. Carter will send the new board members the necessary documents to be filled out, as well as additional materials related to the charter and CMO.

3. Elect New Treasurer (Action)

Ms. Avery Foret was nominated for Treasurer by Tommy Maginnis; Ms. Williams 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion; all in favor, so moved. Ms. Carter will update the Secretary of State website to identify Ms. Foret as the new board treasurer.

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

a. Compliance/Governance Committee: no updates

b. Fundraising Committee: Revenue earned, highlights and lessons learned from Spaghetti night (Discussion)

Roughly \$700 in profit was made from the spaghetti fundraiser. The board wanted to find a way to get the children involved and pre-sold tickets to the students and families, but realized they need to plan earlier next time so they can include a silent auction, raffles, and have a band come in. This way they can charge a small amount to get in and sell plates; many places will donate things; might want to do it on the weekend and potentially have a “family day” and have people be able to find out more about the school-almost like an open house.

Highlights of the event: getting to meet teachers and the room was decorated very nicely.

5. Future Agenda Items-none noted

V. Public Comment-no member of the public in attendance; no public comment.

VI. Adjournment @6:45 pm

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

