



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING



Date: November 17, 2021

Type of Meeting: General

## Board Members in Attendance:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brian Dillard        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marques Mitchell |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kanwal Sumnani Lopez | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Henrietta Muñoz  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jackie Gorman        | <input type="checkbox"/> Mary Gradney                |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> George Pedraza       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kim Abernethy    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Frisbie         |  |

## Staff in Attendance:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Akeem Brown, CEO & Superintendent     | <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Daphene Carson, Director of Operations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jennipha Ricks, Chief Learning Officer           |   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alicia Sebastian, Executive Assistant |   |

## Guests in Attendance: (Via Zoom)

Stephanie Rodriguez, Charter School Success      Jackie Hernandez, Charter School Success

## MINUTES

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Brian Dillard at 5:14 pm.
2. Superintendent Akeem Brown provided information on Community Events
  - a. TACO Bout Essence held at Mittman Tacos on October 30th
  - b. All American Burger Fest held at Marks Outing on October 23rd
  - c. Turkey Give Away to be held at Miller Child Development Center on November 19th
3. Superintendent Brown gave the board biographical information on two new employees
  - a. Damika Burton, Director of Student Recruitment & Enrollment
  - b. Alicia Sebastian, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent
4. There was one correction to the minutes from August 18, 2021, to correct the spelling of Kim Abernethy's name. **It was moved by Mike Frisbie and seconded by Kanwal Lopez to approve the minutes from August 18, 2021, as corrected. The motion passed.**

## MINUTES

5. Mission Minute: Board members who attended the Texas Charter School Conference provided feedback on the conference using a Highlight/Lowligh/Highlight format. The board members who attended were Lopez, Jackie Gorman, George Pedraza, and Superintendent Brown.
6. Akeem Brown gave the Superintendent's report. Highlights are provided below; the full report is attached.
  - a. TEA contract has been executed and is in our hands. It was signed on October 29t, 2021 and is for 5 years
  - b. We were not selected to be the Charter School partner for Edgewood ISD
  - c. Facilities
    - i. Heritage Charter Development walked away from our project
    - ii. We walked away from the property at 266 Roland because of environmental concerns
  - d. Enrollment
    - i. 92 students currently enrolled
    - ii. We will begin using the School Mint enrollment system to help with the application process and lottery
  - e. Academic Update
    - i. We will use the Google Platform for teachers and school leadership
    - ii. Dr. Christy McGowan will serve as our contract Instructional Coordinator. She will be on board from day 1 through the first 6 months
  - f. Grant Application Status – City Education Partners: 2 milestones have been met but no funds have been received
7. Finance Report (Jackie & Stephanie)
  - a. The board reviewed the dashboard and TEA standards
  - b. Board requested that in the future, highlights be provided at the board meeting with the full report presented as part of the consent agenda.
8. ACTION ITEMS
  - a. The Employee Handbook will be sent to the board for review. The board will vote on this by email next week,
  - b. The Personnel Policies will be sent to the board for review. The board will vote on this by email next week
  - c. There was a discussion of the fiscal policy recommendations for Section 5.4 – Cash Management. **It was moved by Pedraza and seconded by Abernethy to approve fiscal policies section 5.4. The motion passed.**
9. Facilities
  - a. There was too much risk associated with the site on Roland
    - i. 20ft of fill
    - ii. Possible TCEQ Issues
    - iii. Land stability is questionable
  - b. Proposed new site is on 410 between E. Houston and Lord Road

## MINUTES

- c. The new facility is expected to be completed by summer 2023
  - d. Dealing with Heritage Charter Development cost the organization \$165,000.
  - e. There are two options to address our facility needs
    - i. Delay school start to 2023
    - ii. Find a viable space to rent for year 1. The cost will be built into the financing.
  - f. Chairman Dillard asked for a report on the drawbacks associated with delaying school opening
  - g. The Facilities Committee will meet Saturday, November 20th.
10. The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 pm by Chairman Dillard.

Prepared and Submitted by:



Jackie L. Gorman  
Board Secretary