



InspireNOLA Charter Schools
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
APRIL 27, 2020

The regular bimonthly meeting for the Board of Directors of InspireNOLA Charter Schools was held on the 27th day of April at 5:30 PM as a Zoom videoconference in accordance with Governor Jon Bel Edwards' stay-at-home order. The following members in attendance and participating: Wayne Crochet, Jay Daniels, Freddie King III, Dana Wade, Joseph Ridolfo, Karren Alexander, MaryJo Roberts, Stephen Boyard, and James Dabney. Shawn Rogers was absent. Staff present were Jamar McKneely, Charlie Mackles, Wylene Sorapuru, Emily Hartnett, and Kristie Gonzalez.

The meeting was called to order at 5:33 pm and the following matters were discussed or acted upon:

1. Consent of Minutes:

The minutes were reviewed ahead of time from the meetings on February 17, April 7, and April 8.

J. Dabney entered the meeting at 5:36 pm.

a. One item up for approval

Motion to approve the minutes from February 17, April 7, and April 8

Motion by J. Daniels, seconded by K. Alexander.

J. Ridolfo asked to introduce new business about the times Board members arrive after a meeting has started being excluded from minutes.

Motion unanimously carried.

2. Academic Committee Report:

Dr. Wylene Sorapuru provided a written committee report on the items discussed by the Academic Committee in regards to the academic plan during school closures due to COVID-19. A Board member asked a question about students who do not submit assignments during distance learning.

3. Finance Committee Report:

Items reported and discussed by Charlie Mackles' included – the results and management recommendations for each bid package up for vote: transportation, custodial, Karr turf field, and grounds. Board members asked questions about transportation yearly increases, bus route tiering, enhanced sanitation practices for custodians, turf field financing, credit card restrictions, and check-signing procedures.

a. Seven items up for approval

Motion to approve the First Student transportation bid and authorize the CEO to sign the three-year contract.

Motion by W. Crochet, seconded by J. Dabney.

No discussion or public comment.

Motion unanimously carried.

b. Motion to approve the custodial bids with First Klass, Service Star, and ABM Custodial and authorize the CEO to sign the two-year contracts.

Motion by J. Ridolfo, seconded by W. Crochet.
No discussion or public comment.
Motion unanimously carried.

c. Motion to approve the T3 Global Projects bid for the Karr field and to authorize the CEO to sign the contract and seek financing.

Motion by J. Daniels, seconded by K. Alexander.
J. Ridolfo abstained from the vote.
Motion carried with 8 votes in favor and one abstention.

d. Motion to approve the LAMS ground bid and authorize the CEO to sign the 2-year contract.

Motion by J. Ridolfo, seconded by J. Daniels.
No discussion or public comment.
Motion unanimously carried.

e. Motion to open a credit card in Dr. Wylene Sorapuru's name.

Motion by S. Boyard, seconded by J. Daniels.
No discussion or public comment.
Motion carried unanimously.

f. Motion to give Emily Hartnett check signing authority.

Motion by J. Daniels, seconded by F. King.
No discussion or public comment.
Motion carried unanimously.

g. Motion to grant management authority to apply for a Federal Small Business Authority relief loan under the CARES Act.

Motion by J. Ridolfo, seconded by D. Wade.
No discussion or public comment.
Motion carried unanimously.

4. Introduction of 20-21 Budget:

Charlie Mackles noted that in the face of COVID-19 and ever-changing information, the budget was not ready for presentation.

a. One item up for approval

Motion to table the presentation of the budget until a later date, with the provision that a special meeting be set for May.

Motion by W. Crochet, seconded by J. Daniels.
No discussion or public comment.
Motion unanimously carried.

F. King left the meeting at 6:26 pm.

5. CEO Report:

Items reported and discussed by Jamar McKneely included – school and leader updates, the new Karr building, bus updates, staff initiatives, and increasing parental involvement. Board members asked questions about the new Karr facility and moving process, a board retreat, and educating students and families about financial aid options for college.

6. Executive Session:

a. Two items up for approval

Motion to move into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter.

Motion by W. Crochet, seconded by J. Daniels.

J. McKneely asked to bring his executive team into Executive Session with him.

No public comment.

Motion unanimously carried at 6:39 pm.

b. Motion to move out of Executive Session.

Motion by W. Crochet, seconded by J. Daniels.

Motion unanimously carried at 7:20 pm.

7. Governance Committee Report:

a. One item up for approval

Motion to approve the CEO performance recommendation.

Motion by J. Daniels, seconded by W. Crochet.

Motion unanimously carried.

8. New Business

The Board discussed the recording of the time individual members enter or leave a meeting in minutes. Based on the Louisiana Charter School Association's interpretation of the Open Meeting's Law, the Board determined it is best practice to include the times in the meeting minutes.

Items reported out:

Tier III Financial Disclosures are due to the State Ethics Board by May 15th.

There will be a special Board meeting scheduled to introduce the 20-21 Budget.

Next Academic Committee Meeting – June 9th – 4:45 pm at the InspireNOLA Network Office.

Next Finance Committee Meeting – June 10th – 4:45 pm at the InspireNOLA Network Office.

Next Board Meeting – June 22nd – 5:30 pm at the InspireNOLA Network Office.

There being no further business, D. Wade made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by M. Roberts. Motion was passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm.