



InspireNOLA Charter Schools
MINUTES OF BOARD RETREAT
JULY 24, 2021

The annual retreat for the Board of Directors of InspireNOLA Charter Schools was held on the 24th day of July at 8:30 AM at Alice Harte Charter School with the following members in attendance and participating: Dana Wade, MaryJo Roberts, James Dabney, Jay Daniels, Stephen Boyard, Shawn Rogers, and Karren Alexander. Freddie King III was absent. Staff present were Jamar McKneely, Charlie Mackles, John Green, Wylene Sorapuru, and Kristie Gonzalez.

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 am and the following matters were discussed or acted upon:

The meeting began with a moment of silence for former Board President Wayne Crochet, as it was the first Board Retreat since his passing.

1. CEO Report:

Items reported and discussed by Jamar McKneely included – organizational goals, student experiences, staff vaccination rates and policies, employee leave types, and InspireNOLA’s operating norms and procedures. Board members asked questions about vaccinations, staff demographics for age and experience, military leave, and the hiring/release process at InspireNOLA.

2. Academic Committee Report:

Items reported and discussed by Dr. Wylene Sorapuru included an overview of the 21-22 InspireNOLA Pupil Progression Plan, including updates and changes. Board members asked questions about policies on students making up work and graduation credit requirements.

a. One item up for approval

Motion to approve the 21-22 InspireNOLA Pupil Progression Plan.

Motion by S. Rogers, seconded by J. Dabney.

No discussion or public comment.

Motion unanimously carried.

3. Finance Committee Report:

Items reported and discussed by Charlie Mackles included – a comparison and discussion of different banking options for InspireNOLA’s operating account and a review of the RFP for auditing services for InspireNOLA. Board members asked questions about auditor contract terms, criteria to consider in making an auditing selection, and requirements of the board in the annual audit.

a. One item up for approval

Motion to select Ericksen Krentel as the new auditor for InspireNOLA.

Motion by S. Rogers, seconded by J. Daniels.

No discussion or public comment.

Motion unanimously carried.

4. Board Election:

The annual Board Election took place.

S. Boyard nominated J. Dabney for Board President. Dr. Dabney declined the nomination due to work commitments. J. Daniels nominated M. Roberts as Board President.

a. Four items up for approval

Motion to close the nomination for M. Roberts as Board President.

Motion to move to elect M. Roberts as Board President by acclamation.

Motion by J. Daniels, seconded by S. Rogers.

No discussion or public comment.

Both motions passed unanimously.

J. Daniels nominated S. Rogers for Board Vice President.

No other nominations were submitted.

b. Motion to close the nomination for S. Rogers as Board Vice President.

Motion to move to elect S. Rogers as Board Vice President by acclamation.

Motion by J. Daniels, seconded by J. Dabney.

No discussion or public comment.

Both motions passed unanimously.

S. Rogers nominated J. Daniels for Board Secretary.

No other nominations were submitted.

c. Motion to close the nomination for J. Daniels as Board Secretary.

Motion to move to elect J. Daniels as Board Secretary by acclamation.

Motion by S. Rogers, seconded by D. Wade.

No discussion or public comment.

Both motions passed unanimously.

S. Rogers nominated S. Boyard for Board Treasurer.

No other nominations were submitted.

d. Motion to close the nomination for S. Boyard as Board Treasurer.

Motion to move to elect S. Boyard as Board Secretary by acclamation.

Motion by S. Rogers, seconded by M. Roberts.

S. Boyard said that he would like to join the Finance Committee. No public comment.

Motion unanimously carried.

After the election, the Board reviewed Committee assignments and chairs in a discussion. S. Boyard was named the Finance Committee Chair and J. Dabney will take his place as the Academic Committee Chair. S. Rogers will be the Nominating Committee Chair and J. Daniels will remain the Chair of the CEO Evaluation Committee. M. Roberts will remain the Governance Committee Chair; K. Alexander will remain the Strategic Planning Committee Chair. Development was added to the title of the Strategic Planning Committee.

Items reported out:

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

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Next Finance Committee Meeting – August 11th – 4:45 pm at the InspireNOLA Network Office.

Next Board Meeting – August 23rd – 5:30 pm at the InspireNOLA Network Office.

There being no further business, M. Roberts made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by D. Wade. Motion was passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 12:04 pm.