

KIPP New Orleans Schools Board Retreat and Meeting Minutes: January 12, 2018

A public retreat of the Board of Directors (the Board) of KIPP New Orleans Schools (KNOS) was held on Friday, January 12, 2018 at 8:00 am at KIPP East Community Primary located at 6519 Virgilian St., New Orleans, LA 70126.

Jenny Carey, KECP School Leader gave a brief overview of the school and took the board members on a tour of the classrooms.

Meeting was called to order at 8:37 am.

The following members were present: Larry Washington, John Landrum, Toya Barnes-Teamer, Steven Usdin (departed at 10:30am), Donnell Bailey (departed at 10:30am), Jodi Aamodt (departed at 11:45am), Florencia Polite attended by teleconference (departed at 12:15pm) Stanwood Duvall (departed at 12:25pm)

The following members were absent: Sherice Clark, Robert Hudson, Drew Marsh and Kelt Kindick.

The following members of KNOS staff were present: Rhonda Kalifey-Aluise, Todd Purvis, Mike Wright, Matt Lehigh, Larry Murphy, Kristen Chawla, and Virginia Fernandez.

The following guest was present: Stephen Rosenthal. Mr. Rosenthal departed at lunch.

Larry Washington, Board Chair, addressed the board concerning organizational growth and development.

Welcome & Goals of Retreat

Rhonda Kalifey-Aluise welcomed everyone to the retreat, gave update on KNOS and discussed the goals of the retreat.

KIPP Through College Strategy

Presented by Larry Murphy. Mr. Murphy gave an update on KTC strategy on enhancing alumni performance. Mr. Murphy shared data that indicates KTC may need to assess current programming based on future growth due to KNOS having so many alumni in college. Mr. Murphy discussed cultivating ways to identify scalable strategies to increase success rate for students. Todd Purvis commented on focus to improve K-12 outcomes. Goal is to have 50% of KIPP alumni complete college.

Mike Wright led an exercise about KTC resource prioritization, asking the board to delineate with colored stickers the areas they felt needed the most focus.

Break 10:30

During the break, Rhonda Kalifey-Aluise shared information about the 2018 Power to Lead Gala. Jodi Aamodt requested 100% participation from board members.

Growth Strategy

Ms. Kalifey-Aluise then discussed growth strategy and growth opportunities for KNOS. Matt Lehigh discussed the trend of Kindergarten enrollment and how this impacts growth.

Board Health Assessment & Planning (Lunch)

Mike Wright presented a strategic discussion to the board and discussed the aspects that contribute to excellence in governance.

Mr. Wright then asked the board to self-assess, based on the 6 core responsibilities he presented to show where they felt their strengths and weaknesses are in the areas of board governance.

Larry Washington called for a motion to end the meeting. John Landrum made the motion. Mr. Lehigh seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 12:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted,


Virginia Fernandez

Approved by:


Larry Washington, Board President