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KIPP Delta, Inc.
Minutes of the Board of Director's Meeting

Date: August 18, 2009
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Place: KIPP Delta Public Schools
210 Cherry Street, Helena, AR 72342
Attendance: Chalk Mitchell, Chris Allen, Brent Black, Randy Zook, and Andre' Valley were present. Anika Baltimore, Amanda Johnson, Jemar Tisby, Luke VanDeWalle, Sarah Welker, Kesha Robertson, and Matthew Colburn were also present. Princess Burnside took notes.

I. Introduction

Board President Chalk Mitchell called the meeting to order. Mr. Mitchell recognized Ms. Kesha Robertson and Ms. Sarah Welker as new employees. Ms. Robertson is a Finance Associate and Ms. Welker is the new Associate Data Analyst.

II. Minutes from the July Board Meeting

Mr. Mitchell asked that the minutes from the July meeting be reviewed. After this, Mr. Valley made a motion that the minutes be approved as written. This was seconded by Ms. Allen. Unanimous.

III. School Reports

A. Elementary Literacy Academy

Mrs. Amanda Johnson referred the Board to her report. The Elementary school opened its doors on August 11, 2009, with two days of new student orientation. The first day of school was August 13th. There are approximately 101 students enrolled. There are 6.5 teachers and 2 non-teachers. There are 51 kindergarteners and 50 first graders.

August 3-6 students, parents, and teachers toured the school and met teachers. Students were also able to earn their t-shirts by going through a short diagnostic test.

The biggest challenge facing the school is that it is a new school. Everything is new. There is work to be done everywhere. The goal is to keep at least 100 students all year. There may be a bit of a fluctuation but the intent is to keep enrollment at no more than 105 students.

The school is looking at ways to better use the play area and to make it safer. The school is also looking to install a water fountain for after physical education to be more cost effective than buying bottled water for the children.

Ms. Baltimore and Mrs. Johnson have been working on the budget and everything is on track. The financials are attached.

There is no school for students September 2nd as teachers will be attending a RBT (Research for Better Teaching) workshop.

There is upcoming Diagnostics Testing of the students and there will be data to report soon. The students will be involved in Qualls Early Learning Inventory from August 17-24. This is a state requirement. There will also be MAP computerized testing from September 8-11. This is an audio assisted test. There will be a report back from the State on the Qualls test.

After the report, Mr. Valley made a motion to accept the report from ELA. This was seconded by Mr. Black. Unanimous.

B. KIPP Delta College Preparatory

Mr. Jemar Tisby reported that there is a big class of new students. There are approximately 122 new students on the roster. There are now 281 students enrolled at DCPS. There are 76 fifth graders; 82 8th graders. There was a long waiting list for the 8th grade. Because of this, another 8th grade teacher was hired. This makes three 8th grade teachers.

The budget for the Middle School is based on 250 students and fourteen teachers. The estimated number is 260-270 students for the year. The goal is to have 65 students in both the 6th and 7th grade.

The biggest challenge facing the school is providing academic accountability for students and teachers. Over half of the teachers are new to KIPP and the average experience is 1-3 years. The plan is for all new teachers to check in with veteran teachers in a mentoring capacity.

Mr. Tisby will be meeting with Ms. Baltimore to work on the finance numbers. With over enrollment, this should keep the finances in order.

Today was the first day of computerized MAP tests. This will last for two weeks and will be used to place students in the appropriate academic groups. This will also identify any remedial and enrichment needs.

This Saturday, August 22nd, is the first Saturday school. September 12th is the first Chant-Off. It should start at 10:30 and is a spirit competition between the grades.

There will be changes in the Saturday school activities. There will be speech and debate classes for the students. There are two periods and then lunch. Progress reports will be sent out every 2 weeks throughout the school year.

After the report, Ms. Allen made a motion to approve the report as given. This was seconded by Mr. Valley. Unanimous.

C. KIPP Delta Collegiate

Mr. Luke VanDeWalle gave his report. There are currently 163 students enrolled. There are 75 ninth graders and there are twenty-three seniors.

Mr. VanDeWalle has hired a new TFA English teacher and has added four new AP classes, including Principles of Engineering and Choir.

The biggest challenge and improvement is that the school has to teach 38 courses in order to be keep school accreditation. This is regardless of student enrollment numbers. There are some classes with a very small number of students taking them.

The goal is to add Computer Science and a Statistics class, as well as all of the other mandatory classes. Even with a small class, a student must be enrolled in all of the classes offered.

Mr. VanDeWalle made mention of student Quanteria Smith who was killed last week. Her funeral will be Saturday, August 22nd. There will be no Saturday school at the high school. The students are also planting a tree in her memory. It will be maintained by her classmates. Students and faculty are also raising money to help the family with expenses.

Revenue is good right now. Student enrollment numbers make finances stable. Two students are interested in the US Naval Academy and will go through interviews with recruiters next week. The recruiters will be on campus next week to conduct the interviews. The twelfth grade students will soon begin ordering class rings and graduation announcements.

Friday, August 21st, is Biology Night. The students will watch “The Lion King”. This will focus on the biology and they will be grilling out. There are requirements to attend this outing. The Ninth grade students will have a movie night at the Malco Theater as a reward. The students can not have any demerits.

The first field lesson will take place on Monday, August 24th at Arkansas State University. A small group of students will visit the Biology lab. This will be an evening session. This will be a recurring trip.

The Eleventh graders had the 2nd highest Literacy scores in the state. Only the ASMSA School in Hot Springs outscored KIPP students. One senior student from KIPP is attending the magnet school now. The goal is for the same results in Biology this year.

Jessica Amos, a ninth grader, took the Geometry test and scored 342 out of 345. This is the highest score of any student in the state.

Three KIPP students passed the AP Calculus test and eight passed the AP English Literature test. Also, the Principles in engineering class is meeting in the Central Office. Mr. Dixon’s goal is to build an electric car that can go over 60 mph.

After additional comments, Mr. Valley made a motion to accept the report. This was seconded by Mr. Zook. Unanimous.

IV. Finance Committee Report

A. Expenditure Summary & Cash Flow Analysis-June

Ms. Anika Baltimore called attention to the fact that the final payment has been made on the gym. This has moved the gym out of construction to work in progress. KIPP also received \$155,000.00 from the Calder Foundation to help fund the ELA.

The Balance Sheet shows \$1.2 million operating cash. The Income Statement goes over the current monthly expenditures. There was \$168,141.00 taken in for revenue. There was \$365,863.00 in expenditures.

The net loss of \$197,000.00 is due to state payments being figured from July 30th numbers. Therefore, no payments were issued in July because they were reported at the end of the month. KIPP will have a payment on August 4th and it will be reflected on the next month’s statement.

Mr. Shirey informed the Board that Ben Lindquist from Charter School Growth Fund had visited the school on Tuesday. He is pleased with the numbers and direction of KIPP.

The high variance in the Income Statement reflects the purchase of a van for food service to transport food to the high school. The Summer School Child Nutrition funds have been received. Also, the cash flow is based on the budget and how it is going month to month. The State funding is approximately \$6800 per child. Had KIPP received the entire cash flow for the month, the numbers would be positive about \$100,000.00.

After the report, Mr. Valley made a motion to accept the report. This was seconded by Mr. Zook. Unanimous.

B. Vote on Other Budgetary Actions-2009 Fiscal Policies & Procedures

The Policies & Procedures were previously emailed to the Board members. Mr. Shirey also provided a copy of the Certificate on the Assurances for Programs under ESEA (Elementary & Secondary Education Act of 1965) as a requirement for approving KIPP Delta's ASCIP plan, which is the Arkansas Comprehensive School Improvement Plan. After discussion, Mr. Black recommended that they both be accepted. This was seconded by Mr. Valley. Unanimous.

Mr. Shirey discussed an overcrowding situation with the busses. It was not in the plan the plan this year, but there is a need for an additional bus. The Director of Transportation has received multiple bids on busses. He asked for approval to purchase another bus in accordance with the bids received, not to exceed \$26,000.00. Mr. Zook made a motion to accept the suggestion of Mr. Shirey. This was seconded by Ms. Allen. Unanimous.

Mr. Shirey also recommended an increase in salary for Mr. Tisby and Mr. VanDeWalle. Their performance numbers have increased as well as AYP and they are 2nd year school leaders. He recommended an increase to \$65,000.00 for each. Mr. Black made a motion that the Board accepts the recommendation of Mr. Shirey. This was seconded by Mr. Valley. Unanimous.

IV. Executive Director Update and Actions

A. Fundraising Updates

There were no fundraising updates to report.

B. Facilities Update

Mr. Colburn has executed an agreement to expand facilities.

C. Hiring Updates

Ms. Kesha Robertson and Ms. Sarah Welker introduced themselves to the Board. They are new Central Office employees.

The search for a Development Director is ongoing. There have been 2 candidates so far. One did come for an interview and Mr. Shirey is continuing to review for this position.

D. Expansion Efforts.

1. West Memphis- the Public Meeting was held on August 12th. Approximately 30-35 people showed up for the meeting. There has been a \$10,000.00 commitment from the Board of Realtors if KIPP locates in Crittendon County.
2. Blytheville- Also received a \$10,000.00 commitment for KIPP to relocate to Blytheville.
3. Pine Bluff-The Public Meeting is tomorrow, August 19th.

After all of the meetings have been held, there will be telephone sessions and review the applications. Ms. Welker showed data information to the Board members on the Pine Bluff numbers.

Mr. Shirey mentioned that the Lt. Governor would be coming to KIPP tomorrow to talk to the seniors about the lottery and scholarship applications. Also, there was a motion by Mr. Valley to change the starting time of the Board meetings to 5:00 o'clock. This was seconded by Ms. Allen. Unanimous.

E. Gideon's Bibles

Mr. Mitchell began a discussion on legal cases involving various schools and impacts allowing certain groups to come in and distribute materials. After discussion and reviewing case law, Mr. Zook made a motion not to allow any outside groups to distribute religious materials throughout the schools. This was seconded by Ms. Allen. Unanimous.

F. Executive Session

At this point, Mr. Mitchell called for an Executive Session issue. The Board went into Executive Session at 6:40. At 6:43, Mr. Mitchell announced that the Board was out of Executive Session. Mr. Black made a motion that the Executive Director receive a raise of \$10,000.00. This was seconded by Ms. Allen. Unanimous.

There being no further business, Mr. Zook made a motion that the meeting adjourn. This was seconded by Ms. Allen. The meeting adjourned at 6:44.

Chalk Mitchell,
Board President

Scott Shirey,
Executive Director