



210 CHERRY STREET | HELENA, ARKANSAS 72342 | PHONE: 870.753.9035 | FAX: 870.753.9450

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

Date: June 16, 2009
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Place: KIPP Delta Public Schools
210 Cherry Street, Helena, AR 72342
Attendance: Chalk Mitchell, Sanford Johnson, Chris Allen, and Andre' Valley were present. Brent Black and Mark Nichols attended via conference call. Anika Baltimore, Amanda Johnson, Jemar Tisby, Stephanie Graham and Matthew Colburn were also present. Princess Burnside took notes.

I. Introduction

Board President Chalk Mitchell called the meeting to order. Ms. Graham will represent Mr. VanDeWalle and present the High School report.

II. Minutes from the April Board Meeting

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

III. School Reports

A. Elementary Literacy Academy

Mrs. Amanda Johnson referred the Board to her report. She has hired the last two (2) teacher positions. The last hire is Mr. John Bennetts and he is with Teach for America. He is a first year teacher. There were 10 teachers who were interviewed. Ms. Alesia Bone is the new Office Assistant. She will begin on July 1st.

The lottery took place on Monday, the 15th. There are 50 kindergarten students and 50 first graders. There are 23 kindergarten students and 14 first graders on the waiting list. However, they are continuing to accept applications from both grades. Applications will be accepted online and paper applications. Depot renovations are ongoing.

The hours for ELA are the same as the other grades. The common area has been carpeted and the classrooms are being painted. Furniture has

been ordered. They will have naptime for kindergarten, recess, and physical education time everyday.

After her report, Ms. Allen made a motion to accept the report as presented. This was seconded by Mr. Johnson. Unanimous.

B. KIPP Delta College Preparatory

Mr. Jemar Tisby reported that they are training new teachers and working on the academic plan for the upcoming school year. He is meeting with teachers all summer.

He and Ms. Baltimore will meet tomorrow and work on the financials for next school year. June 26th is the last day of Summer School. They will have a Showcase that begins at 10:30. He would like for Mr. Shirey and Board Members to be in attendance. This will help with the true sense of family.

From yesterday's lottery, there were more than 75 students admitted into the fifth grade. There is a waiting list at every other grade level. There were only 3 slots available in the 8th grade. All seventh graders are returning. There were only 2-3 students lost who were entering the ninth grade.

All teachers have been hired for the upcoming school year. Mr. Chiamutu Amuta is a TFA from New York. He will be teaching fifth grade and comes by way of KIPP Academy in New York. Ms. Christina Porter is also a TFA and will be joining the team in the fall.

Summer School is coming along nicely. All students are reading a novel in groups on their reading level. They will also be required to write a report. There are also recreation activities available to all students. Research for Better Teaching will be here to do a seminar for the teachers.

The promotion ceremony for the eighth graders went over nicely. Mayor James Valley was the speaker and did a great job. There was a large turnout.

The unofficial results from the Benchmark tests are in. The students did well compared with the region and the state levels. The region indicates more than Phillips County. The results are attached to the Middle School report. There is a good showing of proficient and advanced students. The Middle School's number show well on the state level and in similar regions.

After his report, Mr. Johnson made a motion the report be accepted. This was seconded by Mr. Valley. Unanimous.

C. KIPP Delta Collegiate

In Mr. VanDeWalle's absence, Ms. Graham reported for KIPP Collegiate. They are in the middle of summer school. The incoming 9th graders are actually taking high school Biology, English Physics classes now. There are only 9th and 10th graders there currently. The 11th and 12th graders are doing outside reading assignments and checking in with their teachers.

The last teacher has been hired for the upcoming school year, Ms. Randi Abe. She is with TFA. The three R's are still being implemented-reading, rigor and relationships. There is a reading assignment everyday in every class. AP classes are underway and this has led to an increased rigorous level. There is also a system to track GPA's with the students.

All birthdays are also being recognized and there is a night class in Physics. This is to accommodate students working and involved in summer programs. Mr. Morrison is teaching at the Deerfield Academy this summer. The EXPLORE results are in for the 9th grade class and scores are up by about 1.6 points. The predicted average ACT scores for the class increased from an 18 to a 20. The 10th grade PLAN results are in and the scores rose by 1.5 points. The predicted ACT score has gone from a 19 to 20. She referred everyone to page 12 of the Board packet. ACT scores are going up.

The students who have been doing internships at Vanderbilt, UALR, and the Naval Academy are enjoying their work. The Vanderbilt students are working on diabetes research. There has been communication ongoing with all of them. Staff Development begins July 27th.

After discussion, Mr. Johnson made a motion that the school reports be accepted as given. This was seconded by Ms. Allen. Unanimous.

IV. Finance Committee Report

A. Expenditure Summary & Cash Flow Analysis-May

Ms. Anika Baltimore reported that there was \$865,032 in operating cash as of May 1st. There was a \$223,000.00 payment to Nabholz in May and there is one more payment to them for the gym after the leaks are sealed, in the amount of \$250,000.00. There is about \$61,000.00 left in the gym fund. There are no additional debts this month. We will incur an additional \$200,000.00 to finish the gym.

Ms. Baltimore reported on the variances in the Income Statement. The Middle School took in \$5,980.00 towards year end trips. We were referred to the pages of her report. We received the 3rd quarter disbursement of Earmark funds, which is \$143,000.00 and this is awarded quarterly. We will receive this in July and it will not be included on this year's balances. We did receive the \$250,000.00 from the Walton Foundation for ELA.

Charter school payment funding was late this month due to some restructuring with the State Legislature. We received this in June, also. There was a delay in the processing but it has been received in our accounts. We should receive NSLA funding next week.

We did not receive any Title 1 money this month, but \$179,000.00 was received for our final Title 1 payment. We also received the 6B funding, which is Special Education funding expense. We received the final \$75,000.00 from the Gates Foundation for the high school.

The property insurance went up as we added the gym to our assets. We also had a final payment to the Helena-West Helena School District. With this, food costs will come down next month.

We bought three (3) used busses last month. They were bought with an interest only loan. We will receive 2 General Purpose Entitlement payments this month. We will also receive the remainder of Title 2D funds for the use of website development. New teachers for summer school also increased our budget.

At this point, the President asked for a motion to approve the Finance Report. Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve this and it was seconded by Ms. Allen. Unanimous.

B. 2009-2010 Budget Approval

There was discussion on the 2009-2010 Budget. The budget is based on 100 students at the ELA, 250 students at the Middle School and 150 students at the High School. Ms. Baltimore informed the Board that we will not receive any NSLA money for ELA as they use numbers from the previous year enrollment.

We will receive some Title 1 funds from the Stimulus money. It has been submitted to the State for approval and we are waiting to hear from them. \$305,000.00 in Stimulus money was allotted through Title 1. We have two (2) years to spend this money and if we spend it before all funding is received, we will be reimbursed.

Special Education also had a portion of the Stimulus money, which was about \$70,000.00. There was approximately \$656,000.00 for fundraising overall in the budget. We will receive \$100,000.00 from the Charter School Growth Fund for home office expansion.

The salaries are 6.5 teachers at ELA, 16 teachers at the Middle School and High School. The kitchen and bus drivers are extra but are included in the classified salaries. There are also plans for the Development Office. This includes a person to help raise the \$656,000.00 needed.

We should start the fiscal year with approximately \$1.2 million dollars on hand and finish the year with about \$1 million dollars. \$338,000.00 of the Stimulus funds would be restricted and \$400,000.00 would be used for facilities expansion. This is from the Middle School capital funds. This is an accurate representation of the budget with a lot of fundraising needed.

Mr. Valley made a motion that the budget for 2009-2010 be approved as presented. This was seconded by Mr. Johnson. Unanimous.

C. Vote on Other Budgetary Actions

There were no other items upon which to vote.

V. Executive Director Update and Actions

A. Fundraising Updates

We received a \$25,000.00 commitment from Nabholz over the next five (5) years. Mr. Shirey has been in communication with the Calder Foundation. They have requested budgets from the ELA. They have given to KIPP National and to KIPP New York. We are hopeful of receiving a gift from them.

B. Calendar-Board Meetings

The proposed dates for the Board meetings would be the 3rd Tuesday of every month with the exception of July. The July meeting would be the 2nd Tuesday of the month, July 14th. After discussion, Ms. Allen made a motion to approve the new Board meeting dates. This was seconded by Mr. Johnson. Unanimous.

C. Hiring Updates

Mr. Matt Colburn has joined the team as the new Chief Operating Officer. Ms. Sarah Welker is the new Data Analyst. She will begin in August. There are plans for a Development person as well.

VI. Other Topics of Discussion

The school has been approached by Gideon's International to distribute Bibles to the students and Mr. Shirey wanted clarification on this issue. He and Mr. Mitchell have done research on this presented their findings to the Board. After much discussion, there was a request for the Board to meet and come up with a policy regarding this matter. It was tabled and there will be a resolution before school begins in August.

Mr. Shirey announced that Krebs Brothers won the bid for the new kitchen. They came in with a bid of \$125,000.00. After all equipment is purchased and installation is complete, the total price should be approximately \$150,000.00, which has been allotted for this project.

Mr. Shirey also discussed how to spend the Stimulus money. There is a need for the Board to approve the Executive Director's request on the way to spend the money. KIPP would receive about \$900,000.00 to spend on facilities. There is a need for classroom space and to repair an exterior wall in the school. This would come from the Stimulus Stabilization Funds. After discussion, Mr. Johnson made a motion to accept the Mr. Shirey's recommendation. This was seconded by Mr. Nichols. Unanimous.

There was also information regarding the KIPP National Stage Gate Process. It needs to go under review before we expand to other cities. Mr. Shirey needs approval to expand in 2011. He will draft a letter of Intent and the letter would be signed off by the Board President. Mr. Shirey will forward these letters to the KIPP National before the end of the month. They will include an addition to the school charter for licensure to expand to new communities. After discussion, Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve Mr. Shirey's suggestion. This was seconded by Mr. Valley. Unanimous.

There are several cities that are proposed for additional KIPP school cities. They are Blytheville, Forrest City, Pine Bluff and West Memphis. There will possibly be eight (8) letters to the Arkansas Department of Education for expansion. Ms. Allen made a motion that Mr. Shirey compose these letters for the above cities. This was seconded by Mr. Johnson. Unanimous.

The last item is that Mr. Sanford Johnson is stepping down as a Board member this month. His wife, Mrs. Amanda Johnson, will be the school leader for the ELA. He has been on the Board for two (2) years. Mr. Shirey presented Mr. Johnson with a Certificate of Appreciation.

Mark Nichols informed the Board that he had visited with the President of MIT and they invited the Middle School to take a tour of the school next year. He and Mr. Tisby will work on this.

VI. Adjournment

There being no other business, Ms. Allen made a motion to adjourn. This was seconded by Mr. Johnson. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00. The next Board meeting is July 14, 2009.

Chalk Mitchell,
Board President

Scott Shirey,
Executive Director