

# Lincoln Leadership Academy Charter School

## Board of Directors Meeting

September 17, 2020

### Board Minutes

**I. Call to Order:** The Board Meeting was called to order at 11:05 AM by Harold Kurtz.

**II. Roll Call:** Present: Dr. Harold Kurtz, Dr. Barry Spriggs, Jimmy Torres, Fred Rooney (Ngozi Bell and Meloney Dosunmu excused).

Staff present: CEO Sandra Figueroa-Torres, Sis-Obed Torres Cordero, Director of Operations, Tony Repice, Business Manager)

**III. Opening Reflection:** SFT is a firm believer that all things work for the good, but even the students seem to be very serious and are taking things seriously. The death count has risen to over 198,000 people. Harold shared about a college student friend tested positive. Let's hope we can get past this without further loses to the Lincoln family. It has been brutal; people are suffering from fatigue.

**IV. Approval of Minutes:** Motion to approve the August 20, 2020 Minutes by Fred Rooney was seconded by Jimmy Torres, passed unanimously.

**V. Staff Reports:** CEO Report

CEO Figueroa reported that virtual is going well, attendance is strong teachers doing outstanding job; waiting for 422 chrome books purchased through PCCD grant; goal is to be at 1;1 ratio; everyone is working to ensure kids are not falling through cracks; lunch is operating smoothly; getting good reviews about the food.

There is one student we can't track. We accepted a fully new K and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students; in the process of enrolling 53 students; total enrollment expected to be about 930 students with additional numbers.

Director of Operations Report: Sis-Obed gave a brief synopsis of his written report. He said that the construction project is back on track now that the soil packing issue had been corrected. He reported that CEO Sandra ordered

one van instead of the two that had been Board approved. Instead, we will wait until we have a clearer picture of the live reopening of school. In addition, it may be better to buy a minibus at that time instead of a van. We will report on this item when the time comes.

**Motion:** To approve the Staff Reports by Barry Spriggs and seconded by Jimmy Torres passed unanimously.

## **VI. Old Business:**

Reopening School update on PDE: Preparing for second phase of school; Survey is being released for parent input; most parents indicate they prefer virtual learning; COVID numbers are slowly increasing in PA; other local schools continue to close and open during their hybrid phases; we are leaning more toward continuing in virtual mode.

Jimmy agrees that disruptions will hurt students more; experimenting with hybrid may create more problems than what works.

Barry agreed if we are getting our desired attendance numbers; disruptions are not good for students; you end up losing educational goals by constant troubleshooting; from his experience at the university, it is best to proceed as we are; Fred: he will differ and support the administration's lead on this; Harold idea of survey is good idea; continuity of education is highly desired and support. Board expressed the planning was solid and looks forward to next report

## **VII. Financial Report:**

Cash as of 8/31/2020 was \$4,595,202. For the two months ending 08/31/2020 the charter school had a surplus of \$1,003,568 compared to a planned surplus of

\$945,492 resulting in a favorable variance of \$58,075.00.

Timing of revenues and expenses are the primary reasons for the variance.

## **VIII. New Business:**

Sis-Obed reported that our insurance carrier strongly recommended that we purchase Cyberware insurance. The cost is approximately \$6,000.00 per year. The Board agreed that this was wise to do.

**IX. Personnel:** Theresa Benjamin: Is the first administrator to retire. Mrs. Figueroa requested that Board approve a bonus in the amount of up to \$7,500.00. Tony (Repice) said that payout bonus check is the preferred method.

Motion by Fred seconded by Barry to make payment passed unanimously.

Mrs. Figueroa shared that her duties were delegated out to a team of staff members and did not intend to refill the position. She added that Mrs. Benjamin will be sorely missed.

Two staff members resigned in the past week.

**Motion:** To approve all personnel contracts (all of the new hires, contract for returning staff, and subcontracts) by Barry Spriggs and seconded by Fred Rooney, passed unanimously.

Mrs. Figueroa thanked Fred Rooney for joining the Board and all of our Board members for their continued support, especially during these difficult times.

**X. Public Comment:** None.

**XI. Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn Board meeting by Fred Rooney and seconded by Jimmy Torres passed unanimously. The Meeting was adjourned at 12:35 PM.