

Meeting of the LAMB Board of Directors

5:30 PM, Via Zoom, 13th September 2021

Board Members Present: Alan Golding (Chair), Jennifer Carrier (Secretary), Brad Karrer (Treasurer), Akeem Anderson, ElShadey Bekele, Najia Lupson, Ericka Markman, John Zakrajsek

Board Members Absent: John Sanchez, Laura Slover

Staff Present: Charis Sharp, Brian Nielsen, Greg Woodward, Maria-Jose Carrasco, Claudia Silva-Ruschel

Community Stakeholders Present: Approximately a dozen community stakeholders were present, along with those providing interpretation services

Agenda

1. Alan called the meeting to order at approximately 5:35 pm. He welcomed the Board and the community, and noted that board member Najia Lupson has a new education podcast called “Education ReMade.” Roll call was taken to verify that a quorum was established.
2. Discussion and Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - a. Minutes
 - i. August 16, 2021 meeting
 - b. Moved by Brad, seconded by Najia, and approved unanimously by roll call vote.
3. Committee Reports and Action Items
 - a. School Performance Committee
 - i. Greg discussed the big takeaways from the most recent meeting of the committee, including identifying potential future meeting topics, and focusing on staff recruitment and retention, and DEI.
 - b. Governance Committee
 - i. Alan noted that at an upcoming meeting the board would approve committee charters, and the committee is focusing on board recruitment and planning the calendar of board meeting topics.
 - c. Facilities Committee
 - i. Brad noted that the committee has not met since the last board meeting.
 - ii. Brad gave an update on phase 2 construction at the 14th street location, which is primarily the third floor improvements to house upper elementary.
 - iii. Brad discussed how the focus and scope of the committee will likely be shifting to encompass more of overall operations, including health and safety issues, the school lunch program, etc.
 - d. Finance Committee
 - i. Brian noted that there have been no surprises the first two months of LAMB’s fiscal year.
 - ii. Brian discussed that the financial audit for FY21 is expected in early August, and they anticipate a relatively small net loss which was anticipated and planned for. He noted that they are already starting the planning for FY23.
 - e. Development Committee – no report
 - f. DEI Committee – no report

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4. Executive Director Report

- a. Charis provided an update on the successful school reopening -- almost all students are back on campus. She discussed the continual review and revisions of COVID guidelines and procedures.
- b. Charis noted that asymptomatic testing is starting on Thursday, and so far two classrooms have been quarantined, which is very common for charters across the city.
- c. Charis discussed that first day drop-off issues have largely been smoothed out, and they are continuing to work on procedures to ensure arrivals and dismissals are as smooth, easy, and safe as possible.
- d. A parent asked if the conditions on the BZA order have been met and why small busses are not allowed. Brad responded that, due to neighbor requests, a condition of the BZA order was that LAMB would not allow busses.
- e. A parent asked if we could start testing more than 10% of students, and Charis responded that we are looking into that but there may be funding issues.

5. Show & Tell

- a. Maria-Jose Carrasco and Claudia Silva-Ruschel presented a PowerPoint titled “Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Plan Update” (Attachment 1).
- b. John Z. asked questions regarding the structure and reporting of the DEI task force. Maria Jose said that she leads the task force and it is not a committee of the board, although there is typically board representation. She noted that any policies the DEI task force creates will be reviewed by the board, but that the task force would be primarily focused on implementation.
- c. Akeem discussed that this work interests him, as it is important that Black and Latino children are not in an environment that is not safe for them, and it is important for schools to do the work to review how they may perpetuate white supremacy. He noted that ensuring a workforce of diverse teachers is important.

6. Adjournment of Public Session

- a. Alan thanked everyone for attending.
- b. A motion was made by Brad to adjourn the public session and move into closed session. The motion was seconded by Akeem and it was approved unanimously. The public session adjourned at approximately 6:41pm.

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This is a true representation of the September 13, 2021 Meeting of the LAMB Board of Directors.



Jennifer L. Carrier
Secretary, LAMB Board of Directors