

## Meeting of the LAMB Board of Directors

*5:30 PM, Via Zoom, 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022*

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

**Board Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Charis Sharp, Greg Woodward, Brian Nielsen, Maria-Jose Carrasco

**Community Stakeholders and Others Present:** Approximately a dozen community stakeholders were present, along with representatives from Compass and those providing interpretation services

### Agenda

1. Alan gave a reminder about the interpretation services being provided, called the meeting to order at approximately 5:36 pm, and welcomed everyone, including Charis who is celebrating her three-year anniversary as the Executive Director. Roll call was taken to verify that a quorum was established.
2. Alan reminded everyone of the new practice of starting the meetings with a board member sharing reflections regarding why they are choosing board service. Ericka shared that she was enticed by LAMB's mission of Montessori and bilingual education. She brings energy each day due to the incredible staff, teachers, and fellow board members.
3. Discussion and Approval of Meeting Minutes
  - a. Minutes
    - i. January 31, 2022 meeting
  - b. Moved by Brad, seconded by John Z, and approved unanimously.
4. Committee Reports and Action Items
  - a. Finance Committee
    - i. Brad discussed that the budget process is underway and a draft of the budget will be brought to the April board meeting. Comments will be taken back from the draft presentation and a final budget will be proposed at the May meeting.
    - ii. A financial report has been circulated to the board members. At the beginning of the year, we had budgeted for a loss on the year, which is part of the plan until can bring in the SD campus. The current loss is less than projected. A change to amortization of the 14<sup>th</sup> street property offset some direct student costs, and we also saw savings in personnel and payroll due to two vacancies.
  - b. Facilities/Operations Committee
    - i. Brad noted that the committee is working with Hector on an Operations dashboard.
    - ii. The committee continuing its drafting of a facility use policy.
    - iii. 14<sup>th</sup> Street continues to be a challenging property. We recently finished boiler installation, and are working on chiller repairs. There is unfinished business such as a walk-in cooler in the kitchen, and replacing doors.
    - iv. Recently had traffic study conducted.

- c. School Performance
  - i. Akeem discussed the committee meeting last week where potential changes to the upper elementary bilingual model were discussed. Information was sent out as part of the board meeting materials, and once a plan is finalized it will be brought up to the full board. Greg and the team were asked to get more feedback from the academic team, teachers, and parents. It is important to ensure there is a level of consistency between lower elementary and upper elementary, and that we are leaning into academic rigor in both languages.
  - ii. John Z asked if there was a dialogue with the parents regarding the upper elementary models and Charis said that they were working on that.
- d. Governance Committee
  - i. Alan noted that the Committee has been focused on recruitment of board members. The Committee has a slate of candidates that will be discussed and voted on in Executive Session this evening. The next step will be placing parents on committees.
- e. ED Report
  - i. Charis discussed a shift in covid operations after she wrote the ED Report. Mask mandates are shifting quickly in DC and across the nation. DCPS has made masks optional outdoors for students, LAMB has not yet followed suit. The current guidelines on the “test to stay” program conflict with outdoor mask guidelines. It is important for us to maintain the “test to stay” policy. Since we implemented the policy in mid-January we’ve had 27 students participate, keeping kids in school 154 days more than we would have been able to without that program – this has been important to the priorities of maintaining learning and recovering from instruction loss.
  - ii. We got the full Quality Site Review report from PCSB. This was observation based. We ended up scoring higher than we did on the last one. The area we saw lower scores was in a review of student work samples because the matrix doesn’t exactly align with Montessori assignments. We are working on incorporating improvements.
  - iii. Our lottery numbers look strong. We had an ambassador program to recruit Spanish speaking families and families of color. We will be presenting on that at a DC conference of schools on DEI issues.
- f. General Questions
  - i. Alan asked if anyone had questions and there were none.

5. Presentation by Compass – *Compass Midpoint Presentation*

- a. Alan welcomed the Compass team and gave background on the organization and their mission to help LAMB with a strategic alignment.
- b. The Compass presentation (attached at **Attachment A**) included a discussion of the scope and goals of the project, along with the current progress.
  - i. Three key focus areas have been identified: 1) academic excellence, 2) diversity, equity, and inclusion, and 3) rebuilding community.
  - ii. The academic excellence focus area includes improving LAMB’s upper elementary model, improving SPED services and SPED student performance, and retaining and recruiting high quality teachers. The DEI focus area includes communication, representation, and inclusive culture.
- c. Alan discussed next steps with the Compass engagement.

## LAMB Board Minutes

March 7, 2022 [FINAL: Approved 4.25.22]

### 6. Adjournment of Public Session

- a. A motion was made to adjourn the public session and move into Executive Session. The motion was seconded approved unanimously. The public session adjourned at approximately 6:50pm.

### 7. Executive Session

- a. During the executive session, the Governance Committee discussed the slate of candidates it nominated to join the LAMB Board and the Board voted to approve the following as new LAMB Board Members: Darryl Clay, Amanda Cowley, Edward Palmieri, and Nathan Warner.

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This is a true representation of the March 7, 2022 Meeting of the LAMB Board of Directors.



Jennifer L. Carrier  
Secretary, LAMB Board of Directors