

La Salle Charter Schools, Inc.  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Meeting Minutes  
March 16 2022

**La Salle Charter Schools, Inc. Board Members Participating in Person via ZOOM:** James Hill, Demetrius Grooms, Adam Smith, Shirleas Washington, Marci Sullivan

**La Salle Charter Schools, Inc. Board Member Absent:** Kim Perry, Azalia Carter, and Phil Toben

**Other Participants:** LaShanda R. Boone, Lauren Cobb, Jasmine Clay, Mike Hall, and Natasha Harris (La Salle Charter School staff)

### Opening Items

**Call to Order:** 4:32pm

### Adoption of Agenda

- Change to Order of Agenda (due to quorum for voting)
- Motion passed to approve agenda changes: 4:34p

### General Board Business

**Open Comments** N/A

**Public Recognition** N/A

### Mission Moment

*Lauren Cobb (Principal, LSMS) on behalf of Chirstian Morgan (8th Grade Student, LSMS)*

### Foundation Update

#### Marketing Update *Natasha Harris*

- “Catch a Falling Star Gala” Update
  - Plan to celebrate and highlight alumni from first graduating class
  - Continuing to recruit and secure sponsors
- Other Updates
  - Hired a website developer
  - LSMS website to be updated and modernized for visibility and accessibility
    - Will combine Foundation and Middle School sites
  - Question about Schnucks sponsorship – Waiting for further updates

- Question about Gala Date – May 7, in person, Marriott Downtown (Grand Ballroom)

### **New Business**

#### **Approval of Meeting Minutes** *Demetrius Grooms*

- February Meeting Minutes Approved at 4:42p

#### **Strategy Discussion** *Demetrius Grooms*

- Table discussion for April Board Meeting

### **Old Business/Update**

#### **Governance and Strategic Direction Review** *Demetrius Grooms (on behalf of Marci Sullivan)*

- Ensure that Board is operating as a *governing body* (as opposed to a *management entity*)
- Idea to disseminate a survey to a sample of Board members, LSMS staff, and LSMS community; data collected from respondents would aid in Board's efforts to align strategic priorities
- Recommendation from sponsors to streamline dashboard in an effort to align more closely to "governance"; content of dashboard would be informed by alignment of Board priorities

### **Financial Report Update**

#### **February Financials** *James Hill, Mike Hall*

- Question about consultant partnership – Shannon is still working with LSMS
- Question about cash flow (re: where funds are housed) – All funds will eventually be moved to one account
- February Financial Report approved at 4:46p

#### **"To Date" Financials** *Mike Hall*

- To-date comparison to FY21
- Enrollment, Revenue, and Expenses have all increased from FY21
  - 8.7%, 18.2%, and 32.4%, respectively
- Cash balance has decreased from FY21
  - 22.2%
- Comparison report does not include ESSER III funds

#### **FY'23 Budget Proposal - DRAFT** *LaShanda Boone*

- Draft displays scenarios for both a 3% and 5% teacher pay increase
  - In an effort to ensure salaries commensurate with neighboring districts
  - In an effort to mitigate recruitment efforts of LSMS teachers from neighboring districts
  - In an effort to be responsive to national inflation
- Idea of "returning stipends" for veteran teachers

- Question about target enrollment of 130 students (as opposed to the 125 student target of previous years) – Efforts to continually recover from pandemic effects and to be responsive to changes in recruitment patterns
- Discussion around leveraging retention efforts beyond salary increases (e.g., working at a small school) – Acknowledgement that salary is often the primary driver around retention and attrition movements
- Confidence that donations will significantly increase for FY23, which will offset decrease in federal funds and support proposed budget changes

### **Executive Director Update**

#### **School Quality Review Update** *LaShanda R. Boone*

- Domain #1 – Instruction
  - Findings were overall positive/favorable
  - Area of focus – Purposeful Instruction, differentiated instructional strategies, assessment and feedback
- Domain #2 – Student Opportunities to Learn
  - No way to formally assess SEL, due to lack of standardized SEL curriculum
  - Plan to use third party to assess SEL and to follow MTSS model to best identify students for support
- Domain #3 – Educators Opportunities to Learn
  - Principal will continue to support teacher observation, feedback, and improvement
  - Ensure that staff are reiterating behavior expectations

#### **DESE Grants – Update** *LaShanda Boone*

- LSMS received Teacher Retention Grant (\$10,000)
- LSMS received Grow Your Own Grant (\$13,000)

#### **2022-2023 Homeless and Foster Care Liaison** *LaShanda Boone*

- Approve Homeless and Foster Care Liaison for DESE Records (Victor Seals)
- Question about prior experience
- Approved at 4:47p

#### **MAP PreTest Update** *Lauren Cobb*

- Completed at beginning of March
- ELA – 4 days; Math – 2 days; Science – 2 days
- 94% of students tested at least in one subject; 50% of students tested all subjects
- LSMS were able to determine areas of strength and growth in order to focus instruction efforts, across all subjects, up to MAP testing

#### **Mask Mandate Discussion** *LaShanda Boone*

- Executive Director disseminated survey to LSMS families regarding mask mandate

- >90% families in favor of maintaining mask mandate
- LSMS staff in favor of supporting family preferences

**2022 – 2023 Staffing Plan** *LaShanda Boone, Demetrius Grooms*

- Board to approve *current* (i.e., AY 2021 – 2022) staff positions in order to carry into new staffing model, which will be presented at April Board Meeting
- Approved at 4:51p

**Summer School Schedule**

- June 1 – June 30, 2022
- Monday - Friday
  - Core content Monday – Thursday
  - Enrichment and field trips Friday
  - Equals 126 contact hours (above the 120 hour requirement)
  - Core content is comprised of Math, ELA, Science, and PE

**2022 – 2023 Calendar**

- Above the 1080 hours required by DESE (currently at 1127.5 hours)
- Staff have PD August 1-19
- Students return August 23
- Closely aligned to SLPS calendar
- Summer school 2023 scheduled similarly to summer school 2022

**Dashboard – Accountability Plan**

- 50/54 eighth graders applied to schools of their choice
- February attendance affected by February winter weather days
- 90/90 metrics have been declining
- Neighboring school district attendance metrics have also been affected

**Adjournment**

- Adjournment at 6:11p

DocuSigned by:  
*Demetrius Grooms*  
7C5544B040964B1...

Demetrius Grooms

Board Chair

DocuSigned by:  
*Adam Smith*  
BC3F352DE214406...

Adam Smith

Board Secretary