

# MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF EWING MARION KAUFFMAN SCHOOL, INC

10.19.2022

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Ewing Marion Kauffman School, Inc., a Missouri nonprofit corporation exempt from federal taxation under Internal Revenue Code § 501(c)(3), was held at its headquarters in Kansas City, Missouri on October 19, 2022, pursuant to public notice provided at least 24 hours in advance. The meeting was held in person at the School.

Participating were Tracy McFerrin, Kelly Barnes, Kristin Bechard, Juan Rangel, Corey Scholes, Jerry Williams. Participating via Zoom such that all could hear and be heard and see and be seen was Brett Hembree.

Also participating from the School were Hannah Lofthus, President and Chief Executive Officer; John Tyler, Secretary and General Counsel; and Katie Pasniewski, Chief Operating Officer.

Aaron North, Vice President of Education at the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, was also in attendance. No one else from the community was present.

Ms. McFerrin chaired the meeting. Mr. Tyler served as secretary. Ms. McFerrin called the meeting to order at 8:32 am, welcomed those in attendance, and previewed the agenda. She gave a special welcome to Ms. Barnes who is attending her first meeting as a board member.

After discussion and motion duly made (Williams) and seconded (Rangel), the board unanimously approved minutes from the meetings of September 7, 2022.

Ms. McFerrin turned the time over to Mr. North to provide an update from the Foundation, after which he described the Foundation's grounding in Mr. Kauffman's experiences and intent, its education mission and strategy as rooted in pursuing inclusive prosperity, its priority target areas, programs it has catalyzed, recent and current activities, how the strategies and tactics are evolving, and top-line impact measures for the next ten years. Discussion followed.

Mr. North continued by beginning discussion of possibly formalizing longer-term financial planning for the School and the Foundation's funding, including various factors and considerations. Discussion followed, including with regard to next steps.

Mr. North left the meeting.

## Leadership Report

Ms. Lofthus provided an update on DEIA staff metrics, including that as of September 2022 48% of staff identify as BIPOC (which is only 2% short of the goal), 70% of instructional leaders identify as BIPOC, and 50% of promotions for 2021-2022 school year identified as BIPOC which meets the goal. Discussion followed, including that comparative data against benchmarks and others is not yet available.

She then presented highlights from early end-of-year testing for 2021-2022, including that 100% of content and grade levels at the middle school increased proficiency, a majority of AP content at the high school level improved compared to the prior two years with still a long way to go to exceed pre-COVID numbers. Discussion followed.

Ms. Lofthus described plans for her extended leave, including that it will be intermittent through the spring (which is consistent with how others have taken their leaves), how leadership responsibilities will be managed during her leave, how preparations have been made for those transitions and supports, that Ms. Lofthus will continue to be involved with longer-term planning as referenced by discussion with Mr. North.

Ms. Lofthus provided context for the School tour.

Mr. Hembree and Ms. Bechard left the meeting.

The tour commenced and concluded with staff and student ambassadors joining.

Discussion occurred following the tour as Dr. Amber Hurd, Dean of Instruction, and Richard Abrams, Dean of Students, joined the meeting back in the board meeting space. They also left during the prior discussion. Appreciation was expressed for the opportunities presented by the tour and interactions, with special appreciation for the positive environment and culture along with the hard work from many people that makes those experiences possible.

### Treasurer's Report

Ms. Pasniewski presented the treasurer's report and report from the finance committee. She presented the status of key performance indicators, including days of cash on hand, fund balance percentage, student enrollment, and staffing. The first two KPIs are well ahead of benchmarks. Enrollment is less than budget presumptions by about 50 students, which was then discussed. Staffing is over-budget by 3.4 full time equivalents, which is accounted for by considerations relative to the teacher shortage so hiring strong teachers when available is important as are opportunities for development and training of less experienced teachers. Discussion followed, including about the financial impact of the staff overage and how the new funding from the State of Missouri will help or cover the overages.

Ms. Pasniewski presented the forecast overview comparing the forecast to the budget with explanations for the variances.

After discussion and upon the recommendation from the Finance Committee with a motion made (Scholes), the Board voted unanimously to approve the Treasurer's report as presented.

### Community Forum

With no one from the community present, there was no community forum.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:33 am.

John Tyler, Secretary