

**Minutes of the Board of Directors of MS Delta Academies ~ Leflore Legacy Academy**  
**Tuesday, December 10, 2019**  
**Conference Call**

Board Chair Emily Cupples called the meeting to order at 2:04pm

**Board members present:** Mrs. Emily Cupples, Mr. Steve Fortenberry, Mr. McKinley "Mack" Martin, Dr. Sonja Alexander, Dr. Tamala Boyd Shaw (Ex-Officio Member and Executive Director)

**Board members absent:** N/A

**Guests/Public Present:** None

The agenda was received and accepted by with a motion by Steve and second by Mack and unanimous approval. The minutes from the November 12, 2019, meeting were approved – Motion: Mack; Seconded – Steve.

**Board President's Report – Emily Cupples**

No major topics/information just comments about:

- Planning work session with ED Tamala on a regular basis
- Got board members' emails set up, so everyone should start using them
- Make sure everyone can access the Google drive where documents will be placed

**Executive Director's Report – Tamala Boyd Shaw**

- ✓ Organization's Attorney – Waiting to receive letter of engagement from Attorney Vallrie Dorsey, the attorney whom Mack recommends we work with after a conversation with her.
- ✓ Financial Institutions – Tamala and Steve met on November 19<sup>th</sup> and opened the school's bank account (checking) at Bank of Commerce. Tamala deposited \$500 in the account.
- ✓ Facilities – The board engaged in thoughtful conversation about the proposal submitted to and received from First Baptist Church. We decided to submit the proposal back with acceptance of it with amendments as follows:
  - 50% of the yearly elevator maintenance contract and 50% of the monthly utility bill
  - Steve made the motion and Emily seconded.
- ✓ Funding – Tamala will upload a copy of the completed CSP Grant to the Google drive; it was approved at the December 9<sup>th</sup> board meeting of the MS Charter School Authorizer Board
  - Keep in mind the CSP grant is a reimbursable based grant with allowable and unallowable costs broken down by year of implementation (planning v. operation)
  - We are still in conversation with Hope Credit Union about any funding possibilities though it's not looking good.
  - After a motion from Mack and a second from Sonja, the board voted to retro pay ED Tamala from September 1 though December 8<sup>th</sup> (day before CSP grant kicked in) when funds are flowing.
- ✓ Marketing – We are constantly committed to participating in community events and gain visibility
  - Social media accounts are activate; please make sure to follow them (and "like" them); share with your network. Our goal is to get the number of likes/followers to 1,000.
  - MS First is sponsoring two billboards for us that will be placed soon around the city; they are also sponsoring the mail out of personalized info cards to the homes of 5<sup>th</sup> grade students encouraging them to enroll in Leflore Legacy Academy.

- 49                   ○ Steve asked for a synopsis of our application, platform, and the WHY so that informative  
50                   conversations could be held with community members.
- 51       ✓ Board Member Recommendations
- 52                   ○ There was still no decision from Cynthia Staniel; the last communication noted a  
53                   conflict with her job that she was trying to work out.
- 54                   ○ Board member Sonja discussed the recommendation of Professor/Author John  
55                   Almarode; the board agreed he seemed like a viable candidate but wanted to review his  
56                   resume before voting. Sonja will secure it and connect with Tamala to share with the  
57                   board.
- 58       ✓ Committee Updates
- 59                   ○ Committees have been formed but have not yet begun to meet and will start doing so in  
60                   January.
- 61       ✓ Good of the Order/New Business
- 62                   ○ Sonja suggested ED Tamala keep a log of some sort noting the kinds of work related  
63                   functions she handles on a day to day basis as a way of showing what an awesome ED  
64                   our organization has; she noted this could even be the board meeting minutes from the  
65                   ED report or something more creative – just a way of documenting leadership.
- 66                   ○ Tamala will, for now, continue to develop and provide the agenda and meeting minutes.

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68       The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at 2pm via conference call. The March meeting  
69       will be in person Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup> from 9am-1pm.

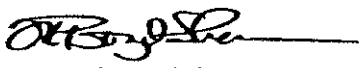
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71       The meeting was adjourned at 3:30pm.

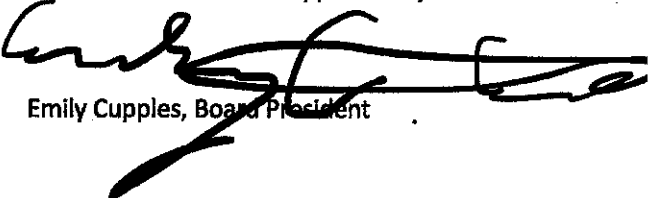
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73       Minutes Recorded and Reported by:

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76       Dr. Tamala Boyd Shaw, Executive Director

Minutes Reviewed and Approved by:

  
Emily Cupples, Board President