

**Minutes of the Board of Directors of MS Delta Academies
Conference Call
Friday, March 27, 2020**

Emily called the meeting to order at 2:07pm.

Board members present on call: Mrs. Emily Cupples, Mr. Steve Fortenberry, Attorney McKinley Martin,
& Dr. Jacquelyn Brownlow

Board members absent: Dr. Sonja Alexander

Leadership Team Members Present: Dr. Tamala Boyd Shaw

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with a motion by Mack and a second from Steve.

February Meeting Minutes

The February meeting minutes were approved with a motion from Mack with the corrections and a second from Second.

Board President's Report

- The face-to-face meeting was cancelled, and the board did a Zoom Meeting.
- Dr. Tamala Boyd Shaw has been working hard with the grants & funds

Executive Director's Report

Employment Updates

- There are 5 leadership support team members: (1.) Marquez Elem-Dean of Operations & Students; (2) Latoya Spurlock-Fluker-Dean of Curriculum & Instruction; (3) Karmeilla McGee-Office & Finance Manager; (4) Holley Peel- Administrative Assistant; & (5) Kiarra Williams-College & Career Counselor. All members will be logged on today at the staff meeting. The team is called Leadership Support Team because everything each member does supports the teachers & students. As for the teachers, interviews have begun during the week of Spring Break but were shut down due to COVID-19. Dr. Shaw will resume the interview process next week. Dr. Shaw also express that if anyone knows a great teacher to encourage them to apply.
- Enrollment Updates – As of today, there are 78 students enrolled. Keep in mind that enrolled is different from registered. The first registration was held March 7, 2020; the second one was on March 19, 2020; & the third was March 26, 2020. Up to this point there are 45/78 students who have completed registration. The Career & College Counselor will start on April 1, 2020. All four leadership support team members were invited to the NSVF Webinar on today. Leflore Legacy Academy is on target. The goal is to get 25 students enrolled & registered a month.
- Facilities – Leflore Legacy Academy does have a facility. Dr. Shaw informed the board members that they moved in on March 7, 2020 but still doesn't have furniture. The Leadership Support Team are working remotely, however on Thursdays we come together and have registration at the school. There are also virtual Zoom Meetings on every Friday. There was a walk through done by Emily (the architect) on yesterday. The blueprint will be ready on or before April 1. There will be contractors selected as well, where the architect will inform them that everything has to be completed by July 1, 2020. Mack posed a question, asking how does COVID-19 effect the schedule? Dr. Shaw stated that as we notice, the governor has not put the state on

lockdown. For example, when we have registration, we have gloves, hand sanitizer; Clorox Wipes, Lysol Spray, & the team members are in a separate office and parents come in one at a time. With that being said, Emily, the architect doesn't see it as an issue with the contractors being onsite. Since the state of MS is not going on a shutdown, Tamala will ensure that her & the team members take precautions & if adjustments have to be made in terms of the school calendar, we will make those adjustments. As far as right now, the school's schedule will continue to go as planned.

➤ Funding/Finances

I. Board Member Contributions: Tamala reminded the board members about their \$500 commitment for 2019-2020 school year.

II. Grant Opportunities: There are 2 grants that we applied for (Community Foundation of Northwest MS & Literacy Program).

1. Community Foundation of Northwest MS: They didn't have the funds to give
2. Walton Family Foundation: A grant that is for a starter charter school, but were Denied. So if anyone knows an employee who works there, please inform Tamala. This is the second time that we applied.
3. Charter School Growth Fund: Applied for a \$250,000 and we have completed the interview process and are waiting on the results, which we will have in May.
4. NSVF (NewSchools Venture Fund): There will be an interview with them on April 8 to be approved for \$400,000. Tamala and the team are preparing for that interview.
5. AmeriCorps Volunteers: Applied for the \$150,000 grant, which will allow us to hire tutors to help our scholars with their literacy and ensure they are reading on or above their grade level. We have been invited to apply and it is due on April 9.
6. Literacy Program: The second proposal was approved, which is \$1,250. We will use these funds for the ACT resources.

Mack ask "is the launch grant (NSVF) being held in person"? Tamala informed the board members that it would be virtual via Zoom.

Mack also asked Tamala are there any concrete plans in case the school has to operate online for teachers to teach and students to learn online. Tamala informed everyone that there aren't any concrete plans as of now. However, the team and I have been discussing different online platforms such as tutor.com. There is a meeting schedule with ANet (a platform that we will be utilizing to upload all documents. Tamala will also reach out to Dr. Sonja for her assistance with virtual learning.

Tamala also informed the board members that she contacted the MS Charter School Authorizer Board regarding the assessments & state data from the year before. We will also use an universal screener to see where the scholars are and we are not totally depending on the state assessments. Most importantly, we are thinking about accountability topics for the school.

Marketing /Community Events

I. Facebook, Instagram, Twitter-please make sure to like/follow/share

II. Website- Tamala is working to make the minutes & board meetings dates open to the public. We have to ensure that the board dates & minutes be publicize. Tamala do wants everyone to adhere to the rules & regulations.

III. Commercial- The commercial was launched and got some positive feedback. We are thinking about running it again. Mack isn't sure if we should run the commercial again because he said it depends on what kind of audience we have within the Greenwood community (e.g if some use Facebook more than television). He's not sure if we should put all of our eggs in the Facebook basket. Emily isn't sure about the local TV stations because purchasing TV ads would be great if

97 they are willing to give a discount but it is expensive. Tamala stated that a lot of people do
98 watch Facebook and the radio would be great as well. So we should look at the time slots for the
99 10 o'clock news, which is the most expensive slot.
100 IV.WGNL Radio Station- We are looking at the radio commercials, which is less expensive. So
101 Tamala said they will go back to the radio.
102 V. Billboard-Leflore Legacy Academy is still up. Tamala doesn't like that there isn't no contact
103 information on it and we will keep it up as long as we can.

104 **Board Member Recommendations for New Members**

105 ➤

106 **Committee Updates**

- 107 ➤ Governance
108 ➤ Finance
109 ➤ Academic Achievement

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112 **Good of the Order**

- 113 ➤ A. Questions/Clarifications
114 ➤ B. Agenda Topics, Date & Time for next meeting
115 ➤ C. Staff Intros

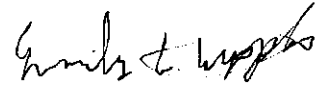
116 The meeting was adjourned at 3:07pm

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119 Minutes Recorded and Reported by:

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121 Dr. Tamala Boyd Shaw, Executive Director
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Minutes Reviewed and Approved by:



Emily Cupples, Board President