

**Minutes of the Board of Directors of MS Delta Academies
Conference Call
Tuesday, February 11, 2020**

Mack called the meeting to order at 2:05pm.

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

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 Steve and a second from Mack.

January Meeting Minutes

The January meeting minutes were approved with a motion from Steve and a second from Mack.

Mack graciously and spiritedly offered a belated Happy Birthday to Tamala whose birthday was yesterday (February 10th).

Executive Director's Report

Employment Updates

- Office Manager – 75 applicants
- Director of Curriculum – 10 applicants
- Operations/Finance – 4 applications
- College & Career Counselor – 4 applicants

Staff Benefits

- Tamala introduced Marcus Burger, who talked to board members about staff insurance – medical, dental and vision as well as commercial insurance
- Presented opportunity to participate in People Joy Student Loan Forgiveness Program
- Discussed deferred compensation plan (funds not taxed immediately) for Executive Director
- Unemployment tax does not have to be paid by a nonprofit (1972) law – month of November to opt out
- Mack asked how Marcus would be paid – this is from the carrier (commission)
- MS is a right to work state

Enrollment Updates

- Tamala has enlisted the contracted support of Debra Adams to help with student recruitment; this is short term until staff comes on board later this spring
- Everyone is invited to Spirit Night at Pizza Inn on Tuesday, March 10th; this is a recruitment and fundraising event

Facilities

- We are working through lease finalization with Mack as the lead
- Architects Beard+Riser and Delta Build Design are those with whom we are in contact about our building needs
- We are working through the E-Rate process to ensure technology for our building

Funding/Finance

- The financial report is in the Google Drive. There were no questions about the report.
- We are still expecting all Board Members to pay a \$500 donation each year. We have received this from Sonja and Mack and Tamala.
- We have applied for several grants as listed on the agenda.

Marketing/Community Events

- Make sure to like/follow/share social media
- Website is current and informative
- Opportunity to speak to the Kiwanis Club on February 23rd
- Considering getting an ad in the Greenwood Commonwealth
- Preparing to record a commercial to be aired on WGNL for the month of February and early March
- Planning pop up recruitment events in Sidon, Snowden Jones, Itta Bena and Rising Sun for March 21-22

Executive Director Professional Development

- Our ED has recently been accepted to Leadership Mississippi and is looking for other ways to continue professional growth and development

Board Member Recommendations for New Members

- Three professionals are being considered for a board vote – Christopher Lewis, Jacquelyn Brownlow, and Leonette Henderson

Committee Updates

None

Good of the Order

- No Questions
- Next meeting is a board retreat on Saturday, March 7 from 9am-12pm (the same day of our student registration)

The meeting was adjourned at 3:17pm.

Minutes Recorded and Reported by:



Dr. Tamala Boyd Shaw, Executive Director

Minutes Reviewed and Approved by:



Emily Cupples, Board President