



# Martin Luther King Jr. Charter School of Excellence

## Minutes

### Monthly Board Meeting

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#### Date and Time

Tuesday April 16, 2024 at 5:30 PM

#### Location

Zoom

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#### Trustees Present

Alton Jones (remote), Darren James (remote), Dean Morneau (remote), Diana Foskett (remote), James Lightfoot (remote), Jennifer Wallace-Johnson (remote), Kiyota Garcia (remote), Teremar Rodriguez-Vazquez (remote)

#### Trustees Absent

Denise Pagan-Vega, Kailey Boyd

#### Trustees who arrived after the meeting opened

Darren James, Jennifer Wallace-Johnson

#### Guests Present

Kendra Salvador (remote)

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### I. Opening Items

#### A. Record Attendance

#### B. Call the Meeting to Order

Teremar Rodriguez-Vazquez called a meeting of the board of trustees of Martin Luther King Jr. Charter School of Excellence to order on Tuesday Apr 16, 2024 at 5:35 PM.

**C. Meditation**

James Lightfoot provided the meditation. He wrote a piece about the Solar Eclipse to share with the board.

**D. Public Comments**

No public comments.

**E. Vote Teremar Rodriguez-Vazquez as Vice- Chair**

Diana Foskett made a motion to approve Teremar as Vice- Chair.

Kiyota Garcia seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**F. Vote Dean M. as Clerk**

Alton Jones made a motion to approve Dean as Clerk.

James Lightfoot seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

|                           |         |
|---------------------------|---------|
| Denise Pagan-Vega         | Absent  |
| Darren James              | Absent  |
| Diana Foskett             | Aye     |
| Teremar Rodriguez-Vazquez | Aye     |
| Jennifer Wallace-Johnson  | Absent  |
| Kailey Boyd               | Absent  |
| Dean Morneau              | Abstain |
| Kiyota Garcia             | Aye     |
| Alton Jones               | Aye     |
| James Lightfoot           | Aye     |

**G. Vote on Board of Trustees February Meeting Minutes**

Diana Foskett made a motion to approve the minutes from Monthly Board Meeting on 03-19-24.

Alton Jones seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

|                           |        |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Teremar Rodriguez-Vazquez | Aye    |
| Darren James              | Absent |
| Kiyota Garcia             | Aye    |
| Dean Morneau              | Aye    |
| Jennifer Wallace-Johnson  | Absent |

### **Roll Call**

|                   |        |
|-------------------|--------|
| Kailey Boyd       | Absent |
| James Lightfoot   | Aye    |
| Denise Pagan-Vega | Absent |
| Alton Jones       | Aye    |
| Diana Foscett     | Aye    |

Jennifer Wallace-Johnson arrived.

## **II. Executive Director's Report to the Board**

### **A. Executive Director's Report to the Board**

Kendra was available to answer questions on the ED's report.

James inquired about the book study. Kendra mentioned that Diana is running it.

Teremar asked about how MCAS went. Kendra felt it went pretty well, DESE visit went well also. At least a dozen finished quicker than they should have. Teachers worked with students to keep them from rushing. MCAS incentive celebration was held for the students if they earned at least 7 points. Had about 90-95 kids who were eligible to attend.

April Town Hall- Lots of pictures posted from it, decent parent turnout.

Suspensions update- Been a spike in number of suspensions, most from physical altercations. Most occurring during recess time.

## **III. Academic Excellence Committee Report**

### **A. Review Monthly Academic Data**

James shared that there are some mediations in place to help support students who are not at the level they should be. Two interventionists are in place to ensure students have support available. Request was made for book donations to establish libraries in each grade. James reached out to local libraries to see if they could provide donations.

## **IV. Treasurer's Report**

### **A. March Financials**

Kendra provided review of the new budget. Budgeted very conservatively for next year. Grant funding is flat relative to current year. Not as much of a surplus with ESSER coming to an end. Only using HR Knowledge for benefits. Increase in Greenhouse (recruitment software). Did away with portions of Power School. Budget for next gala is same as last year. Less for board retreat this year. Purchased student consumables/technology this year in order to reduce line item next year, to keep budget balanced. Field trip line decreased.

Kendra posed question about if teacher pay increases should be done based on performance. Alton and Diana mentioned this could lead to some being dissatisfied and potentially leaving.

James inquired about if we will be able to stay on budget if Governor's budget cuts are more substantial. Kendra expressed ability to do so, and potentially make other cuts in certain areas later if needed.

Kiyota proposed salary increases/stipends based on individual's tenure with the school.

Diana Foskett made a motion to approve next year's budget.

James Lightfoot seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

#### **Roll Call**

|                           |        |
|---------------------------|--------|
| James Lightfoot           | Aye    |
| Diana Foskett             | Aye    |
| Denise Pagan-Vega         | Absent |
| Teremar Rodriguez-Vazquez | Aye    |
| Kailey Boyd               | Absent |
| Dean Morneau              | Aye    |
| Darren James              | Absent |
| Alton Jones               | Aye    |
| Jennifer Wallace-Johnson  | Aye    |
| Kiyota Garcia             | Aye    |

Darren James arrived.

### **V. Board Chair Report**

#### **A. Updates**

Teremar mentioned that if the current board meeting time isn't ideal that we can look into changing it. Would like to have board completely staffed by board retreat. Darren has a lead that he will be forwarding to Teremar and Kendra. Need to have committee chairs send details of their meeting schedules, remember to upload minutes from those meetings into Board on Track. Charter renewal process will begin in 2025, need to be ready.

### **VI. Other Business**

#### **A. New Business**

No new business.

### **VII. Closing Items**

#### **A. Adjourn Meeting**

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dean Morneau