APPROVED

# Atlanta SMART Academy

# Minutes

## Board Retreat

**Date and Time**
Saturday October 19, 2024 at 9:00 AM

**Location**
Atlanta Smart Academy, 2636 M.L.K, Jr. Drive, SW, Atlanta, GA 30311

**Directors Present**
B. Williams, I. Lee, R. Price, V. Williams, W. Newman-Johnson

**Directors Absent**
A. Bruce, A. Kennedy, L. Harden, S. Fortson, S. Scott, Z. Elfenbein

**Guests Present**
P. Meadows

### I. Opening Items

#### A. Call the Meeting to Order

V. Williams called a meeting of the board of directors of Atlanta SMART Academy to order on Saturday Oct 19, 2024 at 9:40 AM.

#### B. Welcome and Ice Breaker Who/What Impacted You

Who Impacted You Most:

- Family and teachers
- Professors (passionate)
- Mother (finish what your started)
- Family friends (dad)
- High school (science teacher) aspiring school founders (full circle moment) student
- Educations and community leaders

**C. Year in Review Something to Brag About**

ASA Year in Review 2023-24

4 Circuits

**Circuit 1 - Student Achievement**

- Higher reading proficiency than the local districts in all grade levels
- 8th grade proficiency 74% (beats the state)
- 8th grad math proficiency grew 44% developing + to 74%
- Social studies proficiency grew from 52% to 70%

**Circuit 2- Culture and Climate**

- 84% staff retention rate
- 80% student retention rate (not adjusted for mobility)
- 75% parent satisfaction rate (based on one-year survey) 30% participation

ASA Abroad Spring Break 2024

- London and Paris, France
- 19 students and parents
- Panama this year (Spring Break first week in April)
- News coverage

Founding Solutionist (Strong) (Student Testimonial) (6th, 7th and grade and now in high school)

Growth and Expansion

- Serving 215 students
- Nine different countries
- Hosted over 200 countries
- $400K in philanthropy
- Other partners

Learning in Color Project - Community Partner of the Year - Carol Bowman
Front Hall Mural:

- AT&T - (partner), Atlanta United and Citi Year) created soccer courts, balls, basketball and murals)
- Citi Year - (Back yard) - platform and picnic tables
- Truist - Backpacks and supplies (classroom baskets)
- Cox (Back wall and bathrooms) will help with media center

SMART Education Model

4 arts pathways

- Theatre
- Dance
- Vocal music
- Visual arts (8th grade)

4 arts productions

Advanced science and math track

- 9th grade level (22 students in the advanced science and math track)

## II. Morning Sessions

### A. Board Responsibilities What Is Your Commitment

Reviewed Board Commitment and align on our responsbilities and commitment.

### B. Team Building Share Your Dream

**Why are you on THIS board?**

Passion for education and African American community.

To ensure no child is left behind and can have a stellar education.

Because of the work we can do to provide a better education for children.

Teach for America alum and was looking for opportunities and fell in love with ASA vision.

To grow school impact in the community. More musically inclined - a space that is done in house is important.

Reflecting on the past 6 years - because of board have brought into the dream encourages her to come.

**What is your dream for ASA?**

K-12 school in math, science and arts expansion.

Lynch pin for shopping center and what a successful enterprise does for their community .

Educational model that can be replicated.

Impact as many students and families as possible.

Provide stellar education and allow the students to dream and have the skills to be all they can be.

Model for education - not to leave any children and / or communities behind.

**What will you personally commit to that you will be held accountable for and report on QUARTERLY to accomplish the appropriate segment of your ASA dream)**

To solidify who is committed to be on the finance committee and utilize board on track and fundraising development.

To contact someone in Cox and network with at least (2) people and bonus a teacher that demonstrates ASA innovation in his or her community.

To be more involved in helping kids see what is possible (e.g. SCAD) helping to connect something that is real (e.g. field trip, etc.) going to a broadways play.

To create a marketing and fundraising plan that is repeatable.

Build partnerships and relationships with various companies, non-profit and universities.

## III. Afternoon Sessions

### A. Strategic Planning Our Collective Dream for ASA

Reviewed the strategic plan and make some modifications to align to the CPF and measurable goals and results.

### B. Outreach LIVE Who Do You Know?

We will review the outreach plan when we review the Board goals.

## IV. Closing Items

### A. Deliverables and Closing What's Next

We will review the strategic plan updates that we aligned to measurable results during a Board Retreat Working Session.

Schedule a follow up Board Retreat Working Session for October 28, 2024.

Working Session we will review and develop specific Board Goals to be finalized no later than end of November.

### B. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
W. Newman-Johnson