

Meeting of the LAMB Board of Directors

5:30 PM, Via Zoom, 16th August 2021

Board Members Present: Alan Golding (Chair), Jennifer Carrier (Secretary), Brad Karrer (Treasurer), Akeem Anderson, ElShadey Bekele, Najia Lupson, Ericka Markman, John Sanchez, Laura Slover

Board Members Absent: John Zakrajsek

Staff Present: Charis Sharp, Brian Nielsen, Greg Woodward, Maria-Jose Carrasco, Claudia Silva-Ruschel

Community Stakeholders Present: Approximately a dozen community stakeholders were present, along with those providing interpretation services

Agenda

1. Alan called the meeting to order at approximately 5:36 pm. He welcomed new board member Akeem Anderson, reminded everyone about the language interpretation services and that the session was being recorded, and noted that board members are here in their personal capacity and do not represent their employers. Roll call was taken to verify that a quorum was established.
2. Discussion and Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - a. Minutes
 - i. June 21, 2021 meeting
 - b. Moved by Laura, seconded by Ericka, and approved unanimously by roll call vote.
3. Committee Reports and Action Items
 - a. Governance Committee
 - i. Alan discussed draft edits to the bylaws that the Governance Committee made and circulated to the board.
 1. **VOTE:** Jen moved to approve the amended bylaws. Laura seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously with a roll call vote.
 - ii. Alan noted that the Governance Committee is continuing to recruit board members with the assistance of Education Board Partners, and in upcoming months will be recruiting parent board members.
 - iii. Alan discussed near-future updates to the committee structure, including parent and staff involvement.
 - b. Student Performance
 - i. Laura discussed that the committee hasn't met formally over the summer, but she has been establishing a good partnership with Greg and they have had preliminary discussions about committee goals for the upcoming year.
 - ii. Laura noted that Akeem has been added to the committee.
 - iii. Greg discussed that hiring has been his number one priority, so there are great teachers in each classroom. He also has been working with teachers on coordinating curriculum across classrooms, and working to ensure LAMB is a safe place for kids and staff.
 - c. Facilities Committee
 - i. Brian noted he had sent out an update on the 3rd floor construction. Gilbane has been a good contractor – clear communication and no negative surprises. Last week virtually all

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of the subs were on site. Materials have arrived. HVAC elements won't be in until late August, which holds up the inspection and certificate of occupancy until September.

- d. Finance Committee
 - i. Brian noted that he expects to have preliminary but solid year-end numbers to the committee by the end of August. No surprises are expected. LAMB is well positioned financially.
 - ii. Brian gave examples of some city department slow-downs due to COVID, and how that affects charter schools. Akeem offered to talk with him about the challenges.
 - iii. Brian discussed that we do not yet have tax exempt status on the 14th street property, and he was advised by counsel to pay the assessed taxes and apply for a refund when the exemption comes through.
- e. Development Committee – no report
- f. DEI Committee – no report

4. Executive Director Report

- a. Staff was working over the summer around various vacation schedules – people needed a break. Welcomed new staff today, and returning staff will be in on Wednesday for a full two weeks of preparation and professional development.
- b. Charis has received a number of questions about COVID operations and most of those will be addressed at the family charla on Thursday. They are working hard to make sure all safety guidelines from OSSE and DC health are followed.
- c. The third floor is nearly complete, but won't be done by the time school starts.
- d. LAMB's continuing education plan, related to health and safety, is being reviewed by OSSE and close to approved. Will follow the English version with a Spanish one.
- e. Every elementary class will have a tutor – math and Spanish intervention with students that need it the most.
- f. Excited to have a full before and after care school program this year.
- g. Highlights from the exit surveys were included in the materials, and will be reviewed closely when planning for next year. One concern was about a lack of African American staff representation, and we are working on some plans to recruit more Montessorians of color. We will be talking about the DEI report at the next board meeting.
- h. Staff climate survey showed a slight increase in administrative support.
- i. Will know soon if selected as a pro bono client by Compass to assist in our strategic plan. If we are not selected, we will do the work anyway.
- j. Partnering with EmpowerK12 to help us understand impact of instructional loss.
- k. Can charge electric vehicles on site.
- l. Questions from the board and community included topics such as the family retention survey, aftercare activities, professional development curriculum, and data review by staff.

5. Closing Remarks

- a. Alan took a moment to recognize former board chair Roxana Barillas, who recently resigned from the board. He noted that the school is in a much better place and a lot of that is attributed to Roxana's leadership as the former chair. We will miss her and she leaves deep footprints.

6. Adjournment of Public Session

- a. Alan discussed the topics for the closed session, and thanked community members for joining. A motion was made to adjourn the public session and move into closed session for the reasons

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stated by Alan. The motion was seconded and it was approved unanimously. The public session adjourned at 6:32pm.

7. Closed Session

- a. During closed session the Board voted to approve a resolution authorizing a profit-sharing contribution of 2% for fiscal year end 20201.

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This is a true representation of the August 16, 2021 Meeting of the LAMB Board of Directors.



Jennifer L. Carrier
Secretary, LAMB Board of Directors