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Mary McLeod Bethune Day Academy Public Charter School



MINUTES
Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, February 22, 2022- 6:35 pm

This meeting took place via Zoom due to the Pandemic.

Attendance:

Trustees in attendance

Mrs. Patricia Callis
Mrs. Jimia Williams
Mrs. Pamela Cole
Mr. Delmar Parks
Dr. Linda McKay, Ex-officio

Members Absent

Ms. Azura Mason
Ms. Jasmine Tucker

Staff in Attendance:

Mr. Clifford Owens, Brookland Principal
Ms. Johanna Mamiam, 16th Street Principal
Mrs. Tolisha Hopkins, Assistant Principal
Mrs. Stacii Bryson, Finance Director
Ms. Mary Bunn, Executive Assistant
Mr. Barrington Tolliver, Parent Coordinator

There was no community and public input.

Call to Order

The meeting of the Board of Trustees was held virtually using Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. Dr. McKay welcomed the members and staff and others to the third meeting of the 2021-2022 school year and confirmed that a quorum was present.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved.

Approval of Minutes

The acting Chairperson called for the approval of the minutes of the November 16, 2021 Board of Trustees meeting which was unanimously approved.

Financial Report

Stacii Bryson presented the financial report. The financial report included a copy of the SY 2020-2021 financial audit and a copy of the budget revision that included changes to the revenue and expenses since the November 16, 2021 meeting. The revised budget reflects a slight increase in revenue and a decrease in expenses. To reduce the budget deficit, expenses will continue to be monitored.

Mrs. Bryson said that the preliminary unaudited figures project approximately \$3M cash on hand at the end of the 2021-2022 school year. The funds will be used to cover the deficit, make a down payment on the new building as well as cash on hand for the beginning of the upcoming fiscal year. The budget is subject to amendments and changes based on additional funding/grant requirements. Any sufficient changes will be presented to the board approval.

Following discussion on the financial report, a motion was moved and properly seconded, to approve the budget as amended. The motion carried.

Executive Director's Report

Dr. McKay reported that the Protecting Our Children Emergency Amendment Act of 2021 has established a new COVID-19 asymptomatic testing minimum for schools through April 1, 2022, requiring all public and private schools conduct weekly asymptomatic testing of at least 20 percent of the students attending in-person learning. Dr. McKay said that since November 2021, MMBDA has tested well over 20% of students weekly, using the school nurse office. In addition, all staff, prekindergarten and kindergarten students are required to submit weekly test results at the beginning of each school week. As a result, the numbers of positive cases has been reduced dramatically.

Dr. McKay reported that OSSE has determined that it will not calculate STAR Framework Scores and Ratings for the 2021-2022 school year. The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in the absence of key data components from previous school years and also opens questions about the comparability of data from the current school year.

Dr. McKay informed the members that a complaint was made against MMBDA by a former employee. Although the complaint was submitted by “Anonymous”, a name was given by the complainant. She said that allegations given in the complaint are unsubstantiated and will be responded to by March 3, 2022 to OSSE.

16th Street Campus Relocation

Dr. McKay informed the members that the 5-Year lease renewal signing for the 16th Street campus was not signed due to the many repairs needed to the building and increased by more than 50%. An inspection of the facility in January 2022, paid for by MMBDA, showed potential for greater repairs that would continue to impact the instructional program as well as the budget.

MMBDA has been looking for alternative sites for the 16th Street campus. The 209 Upshur Street location was found. Formerly a charter school building, built in 2008 for a now defunct charter school, the building was housing a child development center but for sale for purchase. She said that the Administration staff visited the site and saw that it will fully contain the 16th Street program. All Board members have the building documents for discussion and approval for the building purchase.

After further discussion on the 16th Street relocation, a motion was moved and properly seconded, to approve the Purchase and Sale Agreement Contract for the 209 Upshur Street building. The motion carried.

Principal's Report

Mr. Clifford Owens, Brookland Campus principal and Ms. Johanna Mamiam, 16th Street principal provided the members with highlights at both campuses.

Committee Development

Mrs. Williams provided the members with an update on the committee structure. Following the discussion, members were requested to send their nominations for Board Chair, Teacher representative, Treasurer and Parent representative to Mrs. Williams.

STEM Innovation Program

Mr. Damon Jones discussed the STEM Innovation Program. He said the purpose of the proposal is to describe the methodology behind the development of two customized, project based, thematic curricula. These curricula are aligned with Common Core standards for the MMBDA Innovation Center; one curriculum for active school hours (10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.) and one curriculum for after time (3:00 pm – 6:30) p.m.

After the presentation, a motion was made to table the STEM Innovation Program at MMBDA until further in-depth discussion about the vision and project. The motion was properly seconded and carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:29 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Mary Bunn