

# NEWMAN LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

## Board Meeting MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 26, 2016

6:30 PM

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| MEETING CALLED BY | Mr. Rikke Van Johnson  |
| TYPE OF MEETING   | Board Meeting  |
| MEETING CHAIR     | Mr. Rikke Van Johnson  |
| NOTE TAKER        | Mrs. Michelle Braswell   |
| ATTENDEES         | Mr. Rikke Van Johnson, Dr. Jean Peacock, Dr. Lori Collins, Dr. Jean Peacock, Mrs. Veronica Amerson   |
| ABSENT            |  |
| GUESTS            | Tom Nichols from CSMC, Mr. Jason Patterson, Principal; Mrs. Michelle Braswell, Business Manager, and Joette Campbell, Administrative Assistant |

- I. The Board meeting was called to order at 6:33p.m. by Mr. Johnson.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag- Lead by Smaj McLaughlin.
- III. Public Comments
  - No public comments
- IV. Approval of Agenda
- V. Approval of previous meeting minutes moved by Mr. Johnson, second by Dr. Collins and Dr. Peacock, and approved by all attendees.
  - Dr. Peacock informed the Board that Dr. Valdez who was on a leave from the Board was resigning. Her obligations and commitment were such that she could not fulfil her obligations.
  - Budget-
- VI. Mr. Nichols discussed the budget and areas to reduce it down. Looking at different line items and found the janitorial and travel categories will be considered for reduction. Mr. Patterson found an error in the employee benefit category which was substantially high, Mr. Nichols stated CSMC made an error in that line item and reduced it to 60K.
  - The question was asked about how much of the reserve money would the District require for the school to have. Mr. Nichols informed the Board that the amount is 5% of your expenses which turned out to be over 60K.  $1,218,953 \times .05 = 60,947.65$ .
  - Mr. Johnson stated in essence we are paying off the debt from the prior school year's budget and Mr. Nichols confirmed that is correct.
  - Mr. Nichol's continued on with the budget and that Mike Razo would like to see budget progression every year. Mr. Patterson said he will continue to communicate with Mike every 2 weeks and inform him of any changes the school will be making.
  - Mr. Johnson stated that the most important fund raiser is recruiting more students.
  - Mr. Nichols let the Board know that Mike was aware that the Board meeting was going to occur and the Board will need to approve the new Unaudited report. It was mentioned in the Adopted

budget that the ADA averaged around 89%. CSMC calculated the ADA at around 92%. Mr. Johnson motion that the budget be approved, Dr. Peacock moved and Dr. Collins second. It was approved.

## VII. Principal's Report

- Mr. Patterson discussed the ADA and how the school is calling all absent students. Mr. Patterson along with the Administrative Assistant agreed to purchase Stater Brother gift cards and other types of gift cards as an incentive to encourage the students to come to school. He also gave a report of the 17 student who disenrolled. Mr. Johnson ask how many students have we gain, Mr. Patterson said 18 during this period but overall around 50 enrollments. Mrs. Amerson ask out of the 17 students, if he knew any to be foster students. Mr. Patterson was not sure but will start having the Administrative Assistant track the foster children. Mrs. Amerson requested that the school start tracking why students are leaving and Mr. Johnson requested that the school track why students are enrolling into the school also.
- Dr. Peacock wants to know what is attracting the students to the school and what types of incentives measures is the school doing? Mr. Patterson said he is working towards rebuilding the school since when going out canvassing in July, he had found that the community had some concerns.
- Mrs. Campbell voiced that people will drive to the school but what is the incentives with the challenge of having difficult students attending the school that must stay due to ADA.
- Mr. Patterson also mentioned people in the community verbalized the school does not provide the services needed for their children. The Board requested that Mr. Patterson survey the community to find specifically what those needs are in order to increase enrollment.
- Mr. Patterson expressed the need for special day programs to come to the school. This comes with additional funding and well-trained staff. Mr. Patterson will come back to the Board with the needs of the community and the Board will decide if they will agree to go in the direction of putting that type of program into the school.
- Some of the things the Board suggested they would like to see happening in the school is getting the student's behavior under control, implementing a Student Body Council, having teachers read in the morning and after lunch to the students, and finding benchmark test online for both English and Math to improve test scores. Dr. Collins mentioned there are several free programs online the teachers can utilize to build assessment scores.
- Mr. Patterson said he will have the teachers implement all of the Board's suggestions for the month of October.

VIII. Board Comments

- The next Board meeting will be held October 24, 2016.

IX. Adjournment

- It was moved by Dr. Peacock and second by Dr. Collins that the meeting be adjourned at 7:46 PM. Approved by all in attendance: Mr. Rikke Van Johnson, Dr. Jean Peacock, Dr. Lori Collins and Mrs. Amerson.