

La Salle Charter Schools, Inc.

Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
December 14, 2016

Board Members Participating in Person: Colette Edson, Demetrius Grooms, Constance Gully, James Hill, Jackie Jones, Kim Perry, Susan Turner, and Shirleas Washington

Board Members Participating Telephonically: N/A

Board Member Absent: N/A

Other Participants: Phil Pusateri and Amanda Henry (*La Salle Charter Schools, Inc.*), Melissa Brickey and Annie Oliverio (*De La Salle, Inc.*), and Shannon Spradling (*Accounting Consultant*)

I. Call to Order

Mr. Grooms acted as chair (the "Chair") of the meeting. Notice of the meeting having duly been given and a quorum being present, the Chair convened the meeting of the Board of Directors (the "Board") of La Salle Charter Schools, Inc. ("La Salle") at approximately 4:40 p.m. Central Time at 1106 North Jefferson Avenue, Saint Louis, Missouri, 63106.

II. Mission Moment

Ms. Brickey shared a mission moment with the group about a graduate of the school who had lost touch. She drove by and noticed the sign, and hadn't known that the school had moved. She said she was not sure if she should come in, as she had struggled during her time at La Salle with behavior. She decided to come in, and share with Ms. Brickey how no matter how she acted during her time at the school, the staff and faculty always took the time to listen to her and show her kindness. Ms. Brickey said this is yet another example of the impact that our mission has had in building relationships with each one of our students during their time at (De) La Salle.

III. General Board Business

The floor was opened for the open comments portion of the meeting, which takes place in the first fifteen minutes of each Board meeting. No questions were asked, nor were any comments made, during this period.

Proposed minutes from the open meeting of the Board held on October 26, 2016 were presented for approval. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board approved these minutes, as presented.

Proposed minutes from the open meeting of the Board held on November 16, 2016 were presented for approval. It was suggested that the minutes be revised to include the addition of Student Achievement to the Executive Director annual plan. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board approved these minutes, as revised.

IV. Executive Director Report

Ms. Brickey shared that De La Salle, Inc. will be engaging with Collaborative Strategies for strategic planning, and said that each Board member would be receiving an email with a survey to help plan for strategic planning. She requested that each member take the survey to help get the process going.

Ms. Brickey presented the Board a capital campaign update. She noted that \$4.8 million has been raised to date and there is still \$1.7 million that needs to be raised to complete the construction portion of the project.

Ms. Brickey reminded the Board of the upcoming Gala in the spring and reminded them of the sponsorship opportunities for the event.

V. Financial Update

Dr. Pusateri presented the check register, bank statement and financial statements of La Salle for October and November 2016. Following a discussion and upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board approved these documents, as presented.

Annie Oliverio gave an update on the annual audit progress, and told the Board that she would be scheduling a conference call for late December when the draft was available for approval by the December 31, 2016 deadline.

VI. School Update

Dr. Pusateri shared the NWEA data of average years of growth by subject between Fall 2015 and Fall 2016. The data shared is: 1.2 years growth in Reading, 1 year in math, 1.1 years in science, and 1.3 years in Language Arts.

Dr. Pusateri also shared predicted 2017 MAP performance, sharing 2016 scores alongside 2017 predicted results. A question was asked about the science predicted data, and a request was made to dig into that data for accuracy, as the predicted increase was quite high. Dr. Pusateri said he would check into it and report back to the Board.

A discussion was had about a need for some Board training on the MAP test and corresponding data, and that such training would be beneficial to Board members who are not experts in the area, and also inviting the De La Salle, Inc. board for the training, as it would be beneficial to them as well.

VII. Academic Excellence Committee Update

Mr. Hill gave an update on the power hour groups he visited when he was at the school earlier in the week. He noted that he was impressed that all staff members – from both La Salle Middle School and De La Salle, Inc. – were fully participating.

Dr. Pusateri shared that five parents met with staff recently and discussed behavior concerns, and discussed how parents can be more involved in the process of addressing those concerns, including putting systems in place to track parent communications. Dr. Pusateri also noted that the school was taking steps to make more frequent contact with parents regarding positive news, as well.

“A question was posed about the root causes of the behavior issues: Did many behavior issues stem from diagnosed behavioral disabilities? Are many of the behavior issues simply due to typical middle schoolers acting out? It was noted that the counselors would be adding sensory elements that can help students focus better in class, and also partnerships are being made with Springboard to use movement based activities relating to science and math learning.

VIII. Closed Session

A motion was made and seconded for the Board to go into closed session at approximately 5:15 p.m., as authorized by RSMo. Section 610.021.3, and a roll call vote of the members of the Board was taken. Upon the affirmative vote of Ms. Edson, Mr. Grooms, Ms. Gully, Mr. Hill, Ms. Jones, Ms. Perry, Ms. Turner and Ms. Washington – with no votes in opposition – a closed session of the Board began.

Minutes of the closed session of the Board are maintained in a separate document.

IX. Adjournment

After coming out of closed session, the Board decided to hold a special meeting of the Board on January 4, 2017 at 4:30 p.m to continuing discussing matters raised during the closed session.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:45 p.m.



Demetrius T. Grooms, Chair



Jacquelyn A. Jones, Secretary