

La Salle Charter Schools, Inc.

Board of Directors  
Meeting Minutes  
January 25, 2017

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

Board Members Participating Telephonically: Constance Gully

Board Member Absent: Kim Perry

Other Participants: Phil Pusateri, Amanda Henry, Emily Hauge, Amber Cline, and Sherida Williams (*La Salle Charter Schools, Inc.*), Melissa Brickey, Christine Holladay, and Annie Oliverio (*De La Salle, Inc.*), Shannon Spradling (*Accounting Consultant*), Gerry Kettenbach (*University of Missouri-Columbia*), Sterling Brown (telephonically) and Tricia Harrison (*De La Salle, Inc. Board*), Mindy Mahn and Ellen Moreci (*Board Prospects*)

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**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 4:35 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 La Salle, De'Jon, who is a freshman at St. John Vianney High School. He was recently was awarded the Order of the Griffin, the highest award that a freshman can receive. De'Jon earned the award by demonstrating what it means to be a student in a Marianist school, specifically, embodying the Vianney spirit and serve as living testimony to and reflecting the Characteristics of a Marianist Education. At La Salle, staff strives to drive strong values in its students, that will serve them well in high school and beyond, and this award for De'Jon is a testament to those values.

**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 meeting of the Board held on December 14, 2016 were presented for approval. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board approved these minutes, as presented.

Proposed minutes from the meeting of the Board held on January 4, 2017 were presented for approval. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board approved these minutes, as presented.

#### **IV. Financial Update**

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

The Letter to the Board of Directors and Internal Control Report from the financial audit firm, KEB, was shared with the Board. It was requested that plans for the next fiscal audit be added to the agenda of the March meeting.

#### **V. School Update**

Ms. Henry presented a mid-year assessment update. She shared STAR Reading data, comparing fall data to winter data to show growth made in all grades. She also shared interventions based on STAR Reading data including: daily small group instructions on lagging skills, introduction of Moby Max, urgent intervention pull-out group during Blended Learning with Reading Coordinator, emphasis on non-fiction texts through student independent reading program, and the Reading Buddy program for urgent intervention. Ms. Henry also gave an NWEA goals update.

Ms. Henry shared a school climate update. She shared the recent reboot's impact on principal effectiveness. Since the reboot, Ms. Henry's time has been spent in the following ways: 14 observation cycles with teachers, ten debrief conversations with teachers, three coaching meetings with Ms. Hauge for curriculum alignment and interim assessment, dozens of hours studying data, data talks with students, ten special education meetings to ensure compliance, planning and scheduling special education program, setting up and implementing NWEA testing sessions, planning intervention materials for three intervention bubble groups, planning focused PLCs around unit planning and interim assessments, and planning meetings for Springboard.

Ms. Henry shared three partnerships ongoing at La Salle: the Readers 2 Leaders Program with SLU and St. Gabriel School, Mindful Movement with the Oxygen Project, and Springboard to Learning.

A discussion ensued about a plan for MAP testing, and Board noted that it should be deliberate and intentional.

#### **VI. Executive Director Report**

Ms. Brickey shared De La Salle and La Salle's two Wildly Important Goals, as determined by the staff Leadership Team: Raising Student Achievement and Raising Money. She shared the year to date fundraising results for De La Salle and the upward trend in those results.

Ms. Brickey reminded the Board of the current student enrollment number of 100. She shared that before the budgeting process began for 2017-18, that a conversation was needed to determine the

desired enrollment number for next year. It was determined that a couple of different budgets would be prepared for enrollment of 110 and 120, and the Board would discuss. A question was asked about the open date for the lottery, it is February 8. It was determined to open the lottery for 122 students (18 fifth graders, 36 sixth graders, 36 seventh graders, and 32 eighth graders) on February 8.

A question was asked to the Board: How must the Board operate in order to provide leadership as we are moving into the future. Mr. Grooms talked about aligning the La Salle and the De La Salle boards and plan for a joint committee for mission between the two boards.

#### **VII. Closed Session**

A motion was made and seconded for the Board to go into closed session at approximately 5:51 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, Mr. Hill, Ms. Jones, 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.

#### **VIII. Adjournment**

The Chair announced that the next meeting will be on February 22, 2017. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:00 p.m.



Demetrius T. Grooms, Chair



Jacquelyn A. Jones, Secretary