



**Board Meeting Minutes
June 4, 2020**

A meeting of the Board of Directors for KIPP Chicago Schools (collectively, the “Board” or “Directors,” and individually each a “Director”) was held via conference call on Thursday, June 4, 2020. Board members present and participating in the meeting were Zaid Alsikafi, Suzanne Campion, Bernetta Cannon, Benjamin Chereskin, April Goble, and Craig Huffman.

Also present for all or portions of the meeting by invitation of the Board were: Domonique Battle (A Better Chicago), Shanan Egger (Accountant), Peter Gooden (Director of KIPP Through College), Jennifer Hodges (Director of Whole Child Fund), Amy Poubia (Superintendent), Milton Rodriguez (VP of Development), and Michael Salmonowicz (Chief Operating Officer).

The meeting of the Board was open to the public; no members of the public attended.

The meeting commenced at 9:32am. Mr. Chereskin stated that the meeting had been called for the purposes stated in the notice of meeting previously given to each Director and confirmed that all members could hear and be heard. Mr. Chereskin also noted that a quorum was present at the meeting for purposes of conducting business of the School, under the adjustment to the Open Meetings Act (due to the COVID-19 situation) that waives the requirement for a physical quorum.

Review of Minutes

Mr. Chereskin directed the Board to the previously circulated minutes for the March 11, 2020 and April 5, 2020 meetings. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

KIPP Chicago Update

Ms. Goble spoke about the impact of COVID and recent events on neighborhoods, families, and staff members.

Ms. Hodges spoke about partnerships KIPP Chicago has formed with local food organizations to help families. She also discussed the availability of virtual wellness workshops for teachers, including grief workshops for those recently impacted by loss.

Mr. Gooden provided an update on KIPP Through College: high school placement numbers for current 8th graders, COVID-related challenges that high school seniors and college students are facing, and the support that the KTC Team is providing in response to those challenges.

Board members asked questions about what additional support they could provide to help students during their fall transition to college.

Ms. Pouba provided an overview of the structure and outcomes of KIPP Chicago’s remote learning program that has been in effect over the past 12 weeks – including device and hotspot distribution, weekly student contact, and weekly student engagement in coursework – as well as summer academic support.

Ms. Pouba presented potential scenarios for what a return to school in the fall might look like.

Mr. Salmonowicz presented on the difference between ratings given to schools via the Illinois Report Card and CPS’s School Quality Rating Policy, and requested approval for the CIWP document submission to the state. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve.

Mr. Rodriguez provided a development update.

Mr. Salmonowicz explained that discussions were underway about how the pre-k partnership with the Carole Robertson Center for Learning will look given the COVID crisis.

Finance Update

Mr. Egger reviewed recent Payroll Protection Program (PPP) updates.

Mr. Salmonowicz provided an update on FY20 and FY21 funding.

Mr. Salmonowicz presented two spending plans for FY21, one assuming no funding cut and one assuming a 5% funding cut due to the COVID crisis (which would result in a \$1.8MM deficit in FY21). Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve both spending plans, thus providing the organization flexibility to act quickly if funding cuts were announced over the summer.

Mr. Salmonowicz and Board members also discussed the possibility of a 10% funding cut due to the COVID crisis (which would result in a \$3.6MM deficit in FY21).

Mr. Egger presented Q3 financials.

Governance

Mr. Chereskin presented a motion to renew the two-year terms of Ms. Champion, Ms. Cannon, Ms. Goble, and Mr. Huffman. Upon motions duly made and seconded (with each of the four Directors recusing herself/himself when her/his own term was being voted on), the Board voted unanimously to approve the term renewals.

Ms. Goble presented a motion to renew the two-year term of Mr. Chereskin. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the term renewal.

New Business/Closing

The meeting moved to closed session at 11:11am. Closed session ended at 11:28am.

Mr. Chereskin offered words of gratitude to the KIPP Chicago team for their work in pushing a bar of excellence even during a time of crisis.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30am.

The next meeting will take place in the fall, exact date and location TBD.

Michael Salmonowicz
Michael Salmonowicz, Secretary