

## Board Meeting Minutes October 31, 2024

A meeting of the Board of Directors for KIPP Chicago Schools (collectively, the “Board” or “Directors,” and individually each a “Director”) was held at 2007 S. Halsted, Chicago, IL on Thursday, October 31, 2024. Board members present and participating in the meeting were Zaid Alsikafi, Maria Anderson, Bernetta Cannon, and Paris Clark.

Also present for the meeting by invitation of the Board were: Rashid Bell (Senior Head of Schools), Shanan Egger (Accountant), Peter Gooden (VP for Equity & Inclusion), Jennifer Hodges (VP of Whole Child Initiative & Community Impact), April Montgomery Goble (Executive Director), Amy Pouba (Superintendent), and Michael Salmonowicz (VP of Finance & Operations). Ben Chereskin joined via phone.

The meeting commenced at 10:08am CT. Ms. Montgomery Goble 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. Ms. Montgomery Goble also noted that a quorum was present at the meeting for purposes of conducting business of the School, that the meeting of the Board was advertised to the public both online and at school sites in accordance with OMA regulations, and that no members of the public were in attendance.

Ms. Cannon made a motion for approval of the June 20, 2024 minutes. Ms. Anderson seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously (4-0) to approve, with Mr. Alsikafi, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Cannon, and Ms. Clark all voting to approve.

### **KIPP Chicago Update**

A bright spot was discussed: numerous KIPP Chicago staff members being the recipients of awards from the national KIPP network.

Ms. Montgomery Goble reviewed the agenda.

Ms. Pouba & Mr. Bell provided an overview of 23-24 academic results, including ISBE summative designations and index scores, IAR growth percentiles in ELA & Math for all students and students with disabilities, and IAR proficiency in ELA & Math.

Mr. Alsikafi asked about the percentage of schools across the state receiving different levels of summative designations. Ms. Cannon asked how index scores relate to the summative designations to school rating. Mr. Salmonowicz and Ms. Pouba replied with a breakdown of statewide index scores and summative designations.

Ms. Pouba noted that KIPP Chicago is in the midst of a long-term academic plan, which includes new components – such as iReady for Math intervention and Fishtank across all grades – that will help meet students’ needs.

Mr. Bell reminded Board members that iReady is taken 3 times per year as a way to set beginning-of-year benchmarks and monitor progress throughout the year.

Ms. Anderson asked about Fishtank. Mr. Bell explained that it is KIPP Chicago's ELA curriculum, and stressed the importance of aligned implementation across schools.

Mr. Alsikafi asked how the Board would know the alignment is successful. Mr. Bell replied that data points throughout the year will give us indications (e.g., mid-year assessments).

Mr. Bell discussed the current focus on content-specific coaching. Ms. Cannon asked a number of questions, and Mr. Bell replied with details about this type of coaching.

Mr. Salmonowicz reviewed enrollment numbers for the 24-25 school year, including the increase in students in KIPP Chicago's Multilingual program (i.e., English Learner program) at all schools.

Ms. Cannon asked about structure and staffing of the Multilingual program. Ms. Pouba replied that the program involves push-in and pull-out components, and various staffing configurations across schools and grade levels based on student need.

Mr. Salmonowicz reviewed chronic absenteeism (CA) and average daily attendance (ADA) numbers for the 24-25 school year, and highlighted significant year-over-year improvement in both areas.

Mr. Gooden provided an overview of the KIPP Forward program, which supports students for the 10 years after they complete 8th grade with KIPP Chicago. This included high school graduation rates, college enrollment data, and new partnerships with the federal TRIO Student Support Services program at numerous colleges/universities.

### **Finance Update**

Mr. Egger presented the FY24 audit. Mr. Alsikafi made a motion for approval of the audit. Ms. Cannon seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously (4-0) to approve, with Mr. Alsikafi, Ms. Anderson, Ms. Cannon, and Ms. Clark all voting to approve.

Mr. Salmonowicz provided an overview of KIPP Chicago's cash reserves (i.e., cash-on-hand), as well as an FY25 budget/funding update.

### **Public Comment**

The floor was opened for public comments, but there were no comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00pm.

The next meeting will be held on December 17, 2024, at the KIPP Chicago regional office.

*Michael Salmonowicz*  
Michael Salmonowicz, Secretary