



Board Meeting Minutes
March 31, 2023

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 Friday, March 31, 2023. Board members present and participating in the meeting were Bernetta Cannon, Benjamin Chereskin, Paris Clark, Craig Huffman, and April Montgomery Goble.

Also present for the meeting by invitation of the Board were: Peter Gooden (VP for Equity & Inclusion), Jennifer Hodges (VP of Whole Child Fund & Community Impact), Amy Pouba (Superintendent), Milton Rodriguez (Senior VP of Growth Strategy & Development), Michael Salmonowicz (VP of Operations), and Mariah Schroeder (VP of Impact & Innovation). Shanan Egger (Accountant) joined via phone.

The meeting commenced at 12:16pm CT. 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.

Mr. Salmonowicz noted that the meeting of the Board was advertised to the public both online and at school sites in accordance with OMA regulations. No members of the public attended.

Mr. Chereskin made a motion for approval of the September 21, 2022 and October 31, 2022 minutes. Ms. Clark seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously (5-0) to approve, with Ms. Cannon, Ms. Clark, Mr. Chereskin, Mr. Huffman, and Ms. Montgomery Goble all voting to approve.

Mr. Salmonowicz provided a “bright spot” update: One of KIPP Chicago’s students was recognized with an Outstanding 8th Grader of the Year award by the Illinois Network of Charter Schools. Only two students in the State of Illinois received this award.

KIPP Chicago Update

Ms. Montgomery Goble spoke to the consistency of KIPP Chicago’s leaders and Board from the pre-COVID period through the current school year.

Ms. Montgomery Goble provided an update on leveraging the larger KIPP Network to accelerate student learning in the post-COVID context.

Ms. Schroeder and Ms. Montgomery Goble previewed the upcoming ASU+GSV Summit. A number of KIPP Chicago staff members and alumni will attend, and a Children’s Museum of Art and Social Justice installation will be on display. Ms. Schroeder noted that staff members will have access to educational technology companies, and would have the chance to provide direct feedback that influences the design of products with our students in mind.

Ms. Pouba provided an update on academics, detailing progress in a continuing early literacy initiative, previewing a K-8 mathematics initiative, and reminding everyone that while the NWEA MAP assessment will continue to be used as an annual indicator of growth, the emphasis is now on the Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR).

Ms. Pouba explained that teacher retention rates remain strong, with consistency across the pre-COVID, COVID, and post-COVID contexts.

Mr. Chereskin asked about the expected timeline for students in various grade levels, or who have been with KIPP Chicago for various lengths of time, to experience a full academic recovery in the post-COVID context. Discussion ensued, and data will be gathered in an attempt to answer this question in the future.

Mr. Salmonowicz provided a student enrollment update for the 23-24 school year.

Mr. Rodriguez provided a development update, and previewed KIPP Chicago's 20th anniversary celebration that will be taking place in the fall.

Ms. Hodges provided a Whole Child Initiative update, highlighting KIPP Academy's school-based food pantry (which serves 100 families per month), and the 3rd cohort (which includes 20 new participants) of the Penn Foster high school diploma program.

Mr. Salmonowicz noted that KIPP Chicago is working with a national organization specializing in school emergency services support to ensure all facilities remain safe & secure, and have updated emergency protocols in place.

Finance Update

Mr. Egger reviewed Q2 financials.

Mr. Egger reviewed the 2021 Form 990, which had been approved by the Finance Committee during its March call. Upon motion duly made by Mr. Chereskin and seconded by Mr. Huffman, the Board voted 5-0 to approve the 2021 Form 990, with Ms. Cannon, Ms. Clark, Mr. Chereskin, Mr. Huffman, and Ms. Montgomery Goble all voting to approve.

Governance

Mr. Salmonowicz provided an update re: Board member training.

Public Comment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 2:09pm.

The next meeting will be held on June 22, 2023 at the KIPP Chicago regional office.

Michael Salmonowicz
Michael Salmonowicz, Secretary