



## ReNEW Board Meeting - April 8, 2021 - Meeting Minutes

### I. Opening Items

Stephen Rosenthal called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM.

**Board members present:** S. Rosenthal, CJ El-Dahr, K. Edmundson, B. Weimer, K. Conklin, M. Landry, N. Hardie, M. Clem

**Board members not present:** R. Kennedy, Greta Brustie

**Guests present:** Scott Satchfield, Tanya Bryant, Kael Saloy, Ava Rose, Tammy Robicheaux, Lisa Giarratano, Abby Farho

### II. Approve Minutes

B. Weimer moved to approve 2/25/2021 meeting minutes. K. Edmundson seconded. Members voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

### III. OPSB Charter Signature Authority - Board Resolution

T. Bryant stated this resolution would allow the board president to sign charter renewals.

K. Edmundson moved to approve the resolution. CJ El-Dahr seconded. Members voted unanimously to approve the resolution.

### IV. SciTech Name Change - Board Resolution

T. Bryant stated that ReNEW leadership has been working on this plan for some time. Bryant explained that the name change would bring back the school's traditional name, Laurel Elementary. Bryant shared that this move would be exciting for the students and school personnel. She also stated that this change, if approved, would be implemented for the 2022-2023 school year. Following an approval by the ReNEW Board of Directors, the proposed name change would have to be approved by NOLA Public Schools.

B. Weimer moved to approve the resolution. K. Conklin seconded. Members voted unanimously to approve the resolution.

### V. Grants and Contracts - Board Resolution

T. Bryant stated that this is a yearly resolution to allow herself, Stephen Rosenthal or Tammy Robicheaux to sign grants and contracts.

B. Weimer moved to approve the resolution. K. Conklin seconded. Members voted unanimously to approve the resolution.

### VI. Academic Committee Report

L. Giarratano shared results from the most recent round of Benchmark tests. She stated that these tests were not given in 2020 due to the COVID-19 shutdown. Giarratano

stated the network is seeing exciting growth compared to the 2018-2019 school year. Some factors, she said, can be attributed to consistency in school leadership and the overall network curriculum.

#### **VII. Finance Committee Report**

CJ El-Dahr stated that the network is seeing strong momentum with finances. He stated the projected budget deficit is \$1.4 million. El-Dahr stated that the third round of CARES Act funding will provide \$10 million for the network. Bryant explained that this additional funding will make a significant impact regarding staffing, thus helping students over the next few years.

#### **VIII. CEO Report**

T. Bryant stated that the LEAP testing window has changed this year, with testing stretching out over the course of a month. Bryant explained that the state is requiring students to take the tests in-person.

L. Giarratano stated that ReNEW will operate a robust summer program in 2021, and that the network may see more than 500 students participating.

T. Bryant stated that network leadership has been working on strategic planning for next school year. She explained the network is working with TNTP on this. Bryant shared that the organization wants to ensure it is driven by data moving forward.

Giarratano said the network identified several priorities: building out a comprehensive vision for using data, how the network responds to data, focusing on fluency and remediation with math, and making sure all students are receiving accommodations, modifications and scaffolds needed.

#### **V. Motion to Adjourn**

With no further business to discuss, K. Edmundson moved to adjourn. B. Weimer seconded. Members voted unanimously to adjourn at 5:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted, S. Satchfield.