

Shreveport Charter Schools, Inc.
Linwood Public Charter School
401 W. 70th Street · Shreveport, Louisiana 71106

Board of Trustees Meeting

AUGUST MEETING MINUTES

This meeting was held in person at Linwood Charter School Auditorium and via Zoom (Meeting ID: 267 635 4207) on **August 16, 2021, at 4:00 PM.**

Board Members Present: Gard Wayt, Lauren Marchive, Travis Morehart, Cynthia Franklin, Dr. Pastor Bernard Kimble, Lori Graham (zoom), Sheryl Nix (zoom), Kerry Laster (zoom), Mildred Toliver

Leadership Team/ Staff Present: Dr. Jennings, Kevin Cox, Wanda Austin-Lewis, Starla Ross, Tara Sealy, Jennifer Myles, Marilyn Johnson, Shirley Pierson, Letisha Williams, Cheradee Williams, Aaryenne Strickland

Call to Order: 4:31 pm by Mr. Gard Wayt.

Quorum Check: A quorum was present.

Approval of Agenda:

- Mr. Morehart: Moved to approve the agenda for August 16, 2021.
- Mr. Marchive: Seconded the motion to approve the agenda.
- All voted in favor.

Conflict of Interest Advisements: There were none.

Visitor Comments: No Visitor comments.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting:

- Dr. Kimble: Moved to approve the July minutes as distributed.
- Mr. Morehart: Seconded the motion to approve the minutes as distributed.
- All voted in favor.

Approval of the Public Hearing:

- Mr. Morehart: Moved to approve the minutes from the public hearing that was held on July 31, 2021.
- Dr. Kimble: Seconded to approve the minutes from the public hearing.
- All voted in favor.

Financial Report:

- Mr. Kevin Cox asked for the board's decision on the proposed operating budget for the fiscal year 2021-2022 that was presented at during the board retreat on July 31, 2021. See [link](#) for details.

Adopting the operating budget:

- Mr. Morehart: Moved to approve the 2021-22 operating budget as presented during the board retreat.
- Ms. Tolliver: Seconded to approve the 2021-22 operating budget.
- All voted in favor.

Audit:

- Mr. Morehart: Moved to authorize the board chairman to sign the audit engagement letters for 6-30-21.
- Ms. Toliver: Seconded the motion to authorize the board chairman to sign the engagement letters.
- All voted in favor.

Executive Director's Report:

- Dr. Jennings gave the Executive Director's report. A consent agenda was sent out and reviewed by the board prior to the meeting. The floor was opened for questions.

Reopening of School

Dr. Jennings mentioned that students returned to school for diagnostic assessments for two weeks. Assessments were conducted the first half of the day. The week prior, teachers returned to school.

Professional Development

Teachers continued to have professional development during the second half of the day after student assessments. Dr. Jennings shared with the board a video highlighting the teacher's Professional Development week.

Consent Agenda

Items include Academics, Operations, Enrollment and Human Resources

- Mr. Morehart: Moved to approve the items on the consent agenda as submitted.
- Dr. Kimble: Seconded to approve the items on the consent agenda.
- All voted in favor.

Q & A and Comments from BOT members:

Marchive: What is the status on year-round school?

Jennings: Shared that the school conducted a second survey with parents about year-round school and over fifty percent of parents responded "not interested" in year-round school this year. He also mentioned that he proposed extended school days to the teachers and staff, and they overwhelmingly opposed it. However, the school will be going to an extended day model next school year.

Marchive: Mentioned that according to the parent survey, parents are interested in learning more about year-round school.

Jennings: Confirmed that this is the case and more discussions about year-round school planning should be conducted during the academic committee meetings.

Board Chairman's Report:

- Mr. Wayt provided the Board Chairman's Report.

Retreat Summary

Mr. Wayt shared that he had a follow-up meeting with Kevin Gutierrez of LA Association of Public Charter Schools about best practices, board evaluations, executive director evaluations, and other topics around board development. Mr. Wayt will present a retreat summary at the next board meeting.

Bylaws, Board Committees, and Community Advisory Council

Mr. Wayt mentioned that the revised bylaws will be presented at the next board meeting, along with updates on the board committees, and community advisory council.

Linwood Differentiation

Mr. Wayt would like the board to focus on ways the school can distinguish itself from other public schools. Some things the school is already doing is branding by Hemingway West and offering school electives. This will be an ongoing discussion.

Louisiana Tech Partnership

Mr. Wayt informed the group that Dr. Jennings will be visited with Louisiana Tech reps in mid to late-September.

Expansion Plans

Mr. Wayt shared with the board that Dr. Jennings and he have been looking at additional facilities. There is a possibility of using the ESSER money and other ways to acquire those facilities.

Unfinished Business: Mr. Morehart asked about the incentive pay plan. Dr. Jennings said that he will have more information about the incentive plan in September or October.

New Business: None

Executive Session:

- Ms. Toliver: Moved to enter executive session at 4:58 pm to discuss a legal and personnel matter.
- Mr. Marchive: Seconded to enter executive session to discuss a legal and personnel matter.
- All voted in favor.

The executive session was brief and ended at 5:05 pm.

Adjourn: Mr. Morehart moved to adjourn the meeting. All seconded and voted in favor to adjourn the meeting at 5:06 pm. All voted in favor.

Please mark your calendars.

Consensus- The next meeting will be on **Monday, September 20, 2021**, at **4 PM** in person.