
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF KIPP LA SCHOOLS

DRAFT MINUTES

September 18, 2014 - 3 PM
At KIPP LA's School Success Team
3601 E First Street
Los Angeles, CA 90063

Board members present:, Z. Guevara, D. Somberg,, L. Bendele, M. Castellani, R. Bishop, EJ Kavounas, J. Cilic, A. Narcisse, G. McGinity, F. Reddick, J. Rogers, M. Shourie (arrived at 3:30 pm after consent agenda)

KIPP LA team present: M. Aaron, S. Hughes, A. Martinez, J. Dobic, M. Sturges, B. Sanchez, N. Parasnis

Guests: J. Harris, A. Villareal
By Webex: M. Wright, M. Peskay, K El- Amin (left at 3:30 PM), M. Vega (left at 3:30 PM)

I. Welcome and Call to Order

L Bendele called a meeting of the Board of Directors of KIPP LA Schools to order on Thursday, September 18, 2014 at 3:04 PM. Quorum was reached.

II. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Follow Up from Prior Board Meeting

N Parasnis, School Leader of KIPP Empower Academy gave a follow up from the June 26, 2014 Board Meeting. She acknowledged the parent's concerns and expressed gratitude to the Board and parents for their proactive involvement. N Parasnis addressed several concerns that were brought up by parents at the June Board meeting. First, N Parasnis gave an overview of the pick-up and drop-off process at KIPP Empower Academy. The campus is located on a busy street, which has made the process difficult, however N Parasnis stated that they now have a crossing guard and are working to minimize wait time for parents in the valet line. Second, N Parasnis addressed parent concerns over a lack of teachers. She explained that they have restored the original structure of the 1st grade class by adding two extra intervention teachers and added intervention teachers in grades 2 - 4 as well. Third, N Parasnis discussed Spanish and other electives at KIPP Empower Academy. She stated that every grade now has P.E., art is offered in 2 - 4 grade and Spanish in K - 1. She also stated they are exploring ways to add Spanish to other grade levels. Fourth, N Parasnis addressed the addition of KIPP Academy of Opportunity's 5th grade being housed at KIPP Empower Academy this school year. She stated that they are working closely with parents and school administration to make sure this addition runs smoothly. This includes making sure that they have separate space for lunch and recess. Fifth, N Parasnis discussed the concern over security at the KIPP Empower Academy campus. N Parasnis stated that they have a security guard onsite from 7 AM - 4 PM and another guard before and after school hours to insure safety during drop off and pick up as well as during after school programs. Sixth, N Parasnis addressed the concern over trash on the city blocks near the KIPP Empower Academy campus. N Parasnis stated that she is working closely with the city on trash removal, they have had a barn-raising with staff and parent volunteers to clean and beautify the campus and is asking parents advocate by contacting the city regarding trash in the neighborhood. N Parasnis concluded by saying she saw the underlying issue as a lack of communication between administration and families and feels that going forward communication is improving and will continue to emphasize communication through parent handbooks, having parents sign a commitment to excellence, sending out a weekly newsletter to families and holding monthly coffee talks as a chance for parents to meet with the school's leadership team.

IV. Consent Agenda (VOTE)

G McGinity motioned to approve all items on the Consent Agenda. M Castellani seconded the motion. The board unanimously approved the motion.

Yay - (11) F Reddick, Z Guevara, L. Bendele, M Castellani, R Bishop, EJ Kavounas, J Rogers, A Narcisse, J Cilic

D Somberg, G McGinity,
Nay - (0)

V. Governance

L Bendele nominated Jane Harris as a KIPP LA Board member. Z Guevara seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion

Yay - (12) F Reddick, Z Guevara, L Bendele, M Castellani, R Bishop, EJ Kavounas, J Rogers, A Narcisse, J Cilic

D Somberg, G McGinity, M Shourie

Nay - (0)

L Bendele introduced the KIPP LA Commitment to Excellence to the Board and requested that all Board members sign the commitment.

F Reddick gave an overview of the Brown Act as it relates to Board of Directors meetings.

VI. KIPP LA Update

M Aaron gave an update on KIPP LA Schools, information included:

2014 financial results, 2014 academic achievement, preliminary enrollment and attrition figures and teacher recruitment.

Discussion ensued.

M Aaron led a discussion on engagement at KIPP LA Schools as we move toward 20 schools by 2020. Discussion ensued.

VII. Closed

L Bendele led a closed session.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:17 PM.