



Legends Public Charter Schools

Board Members: Charlette EB Strickland [Interim Chair], LaTasha Baxter, Kalif Gallego, Adia Jordan, John King, Dr. Alexis Kirkland-Miller, Terrelina (Shellie) Sims

Legends School CEO: Atasha James

Legends School Director of Social Emotional Learning and Academic Development: Makiese Devose

MINUTES for January 25, 2023

5:30pm

1. Call to Order/ Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 5:39p, by Legends Interim Board Chair, Charlette Strickland and she welcomed all participants to the meeting.

Legends Interim Board Chair Strickland conducted a roll call to identify the Board Members in attendance (Charlette EB Strickland, LaTasha Baxter, Kalif Gallego, Adia Jordan, John King, Alexis Kirkland-Miller, and Terrelina (Shellie) Sims).

2. Adoption of Agenda

Legends Interim Board Chair Strickland asked for a motion to accept the agenda, as presented or if there were any modifications, edits or changes to be made. **The motion was moved by Legends Board Member Jordan and 2nd by Legends Board Member Kirkland-Miller.** All Board members were in favor – with no oppositions and the agenda was so adopted.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes, from previous meeting

Legends Interim Board Chair Strickland asked for a motion to accept the meeting minutes, as presented from our previous Board Meeting or if there were any modifications, edits or changes to be made. **The motion was moved by Legends Board Member Kirkland-Miller and 2nd by Legends Board Member Jordan.** All Board members were in favor – with no oppositions and the agenda was so adopted.

4. Report of Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Academic Briefing

- Legends CEO James shared the *Legends School Accountability Plan*, highlighting the 9 goals that all Legends staff and the Legends Board will govern themselves by:

Goal 1: Students will be proficient in English/Language Arts

Goal 2: Students will be proficient in Mathematics

Goal 3: Students will be proficient in Science

Goal 4: Legends Charter School will meet Annual Measure of Interim Progress

Goal 5: Legends Scholars will have investment accounts

Goal 6: Students and Parents will be satisfied with Legends Charter School

Goal 7: Legends Charter School will be fully enrolled, with high levels of attendance and re-enrollment

Goal 8: Legends Charter School will demonstrate financial responsibility

Goal 9: The Board of Directors will provide effective and sound oversight of the school

Budget Updates

- For the 2022-2023 school year, Legends has received \$13,149 per pupil allotment and are currently at 91 days of cash on hand; far exceeding the required 45 days of cash on

hand.

Enrollment and Lottery Updates

- Legends CEO James explained details of the school enrollment statistics and details of the current PGCPs SY 2023-2024 Charter School Lottery, which is open until February 10, 2023 and where the demand for requested seats far exceeds the available seats within each grade level. Next school year, Legends will welcome 8th graders to campus, and with the inclusion of 8th graders, Legends will be able to execute the official mission of their plans; to have a lower school (grades Kindergarten through 4th grades) and an upper school (grades 5-8).
- Legends CEO James acknowledged some highlights from preliminary lottery data, that roughly equates to 758 lottery applicants for 139 available seats (final numbers subject to change, pending final lottery submissions):
 - Kindergarten: 100 seats available, 159 lottery applicants
 - 1st grade: 2 seats available, 80 lottery applicants
 - 2nd grade: 6 seats available, 75 lottery applicants
 - 3rd grade: 6 seats available, 109 lottery applicants
 - 4th grade: 6 seats available, 90 lottery applicants
 - 5th grade: 2 seats available, 51 lottery applicants
 - 6th grade: 9 seats available, 124 lottery applicants
 - 7th grade: 4 seats available, 46 lottery applicants
 - 8th grade: 4 seats available, 24 lottery applicants

Academic Health

- Legends is currently administering Middle of Year (MOY) assessments to the scholars; and acknowledged that with state standardized scores, math scores were lower than ELA nationwide; however, Legends performed better than PGCPs and was on par with the entire state of Maryland.
- Mid-Year ELA iReady scores saw a 18% increase in scholars reading on grade level for a total of 45% of scholars reading on their grade level. These advancements can be attributed to external resources and tools, such as Accelerated Reader and iReady.
- Mid-Year Math scores were below ELA but recognized great gains from Beginning of Year (BOY) to MOY. The community is encouraged to continue to take advantage of the external resources and tools, such as ST Math and iReady.

Human Resources Updates

- Legends CEO James acknowledged the impact that several staff vacancies have on school operations and noted that there were several that were currently going through PGCPs school clearance and waited to be onboarded.

Social & Emotional Learning and Academic Development (SELAD) Updates

- Legends Director of SELAD Devose shared high-level details about the students that had participated in Academic Intervention efforts and highlighted gains achieved from their work.
- Legends Director of SELAD Devose reported that 93% of students, grades 3-5 completed the Fall SEL survey, which was intended to capture data about their perceptions about their well-being and SEL skills for the school year.
- Legends Director of SELAD Devose showcased next steps, in partnership with the Legends Office of Student Affairs on how to support students in the whole school

• Board Response to Academic Briefing

- Legends Interim Board Chair Strickland expressed appreciation for the in-depth

and very thorough presentation by administration and staff.

5. Acknowledgment of Public Comments

Legends Board Member Sims reiterated to the Legends community the requirement to submit questions through the Legends Public Charter School portal or via ParentSquare in advanced of the meeting, so that the questions can be explored, vetted, and properly responded to. There were 1 question, related to filling outstanding teacher vacancies. Legends CEO James responded that they are diligently working with PGCPs to shepherd any qualified teachers through the hiring process as expeditiously as possible, but that there are long-term substitutes and the Academic/Curriculum Coordinators fill in gaps, as necessary.

6. Legends Public Charter School Board Committee Updates

- Academic Committee: Interim Legends Board Chair Strickland reported on the walk-through of the school on Friday, November 11 for observation.
- Development Committee: Legends Board Member Jordan announced upcoming meetings, in anticipation of planning Legends' 3rd Annual Charter School Gala
- Governance Committee: Legends Board Member Sims informed the Board that she and Interim Legends Board Chair Strickland would be meeting with an independent Board Development consultant, to consider next steps for evolving the Legends Board

7. Legends School Announcements

Legends Board Member Sims shared the following school announcements:

- ✓ **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to the scholars and staff celebrating January birthdays
- ✓ The Legends PTO will host monthly meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 6p in person (with a virtual option for participation available)
- ✓ Please remember to check ParentSquare for announcement and notices from your Scholar's teachers and school administration
- ✓ Upcoming School Closings and Important Events, before our next Board Meeting:
 - February 4 – (11a – 3p) Legends PTO/Equity Now hosting Super Bowl Weekend Tailgate Family Gameday and Pop-Up Ship
 - February 20 – President's Day (School Closed)
 - February 21 – 2-hour Delayed Opening, to accommodate Parent/Teacher Conferences
- ✓ Next Board Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 22, 2023

8. Motion to Adjourn

Legends Interim Board Chair Strickland asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:36pm. **The motion was moved by Legends Board Member Sims and 2nd by Legends Board Member Kirkland-Miller.** All Board members were in favor – with no oppositions, and the meeting was so adjourned.

Board Office Contact Information:

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