



**Work Session Minutes
Montgomery Education Foundation
Board of Directors Work Session
Davis Elementary School
Nixon Elementary School
Bellingrath Middle School
December 15, 2022
Bellingrath Middle School**

Present: Dave Borden, Paul Hankins, Charles Jackson, Caroline Novak, Jay Love. Also present, Ann Sikes, and Ms. LaDedra Frazier. Chris Reynolds, Ms. Ericka Anderson available by Zoom.

Mr. Hankins called the meeting to order and asked for a voice roll call of board members present. Five of six board members were present.

Financial:

Mr. Love presented the MEF financials which included the segregated accounts for Davis, Nixon and Bellingrath Schools.

Mr. Love presented the MEF Form 990 for 2022 and the completed 2021 Audit. He noted there were no significant findings with the audit. The only notation was that the limited number of personnel working for the Foundation results in a lack of segregation of duties. This notation is not unusual for small nonprofits and was reported in prior years.

Mr. Reynolds reviewed the PLA/EVE financial statements and noted the continued significant investment of PLA. Conversations are ongoing with MPS to receive more detailed information regarding local funds that are not directly received by the schools and determination of how pooled funds withheld by the district are utilized. Mr. Hankins, Mr. Love and Mr. Borden were asked to work with New Schools for Alabama in developing the legislative agenda to address the funding gap that exists as well as determining any legal resources that should be considered. The resolution of the Birmingham lawsuit should provide more clarity and direction regarding the distribution of local funds.

Board Governance:

Mr. Reynolds reported that the framework for the PLA partnership review would be centered around the performance dashboard. It is anticipated that the review will take place in January after all 2022 data has been received.

Ms. Sikes reported that the MPS Performance review is underway. Final 2022 data is still being released. The Review will be completed as soon as all needed data has been released by the state department.

Ms. Sikes briefed the board on the current Disciplinary Hearing Process that is in place. Currently the district has provided the Hearing Committee. This needs to be replaced by a MEF Hearing Committee that needs to be established. In addition, MPS has informed MEF that access to the MPS alternative school will no longer be provided after December. Ms. Sikes advised that legal advice and review is underway by the MEF attorney. This issue is of serious concern.

Principal's Reports:

Ms. Frazier and Ms. Anderson provided written updates on the work at each of their schools, Nixon and Davis respectively. Dr. Holloway was unavailable due to illness.

Executive Director's Report:

Ms. Sikes reported that the school handbooks have been updated to make sure the disciplinary policies are aligned with the district. The policies have been reviewed and are ready for approval.

Ms. Sikes reports that on 11/21 MPS had brought in an environmental testing company and inspection to review the bat situation at Davis. There have been no recent sightings. Final results are pending.

Due to notification by our Directors and Officers (D&O) insurance Carrier that they will not continue coverage of the school board activities, a new carrier and policy has been obtained. Ms. Sikes noted that the new policy covering all three schools was approximately \$20,000 annually versus our previous MEF policy cost of \$1,200 annually. Starke Insurance Agency did extensive work to find the best pricing. Ms. Sikes also talked with other charter schools to verify the cost of this type of policy.

Ms. Sikes presented the results of the November 11th Performance Monitoring Davis Site Visit for the CSP grant. The evaluation noted that MEF was fully compliant in every area except two which were partially compliant:

1. Inventory and tagging – Photographs of curriculum that was purchased needs to be provided
2. Website – The MEF and Davis website need to be better aligned to make sure all info is available including the school report card and policies are all available.

Resolution of these items is underway and will be completed by year end.

Ms. Sikes provided briefing information regarding the Bold Goal initiative that is currently underway to ensure all students are proficient in reading and math by the end of third grade. The work is based on aligning the collective action of a coalition of community resources/partners in partnership with the school district to accomplish the goal. The initial stages of this initiative have resided under United Way. MEF has been asked to take on leadership of this effort.

Ms. Sikes presented the proposed 2022-2023 MEF program focus includes:

Bold Goals

MGM Reads

Summer Learning

Strategic Planning

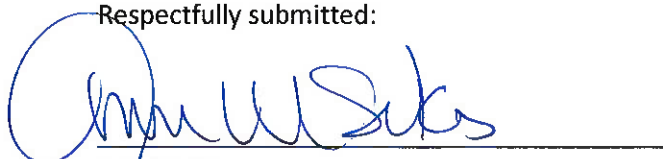
Starbase

Board Recruitment:

Mr. Jackson presented the resume of Dr. Marcus Vandiver for consideration as a board member. Mr. Jackson and Ms. Novak have both met with Dr. Vandiver.

There being no other items on the agenda, the work session was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:



Ann M. Sikes
President