

# KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools

## KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools Board Meeting Minutes

December 6, 2023

9:00am- 12:00pm

KIPP Atlanta Collegiate

98 Anderson Avenue, NW, Atlanta, Georgia 30314

**Board Members Present:** Rick Deane, Salim Bhatia, Gayle Burnett (virtual), Hector Calzada (virtual), Frank Glover, David Jernigan, Jamina Cole King, Linda King, Zane Major, Catherine Mealor, Stacey Mohr, JaKathryn Ross, and Deb Sudbury

**Honorary Board Members Present:** Joe Arnold, Tom Avery, Kathe Brown, Sidney Childress (virtual), Craig Jones, and Dennis Love

**Staff Members Present:** Chelsea Bradshaw, Micheal Bray, Ben Cabeza, Ra'Chel Ford, Nikki Goodson, Lawrence Harris, Lakeesha Ramdhanie, Mini'imah Shaheed, Dr. Jamaul Thomas, Terra Walker, Authur Washington and Irving Williams III

**KIPP Alumna /Student Present:** none

The meeting was called to order at 9:04am.

### 1. Welcome & Agenda Review (Rick Deane)

- a. Rick Deane welcomed the Board and spoke of the magnetic energy in the room, reinforcing to board members the importance and benefit of being in-person. Rick continued with a review of the agenda. A quorum was established.

### 2. Mission Moment (Mini'imah Shaheed)

- a. Mini'imah welcomed Advocacy and Partnerships Manager, Micheal Bray. Micheal shared insights around his work with garnering the support board and community members. Bray spoke of his vision for the department in shifting from transactional to transformational relationships. Advocacy Committee Chair, Stacey Mohr provided remarks on engaging parents more often while also proactively maintaining relationships while focusing on advocacy goals.

### 3. Board Chair Updates & Consent (Rick Deane)

- a. Board Chair, Rick Deane provided remarks in reference to his attendance at the KIPP Foundation National Board Chair Retreat in Chicago, hosted by Katherine Bradley, the National Board Chair. The foundation discussed initiatives, with a notable emphasis on teaching reading in a fundamental way. Rick also provided guidance around the legal advice received related to virtual meetings, indicating that while full board meetings must be conducted in person, committee meetings, especially those involving decision-making, are to be held in person as well.

### 4. CEO Updates (Mini'imah Shaheed)

- a. *Gratitude:* Mini'imah shared gratitude with the Board for the following:
  - Gratitude to board members and honorary board members for their continued work and support of KIPP Metro Atlanta Schools and scholars. Thank you for always "hearing the bell."
- b. *Dashboard*
  - Mini'imah and the regional leaders shared updates on enrollment, matriculation, finance, development, talent and charter renewal.
- c. *KIPP Happenings*
  - a. Mini'imah recognized Board Chair, Rick Deane, as being the recipient of the Atlanta Business Chronicle's 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award CE&I Awards. News of Tech for Tomorrow initiative sponsored by Compudot was for their donation of 200 laptops to the scholars at KIPP WAYS campus. Additionally, first-time voters from KAC scholars participated in the election. CEO Mini'imah Shaheed and Chief Impact Officer, Lawrence Harris co-authored an op-ed in the Atlanta Journal Constitution, highlighting the perspective of the school board and advocating for the needs of KIPP ATL, aiming to amplify voices in the community. In recognition of National Book Character Day, author, Linda Keefe conducted reading of her "ABCs of Niceness" book to KIPP ATL scholars.

## **5. KIPP Forward Deep Dive (Irving Williams, III)**

- a. Present by Managing Director of KIPP Forward, Irving Williams, III, highlighted the work of KIPP Forward while addressing data quality challenges. KIPP Forward strategies include the partnership with Salesforce to efficiently collect and manage data internally and the development of a dashboard to monitor the well-being of scholars across academic, economic, and socio-emotional dimensions. Specific support will be tailored based on tracking, with implementation expected in the coming months. Efforts to enhance support include the creation of mentorship programs and digital engagement with community leaders, offering stipends, and seeking board members' involvement as mentors or fiscal sponsors. Recognizing the importance of college persistence, KIPP Forward expressed plans to switch programming to support all four years and increase caseloads with fidelity.

## **6. KAC | 2024 Graduation Projections | ACT Performance (Arthur Washington)**

- a. KIPP Atlanta Collegiate Principal, Arthur Washington, provided updates related to the 2024 graduation projections and the school's ACT performance. The Class of 2023 achieved a graduation rate of 93%, with a projected graduation rate for the Class of 2024 ranging from 94% to 94.8%. ACT performance is considered crucial as it aligns with public school standards and procedures. The goal is to ensure that 100% of scholars have at least one ACT score. Unfortunately, scholars are often confronted with barriers that create a hardship for ACT participation. Barriers such as transportation are being addressed, with plans to create opportunities for scholars to take the ACT at KAC in the Fall of 2024. In-house ACT prep, including a bootcamp from Applerouth, is being implemented. Additionally, ACT interim practice is reintroduced, with tests administered to freshmen and sophomores. KAC is actively sourcing vendors and planning Saturday school sessions to provide additional ACT prep opportunities for scholars.

## **7. Audit Discussion + Consent (Rick Deane and Hector Calzada)**

- a. A motion was made by Catherine Mealor and seconded by Jamina Cole King to approve the October 25, 2023, meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. AUP discussion led by Hector Calzada, the Board acknowledged the review and approval of the audit report electronically after the original draft was voted on at the October 25, 2023, Board meeting.

#### **8. Parent Quarterback Reflections**

- a. KIPP Atlanta Collegiate PTO President, Rita Harden, gave a heartfelt testament of the impact the PTO and Parent Quarterback program has had in reconnecting with families since COVID and the partnerships and supports provided to the school.

#### **9. Next Steps and Close**

- a. A motion was made by Jamina Cole-King and seconded by Stacey Mohr to adjourn the board meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:59 am.

Respectfully submitted by Nikki Goodson, Director of Special Projects.