



School Performance Board Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 13, 2024

9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

KIPP Atlanta Collegiate

Committee Members in Attendance: Salim Bhatia, Rick Deane, Lakeesha Ramdhanie, JaKathryn Ross, Mini'imah Shaheed, Deborah Sudbury

Committee Members Absent: James Bostic, David Jernigan, Linda King

APS Board Members Present: Aretta Baldon, Cynthia Briscoe Brown, Eshé P. Collins, Katie Howard, Jessica Johnson

Regional Staff Members Present: Ra'Chel Ford, Lawrence Harris, Keosha Moon, Lakeesha Ramdhanie, Mini'imah Shaheed, Wanda Smith, Arthur Washington

Guests Present: Keith Glass

AGENDA

- A. Arrival and Breakfast Served
- B. Welcome and Introductions
- C. Experience Sharing
- D. Gratitude and Closeout

Notes:

- **What is one idea that you have for a program or initiative that you would like to implement at KAC?**
 - Culinary based programs
 - More programs focused on the arts
 - More STEAM programs
 - Programs geared towards JROTC
- **What is one thing that you wish that adults knew about what you need to be successful in school?**
 - Student 1: Academic success is important. The gap needs to be bridged between high and low student performers. How can we make the change so that everyone in the class feels happy with their experience?
 - Student 2: Identifying the scholars who need more attention and the ones who don't. I get bored on topics teachers spend too much time on. Teachers should ask the question "does my scholar understand." Scholar comprehension is important.
 - Student 3: Communication. I see a lot of quiet kids . Students can be more successful if teachers target the quiet kids and allow their voices to be heard.
 - Student 4: Standing in front of the class is not necessarily teaching. Some things do not pertain to our lives. Teachers should ask "how does the lesson apply to our lives and better us?".
 - Student 5: A lot of kids don't want to go to college. Showing kids different pathways to success will empower them. Empowerment is important.
 - Student 6: I have a fear of public speaking. I wish there were after school programs that allowed scholars to interact with the APS Board more and talk about the

strengths and anxieties we have.

- Student 7: Less testing . The brain needs a certain amount of time to process information. We take tests every week and a lot of testing is stressful.
- **Describe your ideal learning environment. Are there any resources that we don't have that you would like to use in support of learning?**
 - Student 1: Teamwork and cooperative work . It has helped me to understand the people around me and understand my environment. We should have more group sessions incorporated in school work.
 - Student 2: Always having free space . I never have to put on a facade. It's always a safe space and even if there is judgment, it's constructive criticism. All of our teachers are open to what students have to say.
 - Student 3: - My favorite class was Social Studies. I love to read. Encourage kids to keep reading. Kids struggle to read 2 paragraph prompts. Encourage more reading.
 - Student 4: Comformative spaces. We could have a conference area where students can come and do their work. There should be a designated space for students to do work. A space where students can lounge and is a safe and productive environment.
 - Student 5: My ideal learning environment is fun and interactive.
 - Student 6: Separate career paths by groups. I like the entrepreneur class .
- **What makes you excited to come to school?**
 - Student 1: More college tours for students to see schools out of town. It is hard to pick a school you've never been to.
 - Student 2: Learning how to write papers . Learning how to write papers will help us better prepare for college.
 - Student 3: The SAT/ACT challenges us with writing a lot of papers. I've talked with college freshmen about how to write longer papers in college.
 - Student 4: Teachers, my friends and the step team. The bonds I've made make me excited to come back to school. A more comfy and cozy learning environment would be nice. The desks are too uptight.
 - Student 5: Extracurriculars give me something to look forward to and makes my experience exciting. I'd like to see a law program. There are students interested in law.
 - Student 6: School is a home away from home. I've built bonds with teachers and friends. KAC is a safe space and I feel like I can be myself. I'm comfortable here and I feel at home.
 - Student 7: A program for music production and the music industry would definitely help a lot. There are many students interested in music.
 - Student 8: We should implement debate for 9th and 10th grade and see how it works out for the students. We also need more career pathways.
 - Student 9: I'm excited to come to KAC because of the culture. Teachers always smile and ask us about our break/weekend. There is never a dull moment.

- Student 10: I've built the best bonds because everyone is so welcoming and the teachers love you like you are their kids.
 - Student 11: It is good to know someone has my back at KAC. I can count on someone to make me laugh and brighten my day when I have a bad day. There are so many resources to go to colleges or separate pathways to success. I can count on our career services. Principal Wash also gives us information.
 - Student 12: I really enjoy interacting with the people, teachers and Principal Wash. We have opportunities to share ideas. Our thoughts and voices can get lost as kids and I'm glad we can meet with you all today.
 - Student 13: Being in classroom where it feels like open dialogue and makes me excited to come to school and engage
- **APS Board Additional Question: In terms of resources, what do you feel you need that you don't currently have?**
 - Student 1: A class dedicated to the ACT. We usually have a college success course, but it isn't enough. There should be an ACT class year round. Applying to colleges is really hard.
 - Student 2: A lot of students struggle with living and money. As students, we think about what we can afford. Make sure students feel motivated to strive to be better.
 - Student 3: Learning about money. Parents and families don't talk about money. We need money teaching literacy class. This could empower students to be entrepreneurs.
 - Student 4: More teachers so that our classes can be smaller. More technology will help diversify and advance our technology skills. We need iPads, hotspots and different versions of computers.
 - Student 5: Work based learning. Students have free periods and because of that, they have nowhere to go. We need experience in the working world.
 - Student 6: Investment classes on generational wealth, economic needs and where to put our money.
 - Student 7: More financial classes and learning about credit, investing and saving. We need classes on how to start a bank account. Teaching that will help us.
 - **Cynthia Briscoe Brown** - Students, you can influence policy and connect with local representatives. Write to them and let them know what changes you want to see.
 - **Eshé P. Collins** - We have resources for scholars at the ACCA (*Atlanta College and Career Academy*) that offer certain opportunities for students. Check it out.