



Advocacy Committee Meeting

April 16, 2025

9:00 AM-11:00 AM

In Person: 1038 White Street D1 Atlanta GA 30310

Zoom Link: <https://kippmetroatlanta-org.zoom.us/j/82858831057>

Committee Members In Attendance: Stacey Mohr, Zane Major, Salim Bahatia, Jim Bostic

Staff in Attendance: Dr. Lawrence Harris, Kyla, Byas-Smith, Elease Slaughter-Watts, Torrey Bates

Guest: Antrell Tyson Paramount Consulting

Time	Agenda Item
9:00 AM	<p>Welcome & Connections</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting was called to order by Stacey Mohr at 9:00AM Meeting minutes were raised to vote by Stacey Mohr and unanimously seconded by Zane Major, Jim Bostic, Salim Bhatia Agenda Overview Connections: Dr. Harris led us in connections <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What's one highlight that made you smile this year? Stacie Mohr- Reveal The Shield Slaughter-Watts Registering Scholars to Vote Highlights & Updates Mrs. Slaughter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delta Soar Program highlight video Night of Impact has currently raised YTD \$302,000 Best of KIPP Umoja event KIPP Families Read "Literacy on the Go" Crack The Code- Unlocking Georgia Milestones of Success. Just beyond 400 submissions for the campaign. Attended the Georgia State Capitol with the Freedom Coalition for Charter Schools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The purpose was to speak E-Splost I also visited to take scholars for the Capital Page Program. The board should consider continuing to show up at our local Board meetings. Committee Chair Reflections <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stacey Moore Comments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I am grateful for the Advocacy team's work, which involves intentionality in building relationships with Board members. We also spoke about a more focused approach to using Family Quarterbacks. Getting the word out to Families about the KIPP Atlanta Board meetings. I'm curious about the best practices for keeping our families informed. Dr. Harris' Comments- Charter accountability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Charter School wants to open a school in partnership with Morehouse to open a medical charter

	<p><i>school.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ <i>Brought up that APS had charter accountability conversations. Understanding the difference between the State and District charters.</i> ■ <i>Moving into a family engagement model with a full-time parent liaison who will report to the director of operations with a dotted line to Mrs. Slaughter-Watts.</i> ■ <i>Dr. Harris has also mentioned that he and Mrs. Ramdhanie have been hosting meetings with Atlanta Commissioners to build relationships.</i> ■ <i>Zane Major suggested putting the Board Meeting notices on our marquee, social media, and school newsletters.</i>
9:45 AM	<p>Legislative Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● DOE Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Spoke about the DOE Executive Order being signed on March 20, 2025 by President Trump. ○ There was an exchange between in-person and Hybrid models. ○ We discussed the U.S. Department of Education announced last week that Title I and other federal funds will be withheld from public schools that do not certify compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. ○ The administration is warning that some “illegal DEI” activities may violate federal standards. ○ KIPP’s Position: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ KIPP schools do not make race-based admissions decisions. ■ We recommend signing the SEA certification if you request it. ■ The “illegal DEI” language likely refers to conduct that is already unlawful under Title VI. ● Current Bills Watch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Senate Bill 120- Eliminating DEI in Public Schools did not pass the Senate. We'll see this again in 2026. ○ Do we get any money for this at KIPP? The answer is no, we don’t have any policies at KIPP that would put us at risk. ○ Recommendation: Look at the language. ○ House Bill 268- Establish a Statewide database to track students flagged as potential threats. ○ This bill also provides for a mental health professional. ○ It passed the House and Senate, but the statewide database was removed. A teacher can now press a button in the classroom to communicate a threat. It has gone to the Governor for signature. ○ Zane Major- Asked how long it will take to be implemented. ○ Answered by Antrell Tyson- Not sure yet. ○ House Bill 340- Distraction Free Education Act

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It passed the House and Senate. Schools have until 2026 to implement a policy. It has gone to the Governor for signature. ○ Senate Bill 82- Local Charter School Authorization and Support Act. ○ It passed the House and Senate. Schools have until 2026 to implement a policy. It has gone to the Governor for signature. ○ House Bill 225: School Zone Speed Camera Legislation ○ It passed the House and Senate. Schools have until 2026 to implement a policy. It has gone to the Governor for signature ● Antrell Tyson, Paramount Consultant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Been working with the team for two months. ○ Spent the last 10 years in the Federal Government ○ Former Regional Director for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. ○ Spoke about Governor's KIPP Priorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ SB 68: Tort Reform- Passed ■ HB 68: The Budget, A new program funded \$141 million for a new school voucher. The Additional Budget included \$15.3 million as a one-time pilot to provide extra school funding. ■ Torrey asked How will the voucher work? Antrell will get back to us with the answer to this. ■ HB307—Dyslexia Awareness—This bill makes it mandatory to have a handbook on how to handle students who have dyslexia. It passed unanimously. Sb-1 The Riley Gains Act (Bands Transgender Student Participation in sports) This bill passed. ■ SB 123—Chronic Absenteeism—A committee will be established to help improve schools with high absenteeism. The committee will eliminate a school's ability to expel students based on attendance. ■ Jim Bostic—I asked if there is any funding. Antrell stated that he would check on it. Dr. Harris noted that the first step is building a committee and putting in a protocol. ■ HB 483- Explicit Content in Public and School Libraries did not pass. ○ Any Bill the Governor signs becomes law.
10:30 AM	<p>Looking Forward</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Civic Engagement - Spring Hill Day</i> ● <i>Committee Meeting Dates FY 2026</i> ● <i>Questions & Answer</i>

11:00 AM	<p>Close</p> <p>Meeting called to adjourn at 11:00 AM by Stacey Moore second by Zane Major</p>
	<p>Next Advocacy Committee Meeting TBD</p>

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