

Dillard Academy Charter School

Board of Education Meeting

Minutes Regular Session

January 12, 2021

5:00 PM

Virtual Meeting

Board Members in attendance: David Simmons, Thomas Smith, Mary K. James, Hosvan Arias, Christina Robles, Janet Ward, Mary Daughtry

Board Member not in attendance: John D. Stokes (deceased)

Administrative Staff: Hilda Hicks, Carole Battle, Danielle Baptiste, Pearlie Whitfield, William Baptiste

- I. Call to Order – Thomas Smith called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm with a quorum of 7 board members present.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.
- III. Approval of November 10, 2020 minutes – The board was given time to review the November 10 minutes. At 5:05 Mary Kay James motioned to accept the November 10 minutes as written. Hosvan Arias seconded it. Thomas Smith called for a vote 7 in favor and 0 no. Motion carried.
- IV. Approval of January 12, 2021 agenda at 5:10 Mary K. James motioned to accept the agenda as written. Christina Robles seconded it. Thomas Smith called for a vote 7 in favor and 0 no. Motion carried.
- V. Confirmation of Public Notice of Meeting was posted on DA website, school calendar, Facebook, Class Dojo.
- VI. Acknowledgement of Visitors/Comments. No visitors attended. Thomas Smith asked the board for a moment of silence for the passing of Board Chairman John D. Stokes. He has been a member of Dillard Academy board since it was established in 1998.
- VII. Statements were read by Mary K. James
Conflict of Interest Statement– Board members are reminded it is your duty to avoid conflicts of interest and the appearance of conflicts of interest as we handle the work of the Advisory Board. Does any member of the board know of any conflict of interest or any appearance of conflict with respect to any matters coming before us at this meeting? If so, please state them for the record. If during the course of the meeting, you become aware of an actual or apparent conflict of interest, please bring the matter to the attention of the chair. It will then be your duty to abstain from participating in discussion on the matter and from voting on the matter.

The Mission Statement: to positively provide a safe and quality education with high expectations so that we can excel and grow.

VIII. Principal's Report

- Ms. Battle wished all a happy new year.

Donations:

- On December 14, 2020 Dillard Academy delivered food boxes to each student. Staff members were given a food box. The food boxes were donated from the One Family food distribution through the Maxwell Center.
- Kinetic Minds donated clear book-bags filled with supplies and were delivered to students December 15, 2020.
- The Continentals Society - Goldsboro Chapter donated hand-made masks.
- The Sheepfold Church of Christ gave Dillard staff members gift bags filled with treats and a \$15 gift card from Walmart for Christmas.
- DA Staff received breakfast on December 18, 2020 from the school's administration.

Academics

- Current enrollment is 264.
- December's headcount was sent in on time with a total of 36 students.
- DA academic learning is totally remote. Kinetic Minds is being used for interventions.
- DA Classroom libraries help with independent reading.
- White boards have been added to packets sent home for students. Students are very comfortable with online learning.
- Each week staff has PD using Google for Education.
- Grade level meetings and band meetings are held using Google Meet.
- By law students grades 3-5 must be taught cursive writing. They also need to learn their multiplications.
- The second round of staff observations are being done on their professional goals.
- MLK activities are being implemented into assignments.
- 210 Student surveys were returned.
- Report cards are due out on January 21, 2021.
- Specials (PE, art, library) are held on Fridays.
- Parent surveys were sent out for remote instructions. We are still trying to get parents to sign up for the parent portal. This portal can allow parents to see their child's grades and quizzes online.
- An action plan was set in place to optimize student engagement during remote instruction.
- DACS renewal is set for its virtual site visit April 8, 2021 with Shaunda Cooper. A video will be made for her.
- We are a "D" school. We missed becoming a "C" school by a small percentage. The new state Superintendent requested a waiver for schools not to take the EOG this year.

IX. Director's Report

- Budget report –after review and discussion of the December's budget at 6:00 pm Mary Kay James motioned to accept December's budget as presented and Mary Daughtry seconded it. Thomas Smith called for a vote 7 yes and 0 no. Motion carried.
- Ms. Danielle asked the board to reallocate \$2,000 from field trips to advertising. At 6:05 Christina Robles motioned to reallocate \$2,000 from field trips to the advertising budget. Hosvan Arias seconded it. Thomas Smith called for a vote 7 yes and 0 no. Motion carried.
- Facilities areas needing repairs or upgrades– Windows, Asphalt, 400 bldg. Removal of carpet remaining in main bldg.

X. Operations Director's Report

- COVID Tracking – 9 students and 10 staff members have been isolated due to exposure or positive testing.
- Dillard Academy's staff are considered essential workers. We are in phase 1b group 2 & 3.
- The change form was resubmitted for the PPP Loan forgiveness of \$11,600.00 program.
- Ms. Danielle asked the board to keep the same conflict of interest policy from last year. The conflict of interest will be used for DA Charter renewal. At 6:12, Christina Robles motioned to keep the conflict-of-interest policy the same and Kay Daughtry seconded it. Thomas Smith called for a vote 7 yes 0 no. Motion carried.
- Dillard Academy's certificate of insurance is updated.

XI. Governance

- A couple of suggestions were given for a memorial in John Stokes name (Playground, garden).

- Mary Daughtry was sworn in virtually. The board unanimously elected to virtually swear in new board member Kay Daughtry.
- David Simmons is resigning from the board.
- The board was shown powerpoint slides for CSADM training. This training showed the components of different types of funding (State, Federal, Local, PMR, and Grants) the school receives.

New board positions

At 6:28, Thomas Smith nominated Janet Ward as DA board Chair, she accepted.

Hosvan Arias nominated Thomas Smith for Vice-Chair, he accepted.

Christina Robles was nominated for Secretary, she accepted.

Mary Kay James was nominated for Treasurer, she accepted.

At 6:28, Hosvan Arias motioned to accept all new officer positions and Mary Daughtry seconded it. The motion was called to a vote 7 yes 0 no. Motion carried.

XII. Technology Report

- A new policy is in place for lost, damaged, or destroyed devices. A \$25 deposit must be paid to replace broken or lost devices.
- WiFi hotspots have been ordered for students without internet access.
- Dillard Academy has purchased 20 additional computers to address computer breakage.
- Our partner Kinetic Minds has purchased 75 devices for school.

XIII. Parent/Community Involvement Report

- Our parents are more involved with participating with their child/ren.
- Dillard Academy's partner Kinetic Minds has donated clear book bags for every student.
- The community is aware of the extra things we do for our students. DA packets contain (pens, pencils, worksheets, markers, white board, etc.)
- Mr. Baptiste and I get alerts when a student visits an inappropriate website or sends inappropriate texts.

XIV. Next Meeting – March 9, 2021

XV. Motion to Adjourn at 7:00 pm