



KWAME NKURUMAH ACADEMY

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Minutes for the Kwame Nkrumah Board of Directors Meeting held Wednesday, August 1, 2018 10:00 AM at the School site

Present

Dr. Iva Carruthers, Dr. Charlotte Blackman, Dr. Carol G. Edwards, Tobia Thurman, Sydneye Wilson David Ireland from Schoolmates, Takeisha Strong, Account, Ericka Williams, Principal

Call to Order

The meeting of Board of Directors was called to order by the Chair at 10:20 AM.

Approval of Minutes

The Minutes for the May 29, 2018 meeting were approved as printed.

There was no public response.

Principal's Report

In summary the Principal reports the following:

- Test data will be available as soon as it populates. The 5Essentials data is unavailable at this time.
- The Charter Renewal application was completed and submitted on time.
- The final FY18 Remediation plan was submitted to CPS. The Principal also included a 5 Year Improvement Plan as part of the renewal process.
- The Accountant is in the process of preparing for the ISBE audit to be conducted on August 7, 2018.
- All staff to be terminated have been notified and all vacancies except for grade 5 have been filled.
- The Principal had developed a Standard Operating Cleaning Schedule and implementation will begin this summer.
- Cleaning supply list is being developed.
- Professional Development Ubuntu Training Camp is scheduled for August 20 – 24.
- Summer Camp and Enrichment will end on August 2, 2018.
- Renewal meeting scheduled for August 31, 2018 at 10:00 PM with CPS.

CPS schools received additional funding for social worker services. Charter schools will not receive this funding. INCS is following up on the legal aspects of this matter. It is noted that KNA already services a higher number of students needing specialized services than is mandated by the state.

The Board Chair is requesting that the Principal submit a summative report outlining the impact of inadequate funding for servicing students with special needs.

To document submission of data into EPIC, the Principal uses snapshot to document submission of data since it is often reported that data has not been submitted or is submitted late. This is important because this information is used in compiling information for school evaluation.

The Principal continues to work on developing and strengthening the African-centered curriculum. She began with the curriculum developed by Chicago Public Schools and is embellishing on the construct. Our Board chair suggested that this year KNA incorporate the Quad Centennial as part of the instructional plan.

In addition the Principal would like to incorporate an Elders Read Initiative as part of the Reading program at KNA.

Corporate Partner Report

Schoolmates since our last Board meeting has been working with the principal to:

- Complete the Renewal Application. Renewal consider 3 elements, academic performance, Financials and Compliance.
- Use social media and other strategies to increase enrollment.
- Monitor operations related to facilities. Some progress has been made but some things will have to be deferred.
- Schoolmates is available to support the Treasurer and monitor the performance of the Account, making sure that all compliance measures are met.
- Schoolmates will monitor and assist in the development of Budget and other streams of fiscal management.
- Schoolmates will be meeting with State Legislators to continue the dialogue for creating a voice for African-centered Charter Schools.

Schoolmates has introduced the idea of using a dashiki as part of our uniform. The Education Committee will work with the staff to identify how we might use this idea.

The KNA Board of Directors is asking Schoolmates to work with the Assistant Principal in developing and implementing a school technology plan.

Financial Report

The Accountant will schedule a conference call to review the financials and budget the week of August 13, 2018. She will forward electronically information to review prior to the conference call.

KNA By-Law Review

The Board Chair and Secretary will review the KNA By-Laws prior to the resubmission to EPIC in readiness for the audit.

Move to Adjourn 12:15PM

Next Board Meeting is Wednesday, October 10, 2018 at 4:00 PM.

**Respectfully submitted,
Carol G. Edwards, EdD
Secretary**