

ADVOCATES FOR INNOVATIVE SCHOOLS, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S SPECIAL MEETING
8550 Curran Boulevard
2:00 P.M.
New Orleans, Louisiana 70127
March 14, 2018

Attending:

Velta Simms, President
Larry Gulley, Treasurer
Cheryl Beaco, Member
Ora Wiley, Member

Absent:

Frank Williams, Secretary
Barbara Crain-Majors

AIS Staff:

Suzanne Encalarde
Mrs. T. Rodney

Receive President's Opening Remarks

Velta Simms called the meeting to order at 2:14 P.M. The agenda was reviewed and accepted with no additions.

The minutes from the emergency meeting were submitted for review but not voted on because board members did not receive the draft prior to the meeting.

Old Business

1. Corrective Action Plan

Feedback was needed from Mrs. Sammetta Brown. However, Mrs. Brown was not present that day to make a report to the Board. Mrs. Rodney, 504 Chairperson was invited to comment on the progress. She stated that everything the school was required to submit had been sent to OPSB. Evaluations are underway for students who merited a complete Psychological Evaluation.

2. Tier 3 Meeting

The Board requested feedback from Attorney Tracie Washington. A report was due to OPSB on Friday, March 9, 2018. Mrs. Simms was not able to reach Ms. Washington by telephone. She will follow up with Ms. Washington for a final report.

New Business

1. School Annual Review

A response to indicators rated “Does Not Meet” standard must be sent in by Friday, March 16, 2018, or it will be assumed that the Board accepts the rating. Moton has three such indicators.

1a. State Accountability Performance (SPS and Letter Grade) “Does Not Meet Standard” C (73.6). Moton’s score decreased from

A motion was made by Ms. Crain-Major and seconded by Ms. McClay to go into Executive Session. The vote was unanimous. One personnel matter was on the agenda.

Following the Executive Session, President Simms moved to reconvene the meeting. Ms. Crain-Major seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The Board accepted notice of a pending Medical Leave of Absence for Mrs. Paulette P. Bruno. The leave will be for at least one month or longer, based upon her state of health.

The Board members discussed the need to move immediately to appoint an Assistant Principal, a topic that had been discussed for several months. Dr. Gulley offered a motion to create a position of leadership. Ms. Crain-Major seconded the motion. The consensus was to hire someone in a regular, as opposed to interim position. A contract will be developed to be in effect until June 30, 2018. The Assistant Principal must be able to step in and lead effectively, in the absence of the regular Principal/CEO. A special requirement will be to resolve the issues related to Special Education as delineated in the Level 2 Corrective Action Plan. The decision was unanimous.

The Corrective Action Plan hearing with Superintendent Lewis was discussed. The need for a policy mandating Universal Screening and Response to Intervention was a motion offered by Ms. Crain-Major and seconded by Ms. Beaco. The Board is also interested in the identification of Gifted Students. A discussion about persons currently on staff who were qualified and willing to step up to the Assistant Principal position included three teachers who were former principals and three consultants who were administrators.

The consensus was to offer the job to Sammetta Raybon-Brown, the consultant responsible for the Level 2 ICAP resolutions. Her experiences as an Educational Diagnostician with the Orleans Parish Schools and as the CEO of New Beginnings under the Recovery School District were areas that made her the top choice. Board agreed to task Dr. Gulley and CFO Melvin Johnson with determining the salary offer for the position.

The Board listed myriad tasks that needed immediate attention. Mrs. Simms stated that she would need help getting some of the administrative tasks completed, due to her current employment demands. Dr. Roslyn J. Smith, former Consultant to Moton School, volunteered to provide assistance. The offer was rejected. Ms. Crain-Major

stated that the Board needed definite paid assistance, not voluntary. Dr. Smith agreed to accept a position as Consultant to the AIS Board for a period ending on June 30, 2018. The decision was unanimous.

Other topics of information included:

1. Communications needed immediately to OPSB, staff, parents, and Attorneys.
2. Tier 3 Corrective Action Hearing Meeting Report
3. Monitoring Contract for State Testing
4. Additional signatures needed for School Checking Account

President Simms called for the meeting to be adjourned at 3:00. Ms. Major seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

NOTE: in the absence of the Board's Secretary, Board Member Cheryl Beaco took notes for the meeting. Roslyn J. Smith, Consultant to the Board, reported minutes.

Secretary

March 14, 2018

Date