Leadership Public Schools
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
October 19th, 2019

Present: Dr. Pat Saddler, Kelley Gulley, Brigitte Lowe, Sandra Becker, Brentt Brown, Lynn Dantzker, Sophia Thomas, Jesucita Fishel, Amy Slater, Christopher Whitmore
Absent: Tana Monteiro
Guests: Soo Zee Park, Alex Kahn, Amy Epstein, Kate Levitt, Graciela Ortiz

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM. Quorum was confirmed. The agenda was confirmed and roles were assigned. Kelley Gulley, Chair. The meeting was opened to public comment. No public comments were made but Zoom audio access was kept open for the duration of the meeting.

Consent Agenda
The Board approved the Consent Agenda, including minutes from the September 16th, 2019 meeting and Resolution 2020-08, Teacher Credential Applications.
Moved: Brigitte Lowe
Seconded: Lynn Dantzker
Approved: All
Opposed: None
Abstain/Recuse: None

Academic Program Update
Amy Epstein, Executive Director of Data & Assessment, began by outlining three goals for this part of the meeting: a) brief the Board on what the California Dashboard is and how to understand it; b) share LPS key outcomes from last year, and c) discuss how this year’s academic program builds on last year’s feedback and highlight areas of growth. She then pointed out to the Board that LPS also has internal documents for target setting on student performance using self-reflection tools created by the state, that the state considers each school a Lead Education Agency (ELA) requiring LPS to submit three reports, and that Alex Kahn, Chief Academic Officer, created a system to index LPS assessments to the California dashboard to improve academic programs currently in place.

Epstein continued by sharing key outcomes (e.g. graduation and A-G rates, SBAC English, SBAC Math, suspension rates) from last school year and provided a state comparison. For future meetings, Lynn Dantzker requested for an urban district comparison, surrounding counties comparison, and to disaggregate data by subgroups. Alex Kahn mentioned she would follow up with some of that information in an email after the meeting and added that the three schools’ indicators are outperforming similar schools.
Additionally, Kahn shared LPS’ academic priorities: to increase access to college and career readiness, increase SBAC overall and subgroup performance, reduce suspensions, and chronic absences. The plan to accomplish the former is by refining schoolwide systems of positive behavior support, using data to monitor and respond to school/classroom culture, and supporting LPS teachers with a common tool kit to create strong foundations.

**CA Local Indicators**
Regarding California Local Indicators, Dr. Saddler informed the Board that the state looks at facilities, qualified teachers, instructional materials, implementation of academic standards, parent and family engagement, school climate, and access to a broad course of study, which were all met by each school. Kahn added that teachers’ progress is supported and captured through targeted coaching and the use of digital coaching tools.

Brentt Brown asked to see benchmarks of 9th and 10th graders to get more insight on students’ trajectory through high school, as well as student scores from previous years. The Board also hoped for the opportunity to meet and hear from Christopher Harrell, the new Director of Student Services.

The Board moved to approve Local Indicators.
Moved: Chuck Bowes
Seconded: Sandra Becker
Approved: All
Opposed: None
Abstain/Recuse: None

**Brown Act/Board Compliance**
Kelley Gulley, Chair, and Chuck Bowes gave an overview on the Brown Act and Board Compliance from a CCSA training they recently attended. Both stressed the importance of being prudent about communication, and keeping meetings open and transparent. Moving forward, topics discussed in closed session will be outlined in the agenda along with their respective government code. Soo Zee Park, Chief Business Officer, also added that districts may be appointing someone to the LPS Board and suggested the group clarify a process for public comment in future meetings.

**Board of Trustees Bylaws**
Lynn Danztker opened by stating changes made to the LPS Bylaws. One major change is that staff, parents, and students will no longer be able to vote at meetings, but can be present topically or ongoing because their voice is essential in Board governance. Another major change is formally establishing Executive and Audit Committees with clear roles outlined.

The Board moved to approve Resolution 2020-09, Review and Approve Revised Bylaws
Moved: Brigitte Lowe
Seconded: Brent Brown
Approved: All
Opposed: None
Abstain/Recuse: None

The Board moved to approve Resolution 2020-10, Executive Committee Resolution
Moved: Lynn Danztker
Seconded: Sandra Becker
Approved: All
Opposed: None
Abstain/Recuse: None

Additionally, Kelley Gulley announced the opening for nomination of Vice-Chair, which will be addressed in the next Board meeting.

**Proposed Working Groups**
Kelley Gulley stated that two working groups are needed - one to address Board Governance and another for Strategic Planning. Brigitte Lowe echoed Kelley and expressed the need for a Board Recruitment work group because Board Member terms are ending between 2020 and 2021. She requested the topic to be included in next meeting’s agenda. Moreover, Amy Slater pointed to the need for a precursor conversation to discuss what the Board’s overarching goals are and what roles Board members will play.

Gulley proposed that Board governance be brought back at the next meeting with an overview of similar working groups in the past to build on that. She then expressed the importance of creating a Strategic Planning working group, and the importance for these two groups to proceed separate, but parallel. Everyone was amenable and Brentt Brown added that the Board should look for a consultant to lead who has done LCAP and other strategic planning before.

**Superintendent Update**
Dr. Saddler provided an update on the political context, including AB 1505 and AB 1506, and a staffing update. LFS is exploring alternative strategies in lieu of punitive discipline and strategizing with the Mental Health Education team led by Dr. Oscar Ureno, Lead Mental Health Counselor. Additionally, Dr. Saddler informed the Board that the LCAP federal addendum was approved for all schools, that LPS is going into partnership with UC Berkeley’s Teacher Preparation Program in Fall 2020. LPS is also planning a 2020 HBCU tour for African American students across the three school sites.

**Closed Session**
The Board moved to Closed Session to discuss personnel matters.

**Report Out from Closed Session**
Kelley Gulley reported out from the Closed Session.

**Process check**
The group appreciated the depth of information and the efficiency with which it was presented.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Graciela Ortiz
Recorder