

## KIPP CHARLOTTE BOARD MEETING – NOVEMBER 2019

The scheduled meeting of the KIPP Charlotte Board of Directors was held on November 8, 2019, at 500 E. Morehead Street, Charlotte, NC 28202.

**Board members in attendance:** Matthew Bohlen, Michelle Connley-Gore, Lisa McMillan, Meka Turner, Zach Manis, Steve Willen, Kevin Zhao, Becky Winkler

**Board members in attendance via phone:** Jon Morris, LaTanya Bowman, Karin McGinnis, Adam Smith, Emily Phillips, Dinesh Chopra

**Board members absent:** Tom Duncan, Alice Schulte, DeAnthony Hill

**Others in attendance:** Anokhi Saraiya (Head of Schools), Stacy Johnson (Chief of Staff), Heather Moeller (Director of Development), Christian Drake (Director of Finance and Operations), John Kalafatas (KIPP Foundation Relationship Manager), Lauren Vance (CAO of KIPP ENC)

**Welcome:** Becky Winkler welcomed all in attendance and called the meeting to order at 10:06 AM.

**Inspiration:** Anokhi Saraiya started the meeting sharing pictures of board member Zach Manis's visit to KIPP Change to play flag football with the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of college football, inspiring quotes from families taken from the recent Parent Survey, and visuals of students working hard in the classroom

**Approval of agenda:** Becky Winkler moved to approve the agenda with two changes: to add a vote to formally accept the new board members and to move the governance report to the beginning of the agenda. Matthew Bohlen seconded the motion. The agenda was approved unanimously.

**Approval of minutes:** The board reviewed the minutes from the October meeting and found one misspelled name to be corrected. Matthew Bohlen moved to approve the minutes with the typo corrected, and Karin McGinnis seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**Board Chair Report:** Becky Winkler shared with the board that she is planning a school tour on December 6th at 8:30 AM and offered to include any other friends or partners who may want to join. Ms. Winkler also shared that she and Ms. Saraiya would be attending a collaboration with other school leaders and board chairs from around the area on December 5th at 4:00 PM to discuss ways to better work together to serve all students. Finally, Ms. Winkler previewed a plan to structure the January Board Meeting in a different format to allow for a more intensive problem solving session to determine best practices and board strategy moving forward.

**Governance Report:** Karin McGinnis summarized the minor revisions made to the Giving Policy (changing the \$10,000 target to reflect the current \$5,000 target), The Budget Process and Policy (changing School Leader to Executive Director), and the Policy Procedures (updating the organization name to KIPP Charlotte Public Schools and changing School Leader to Executive Director). Becky Winkler moved to approve all of the revisions suggested by the Governance Committee to these three documents, and Michelle Connley-Gore seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. Lisa McMillan informed the board that the Governance Committee is continuing to work on the Table of Contents for the Board Binder and will add these revised documents. The Governance Committee is also working on scheduling a time to provide onboarding to our newest members. At this point, the

prospective board members were asked to leave to room to allow the Board to conduct a vote to officially add them to the board. Lisa McMillan moved to add Dinesh Chopra, Kevin Zhao, Emily Phillips, and Steve Willen to the KIPP Charlotte Board of Directors. Michelle Connley-Gore seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Schools Report:** Anokhi Saraiya began the report by sharing the Regional Dashboard and the recent Interim Assessment results with the board. Ms. Saraiya identified a correlation between teachers with the most experience and/or teachers who are teaching the same subject and grade level as last year as having the highest scores, indicating that a deeper understanding of content is playing a crucial role in improving results. Ms. Saraiya identified re-teaching plans, small group intervention, and instructional coaching as next steps based on the data. Stacy Johnson introduced two data points requested by the board at the last meeting to begin to track the long term impact of KIPP Charlotte by showing the current paths of the first class of students and where they are now as well as comparing the EOG growth of students who have been with KIPP Charlotte for two or more years versus those who have only been in our schools for less than two years. The preliminary results show that our first group of graduates are persisting in college at a greater rate than the average and that our students who are with us longer outperform our newer students. Ms. Saraiya then shared a five year plan to improve the outcomes of KIPP Charlotte and summarized the key levers identified to move students more quickly, including hiring more staff to reduce class sizes and student teacher ratios in order to better compete with neighboring schools, serve students with greater needs, retain our best teachers, and improve results.

**Finance Report:** Christian Drake provided an overview of the financials, detailing the budget versus actual spending through September, the projected cash flow, and the bank account balances. Mr. Drake clarified that KIPP Charlotte is still waiting to find out what the state per pupil funding will be this year but that the district should still be getting a first payment in November regardless. Mr. Drake also highlighted that both schools have done an excellent job of spending conservatively during their time of uncertainty while we wait for the funding. Mr. Drake clarified that the fundraising line has been separated from the rest of the revenue, a data request made by the board at the last meeting. Matthew Bohlen then updated the board regarding the bond financing work the Finance Committee has engaged in. Three proposals were gathered from financial advisors to assist in the selection of an underwriter. The Finance Committee recommends that the board select Stifel of the three based on their extensive experience with Charter Schools. The finance committee members articulated for the board the benefits of selecting Stifel as well as the terms of the arrangement. Becky Winkler moved to authorize the finance committee to hire Stifel, and Zach Manis seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Development Report:** Zach Manis shared the results of the recent Community Partnership Focus group conducted with teachers on the KIPP Change campus by Mr. Manis, Meka Turner, and DeAnthony Hill. Many of the ideas and suggestions were reflected in the needs already shared by Ms. Saraiya in the schools report, including a need for a smaller teacher to student ratio, support for students with extreme special needs, a substitute teacher pool, tutoring programs, and increased community activity, awareness, and partnership. Michelle Connley-Gore and Lisa McMillan also discussed the need to combine these community outreach efforts with efforts to enroll new students and increase awareness of KIPP in the community. Ms. Moeller updated the board regarding the fundraiser, "An Evening with Steve Smith, Sr" on Monday, November 18. The development committee is 82% of the way to their fundraising goal for this event with strong sponsorship and VIP ticket sales. With one week to go, there

are general admission tickets still available. Ms. Moeller asked the board to please assist with ensuring that all guests they are bringing are registered and with forwarding the information emails regarding details for the event to anyone they have invited. Ms. Moeller also asked all board members to make the effort to meet at least two new people during the event, and to introduce any guests to others at the event. Michelle Connley-Gore reminded board members to familiarize themselves with the KIPP talking points before the event.

**Strategic Planning Report:** Becky Winkler shared the job description for the Executive Director role with the board as well as talking points regarding the possibility of merging with KIPP ENC. The board will be updated as the hiring committee begins to review candidates.

**New Business:** None

**Adjournment:** Matthew Bohlen made a motion to adjourn at 12:01 PM. The motion was seconded by Becky Winker, and the meeting was unanimously adjourned.