

Morris Jeff Community School (MJCS)
Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, March 8, 2021 5:30 pm

Via Zoom

*NOTE: Pursuant to emergency proclamation 30 JCE 20202, the Morris Jeff Community School Board certifies that it must conduct the January 11, 2021 meeting via Google Meet or the Board will otherwise be unable to operate due to quorum requirements. Board meetings shall be held in this manner during the pendency of this emergency.

Members Present: Shannon Williamson, Lisa Amoss, Elaine Reyes, Blaine LeCesne, Maria Newman Carerre, Dwight Barnes, Missy Sparks

Members Absent: Bill Payne, Leslie Lawrence, Keyana Scales (pre-arranged),

School staff/Members of the public: Patricia Perkins, Jared Frank, Julie Thibodeaux

Meeting was called to order at 5:38pm

I. Review and consideration for approval of Board meeting minutes

Dwight moved to accept February meeting minutes with corrections. Lisa seconded the motion. No public comment. Minutes are approved.

II. Morris Jeff Principal's Update

Patricia noted that MJCS is getting some additional federal dollars from the December aid bill. A chunk of that funding will go to summer programming to recover lost learning in 3-8 and 9-12 grades. They will be able to provide transportation for summer school for the first time which is great. We are using this as a one time effort to get students who need it the most to have 4 hours per day.

5 day a week in person learning starts March 22nd for students in higher grades. Most if not all faculty will have received their first dose of the vaccine and many will be fully vaccinated. Blaine highlighted that studies are showing that strong immunity is established even in the first 14 day of immunizing.

Lisa congratulated Patricia on the Black History Poetry Slam and congratulated the Morris Jeff basketball team on their play off run.

III. MJFP Report

No report.

IV. Finance Committee Update and Approval of 2020–2021 Budget

The finance committee met at 5pm to review the report from December and January. In revenue it is about the same in total from various grants that were reimbursed. The child nutrition program is going back to normal rates with us returning to in person learning but it was lower in January with virtual learning most of the month. We are at about 64% of our total budget for the year. Contracted SPED services were higher in January due to a speech pathologist on maternity leave and another with a change in role so those funds have been shifted from salary to contract. The budget for the 21-22 school year is underway. There will be a draft available at the next meeting and then we will schedule a budget hearing before the board approves.

Lisa motioned to approve the financial statements as presented. Missy seconded. No public comment. Motion carried unanimously.

VIII. FUNdraising

Julie sent a donor update about all the positive things happening at the school this year. She also sent out save the dates for Give Nola Day in May. If we have in person learning we will continue to push in the car line to get those numbers up this year. We have a few grant requests out and will continue to seek added funds for the loss of learning.

Lisa asked if Julie needs assistance with Give Nola day. Julie indicated that in the April meeting she will walk us through creating our own fundraising page for MJCS so we are asking for funds on behalf of MJCS. Blaine complimented Julie on the donor update newsletter for highlighting the good things happening at MJCS. She noted that she would provide another update near Give NOLA. Blaine suggested we add NOLA PS board members to the list as well.

X. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 6:05 pm.