

Morris Jeff Community School (MJCS)
Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, April 12, 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, Leslie Lawrence, Blaine LeCesne, Missy Sparks (arrived at 5:40)

Members Absent: Bill Payne, Keyana Scales, Maria Newman Carerre, Dwight Barnes (pre-arranged),

School staff/Members of the public: Patricia Perkins, Jared Frank, Julie Thibodeaux, Alex Berry, Nolan Ross,

Meeting was called to order at 5:38pm

I. Review and consideration for approval of Board meeting minutes

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

II. Morris Jeff Principal's Update

About 80% of faculty and staff are fully vaccinated and we are working on a plan to get 16 years old and up at the high school vaccinated with parental consent.

Next year, we will have the McDonough 28 site to move the middle school there. The over crowding at the Lopez site was growing unbearable. This year things worked out because we have had some students in virtual learning. They walked the school property and are making plans. We are excited to have them have their own campus and adequate space available. Shannon asked if they are sharing the space with anyone else. Patricia confirmed that we will not have to share the space with another school. Leslie asked about building maintenance issues. Patricia and Jared indicated that beautification wise the property is in great shape and they will walk through with their facilities provider for a more thorough walk through.

Shannon asked Patricia to explain the meeting tomorrow with OPSB tomorrow about changes to the Charter agreements. Patricia received a newsletter from our school board rep, Olin Parker, that indicated a change to charter agreement coming. A few hours later, Henderson Lewis put together a meeting of charter board chairs for Tuesday night. Initially, school leaders were not invited to that meeting because they have a school leader meeting on Wednesday but many charter leaders across the district reached out and indicated they were not comfortable with attending that meeting without their school leaders or legal representation. Blain, Patricia, and Lee Reid, one of our attorneys will attend the meeting. Olin Parker is coming tomorrow to Clark to meet with school leaders in our district. That meeting was already scheduled and we are excited to show him the Clark campus and our needs.

III. MJFP Report

Grace Rose from MJFP was present. Grace indicated that MJFP has been focused on teacher appreciation this month. They decided to do a month long event to make it easier on families and spread things out. They are doing a dine out nite at Raising Canes on Carrollton in May to offset the fact they haven't had their normal fundraisers in May. The parents are volunteering for Senior Fest, our replacement for senior prom.

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

The finance committee met at 5pm to review the report from January and February and year to date totals. We finished February in a slight net loss position. For the year we are in a very good net income position. We budgeted to be in a deficit. If you remember, NOLAPS presented 3 models of income and we budgeted the most conservative model so we experienced some savings. Jared indicated that he believed the MFP would decrease next year but we should still be in a good position.

The finance committee has reviewed a draft of the 21-22 budget. Our plan is to review the budget at May 10. We will have the budget hearing at 4:45pm prior to the May 10th.

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

VIII. FUNdraising

Give NOLA day is May 4th and all board members are encouraged to participate in making their own fundraising pages. Julie presented on setting up a donor page for Give NOLA day. If you need any assistance with your page, please contact Julie or Shannon for help.

X. Adjourn

Shannon mentioned that Financial Disclosure forms are due to the state board of ethics by May 15th. She will send the details via email but please let us know when it is complete.

Next month we will vote on officers and the budget. A quorum is a must for this meeting. Shannon indicated that the bylaws indicate that an officer can't serve more than 4 consecutive years in a role so her term for secretary can't be renewed next year and that office will be open.

Meeting adjourned at 6:25 pm.