

**APPROVED MINUTES  
FOR THE  
MAYA ANGELOU PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
MARCH 6, 2020**

The Board of the Maya Angelou Public Charter School (“MAPCS”) held a meeting on March 6, 2020 the Maya Angelou Academy/New Beginnings, pursuant to notice duly given. The members present in person or by telephone were Peter Leone, Michael Vu, David Domenici, James Forman, Jr., Cheryl Mills, Thomas White, Julie Johnson, and Darren Cambridge. Also present were Leah Lamb, Clarisse Mendoza Davis, Azalia Speight, Felecia Hayward-Lawson, Marvin Harden, Nathan Yufer, Kristi Webb, and Jahleezah Eskew.

Dr. Leone called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm and began by thanking the executive staff “for rising to the occasion” during this leadership transition. Ms. Lamb, Interim CEO, proceeded with an overview regarding the Charter network and the continuing conversations around the OSSE Alternative, Adult and At-Risk Funding. Maya leadership efforts are attempting to address these potential issues that would affect funding for Maya students. One effort includes testifying at council hearings and meeting with key council members. Another is to continue to advocate for the increased At-Risk funding as originally outlined in the Adequacy Study.

Some organizational updates shared by Ms. Lamb included a visit from OSSE’s National School Lunch Program conducting a visit and inspection of Maya’s kitchen and meal program. The representative was pleased with Maya’s approach to providing not only a standard breakfast and lunch, but also an enhanced salad bar, and new “grab and go” breakfast for our high school students. Lastly, Ms. Lamb shared that the District government has put together an inter-agency working group focused on coronavirus prevention and planning for schools, recreation centers, and libraries. Ms. Enje Brown, Director of Operations, and Ms. L’Tanya Holley, Family and Communication Director, have been designated as Maya’s representatives.

Dr. Mendoza Davis, Chief of Schools, congratulated The Maya Academy for being granted accreditation for the next seven years! She continued her school report by focusing on the data related to the Charter goals and the High School’s performance. She noted the progress that has been made in writing participation, up 20% from this time last year. School attendance is still an issue, however. Dr. Mendoza Davis noted there is an intensified effort in the school culture/climate to focus on restorative justice measures which leadership hope will help in-seat attendance. She stated, “The High School has enlisted the support of our colleagues at the Maya Academy to learn more about the integration of restorative practices into the school setting in general, as well as the classroom when appropriate.”

Ms. Lamb, as Chief Development Officer, talked about some of the highlights from the activities our students have participated in with the help from foundation grants. For example, a group of Maya students from the High School traveled to John’s Island, South Carolina to participate in an alternative Spring Break serving learning trip. The students helped build homes for families working with Habitat for Humanity. Another significant activity for our students is the current

“Maya Speaks Writing Competition”, sponsored by Dr. Angelou’s son Guy Johnson. The contest is a way for Maya scholars who have written original essays, poetry, and lyrics to share their talents and receive a cash prize.

Mr. Yufer, Accounting Contractor, gave an overview of the organization’s finances, stating the organization is meeting its internal goals.

Dr. Leone asked for a vote on a resolution regarding Ms. Lamb and Mr. Harden becoming the signatories for all financial documents. The vote was seconded and passed unanimously.

Mr. Harden, Managing Director of Operations, gave a brief overview on the renovations that are currently going on at the High School.

The Board meeting concluded with Dr. Leone discussing recruitment efforts to bring on additional committed Board members. The current members discussed possible candidates and their willingness to reach out to them; facilitating tours of the schools and meeting with them. Mr. Domenici suggested contacting alumni from the program to see if there might be some interest in serving.

Dr. Leone convened an Executive Session and the meeting officially adjourned at 4:10 pm.