

MINUTES

MAYA ANGELOU PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING DECEMBER 10, 2024

The Board of the Maya Angelou Public Charter School ("MAPCS") held a virtual meeting on December 10, 2024, under notice duly given. The members present were Dr. Cheryl Chun, Dr. Julie Johnson, Thomas White, David Domenici, James Forman, Michelle Brown (Parent), Melanee Gragg, Dr. Cheryl Holcomb McCoy, and Michael Stratton. Absent board members: Darren Cambridge, Andrew Dana, Reginald Belle, Lewis Goss, and Cheryl Mills.

Dr. Clarisse Mendoza Davis introduced Maya staff: Aaron Cannon, Anteria Gross, Azalia Speight, Dr. Felecia Hayward, Dr. Kamal Wright Cunningham, Nora Shetty, Leah Lamb, L'Tanya Holley, Russell Waller, Natalie Elder Sales, Moshe Maizels, Shade Shonekan, Reginald Galloway, Sarina Rajput, Kiril Johnson, and Vicky Mitchell.

Dr. Julie Johnson, Interim Board Chair called the meeting to order with a quorum at 10:06 am and began by welcoming the board members and the Maya staff to the meeting with a roll call.

Dr. Johnson shared her reflection on her visit to DOC@DC Jail and her appreciation of how committed the staff are and all that they bring to serve the scholars in such an atypical environment. She encouraged the board to visit all three academy sites to better understand Maya's work and be better positioned to be an advocate and champion.

Clarisse Mendoza Davis, Chief Executive Officer, plans to follow up with individual board directors to discuss potential board member prospects and build a diverse pool of candidates. Her current plans include scheduling one-on-one meetings with board directors in January and February to discuss board member prospects. Provide the board with more details on the organization's plans to address potential funding changes and their impact on special populations. Explore options for additional space, such as a satellite location, to accommodate the growing enrollment at the Young Adult Learning Center. Continue to monitor and address the attendance challenges at the Young Adult Learning Center exploring new incentives and interventions.

Dr. Mendoza Davis also highlighted the success of the first "From Silos to Solutions" convening, noting high attendance, engagement, and positive survey feedback. The purpose of the convening was to bring together practitioners and professionals to discuss the mission and impact of their schools. The second convening will be held October 8-10, 2025. Dr. Mendoza Davis invited board feedback and discussion on this first and future convenings.

Dr. Cheryl Holcomb McCoy, Board Chair-Elect discussed the incoming presidential administration and its potential impact on the mission and schools. She also expressed concern about the effects of the potential deportation of immigrant families and the threat to DC Home Rule, as well as the implications for funding and the need to advocate for families and our communities. She also stressed the importance of tangible actions such as rights education and special workshops to support students and staff.

Reginald Galloway, Director of Finance, and Kiril Johnson with Ed Ops provided updates on the financials for the quarter in September 2024, including enrollment numbers and projected revenue. See Forever Foundation Maya Angelou is projected to certify 530 scholars--31 more than budgeted, resulting in an additional \$1.4 million in per-pupil revenue. The projected net income stands at \$1.1 million with a positive variance of \$ 1.8 million on the revenue side. The organization has a strong cash position with \$10.6 million in cash and a \$2.3 million operating cash flow.

Dr. Clarisse Mendoza Davis announced that the Youth Services Center (YSC) and Department of Corrections (DOC) DC Jail are pursuing full accreditation through the Middle States Association. Site visits are planned for the spring and the team anticipates positive outcomes. The Board Development Committee is working on identifying potential new board members and a Google document was shared for board directors to contribute contacts.

Nora Shetty, Deputy Chief of Performance and Advocacy, provided an update on the new accountability system, Aspire, and the alignment of goals and targets across the network. The organization has seen an increase in enrollment at each campus, with the high school having a waiting list. Ms. Shetty also highlighted the importance of tracking attendance and behavior data to support student success. She presented the percentage of students receiving in-school and out-of-school suspensions, noting the efforts to increase engagement and attendance. The high school has increased its virtual learning criteria, and eighteen scholars are currently participating. Maya is working to improve school testing participation rates and will present this information at the next board meeting.

Aaron Cannon, Chief Administrative Officer provided updates on the Construction projects. The auditorium is expected to be completed by March. The parking is set to be completed by the end of the year. A modular unit is being acquired to provide dedicated teaching and learning space for the SFF team with installation planned for January.

Dr. Kamal Wright Cunningham, Chief of Well-Being, provided updates on well-being initiatives, including a needs assessment conducted in August as well as the development of a well-being landing page. The team has been collaborating with staff members to improve access to well-being programming and support. A focus group is planned for the Young Adult Learning Center

to develop SEL instruments for adult learners. The Mental Health First Aid certification is being rolled out so staff members can support students and families.

Leah Lamb, Chief of Institutional Advancement, highlighted recent and upcoming funding opportunities, including continued support from Blomberg Philanthropies and the Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation. Ms. Lamb reported that The DC Council of Arts and Humanities provided a second grant for field trips and experience in the arts.

Azalia Speight, Chief of Schools, discussed the focus on instructional leadership and curriculum enhancement, including input from school-based instructional teams. New science and social studies curricula are being piloted, and high-impact tutoring initiatives are being implemented. Ms. Speight stressed the importance of providing high-quality professional development and feedback to teachers to help improve instructional practices. Also discussed was the focus on instructional leadership and curriculum enhancement, including input from school-based instructional teams.

Dr. Mendoza Davis recognized and thanked the organization's other senior leaders for their hard work in helping schools meet their goals and helping Maya progress toward its strategic objectives.

Dr. Julie Johnson opened the meeting up to public comment; there were no responses from the public in attendance. She asked the Board of Directors if there was any new business to discuss. There was none. The Board moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:00 pm.