

## MINUTES

### Discovery Health Sciences Foundation Board of Directors Monday, March 21, 2022, 4:15 p.m.

#### Regular Board Meeting

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Discovery Health Sciences Foundation, Inc. is held at Kenner Discovery Health Sciences Academy Loyola Campus, 3rd Floor Board Room (3837 Loyola Drive, Kenner, LA 70065).

I. Call to Order

A. **Mrs. Nugent Smith called the meeting to order at 4:20 PM. 4:17 PM**

II. Roll Call

	<i>Board of Directors</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>
1	Ms. Lynda Nugent Smith, Chair	X	
2	Mr. Ronnie Slone, Vice-Chair	X	
3	Mr. Wayne Thomas, Treasurer	x	
4	Ms. Emily Arata		x
5	Mr. Joe Caldarera	x	
6	Dr. Patty Glaser, ex officio member	X	
7	Ms. Diane Hollis	X	
8	Mr. Jim Hudson	X* entered 4:25	
9	Dr. Vinicio Madrigal	X	
10	Ms. Jeanne Monte	X	
11	Dr. Lacey Ellis		x
12	Mr. Henry Shane	X	
13	Ms. Allison Sharai	ZOOM 4:18	
14	Mr. David Sherman	X * entered at 4:25, exited at 5:15	
15	Mr. Chuck Toney, Jr.	X	
16	Ms. Beth Walker		x

*\*Denotes time joined the meeting.*

Non-Board members in attendance: Faith Broussard (development), Natalie Newton (development), Sharon Preen (CAO), Don Wheat (CFO), Jesse Watson (recruitment), Christy Aymami (technology), Candice Schott (HS principal)

III. Pledge of Allegiance, Ms. Jeanne Monte

IV. Public Comment

A. Emailed public comment - March 2, Brian Littell - read aloud

B. Emailed public comment - March 7 - Jamie McEvoy - read aloud

V. Approval of Minutes.

A. **ACTION ITEM: Ms. Monte moved to approve the minutes from February 2022. Mr. Shane seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion adopted by a unanimous vote.**

VI. CFO Report, Don Wheat

A. Mr. Wheat announces the COVID-19 allocations from the district.

B. Mr. Wheat provided information on the bonds. Remain in good standing.

C. Mr. Wheat provided financials for KDHSA, DJOD, and the Hub.

D. Mr. Wheat provided updated financials on Friends of Discovery.

VII. Treasurer's Report, Wayne Thomas

A. Nothing to report.

VIII. Friends of Discovery Report, Wayne Thomas

A. Nothing to report.

IX. CAO/Asst. Head of School, Sharon Preen

A. Ms. Preen explains to the Board, LEAP preparations for grades 3-12.

B. The school hosted an in-person LEAP night to educate parents on LEAP.

C. Planning for robust summer programs to include academics and camps. Bridges will be held at DJOD and KDHSA. The focus is on literacy and math skills. The school will also have summer school for middle and high school.

D. Teacher recruitment continues. The second career fair will be held on 4.2.22 at the Loyola campus.

E. Planning PD with the Boh center staff for Special Education staff.

F. Ms. Nugent Smith asked how many openings does the organization have? Ms. Preen said about 40 positions.

X. . CEO/Head of School Report, Patty Glaser

A. Dr. Glaser presents the ESSER allocation spreadsheet with a breakdown by each school (DJOD & KDHSA) to the Board. The school will put additional allocations to summer programs.

B. Covid: Dr. Glaser goes over the COVID-19 data with the Board. This will be the last Covid-19 report unless data becomes significant again. As of tomorrow, covid-19 testing will be optional for middle and high school athletes.

C. Admissions:

- Dr. Glaser provided application updates. The lottery was held at the Loyola campus on March 15, 2022. 1389 on KD waitlist. 717 on DJOD waitlist.

D. Accelerate learning & learning recovery:

- Tulane students are tutoring, hourly tutors for half-day, hiring co-teachers for 2nd-4th grade at Maine & DJOD campus. 6 of 12 have been hired for Maine. 4 out of 6 hired for DJOD.
- Large summer program notices going out to families soon.

E. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Work: Completed the Beloved Organization equity audit and now working with the results. Dr. Watson is leading the process.

F. New Charter Application Status: BR Ochsner Discovery Health Sciences Academy. Planning has already begun. The plan is to open the BR Ochsner Discovery in August 2023. Working with architects to remove some walls to make large classrooms. Eventually will be a school of 745 students or twice that. We will operate with 3 sections per grade level to start.

G. Construction:

- Vintage Campus – Addition of 18 modular classrooms – in process.
- KDHSA - Funding for Arts & Athletic Performance Center – working on this. Won state appeal for use of ERRER III funds (\$3.6 million) Cost of facility likely will be \$7.5 due to rising costs and time delay. Seven firms came to the mandated meeting. 5 firms submitted proposals and did presentations on 3/16. The committee recommends Landis Construction. Dr. Glaser asks for a vote.

**Ms. Hollis motions to go out of order on the agenda and skip to item XI. C. Action Items: Contractor selection of Arts and Athletic Performance Center. Mr. Hudson seconds. Ms. Nugent Smith asked the Board if there is any discussion. None. Vote: 10 in favor. 1 not in favor - Mr. Calderara. Motion carries by a 10 to 1 vote.**

H. Events and Development:

- GALA - Friday, April 1, 2022 – 2022 Discovery Bash – Chateau Country Club
- Working with Emeril Foundation and Ochsner to schedule a DJOD ribbon cutting for the Emeril kitchen and garden. Likely September 2022.
- Working to obtain Saints turf at end of the season for use at Muss Bertolino Stadium.
- NSBR wrote the Reimagine grant for us for BR Discovery. Ken Campbell is the new CEO of NSBR.
- Discovery has a large presence in Jefferson Parish Mardi Gras parades.
- Actively recruiting teachers and staff for next year.
- Board members attended the Pro Bono Publico event at the Rex den on Saturday, February 19, 2022. Pro Bono is supporting the summer programs at a \$15,000 level.
- KDHSA high school art students have a large student art display in EJGH.

I. Challenges:

- Annual testing upcoming results & addressing learning loss;
- hiring the final positions – Nationwide shortage of teachers;

- Diligence in spending the ESSER II & ESSER III allocation & receiving reimbursement;
- Creative financing for the construction of the Middle School wing so we can bring Maine students to Loyola-Vintage campus.

#### XI. Action Items

- G. Tag Along Policy - Dr. Glaser recommends adopting removing the previous waiting period where a teacher who lived in another parish would have to wait one school year to enroll their child. Ms. Nugent Smith asked for a discussion. None. **Ms. Monte moves to update the Tag-Along Policy. Mr. Madrigal seconds. None opposed. Motion carries.**
- H. Student request for seniors to be able to work. Dr. Glaser requests to create a policy where seniors can work based on the academic requirements Ms. Schott creates. Discovery wants to work with our students in good academic standing. **Ms. Monte would like to see the criteria before the vote. Dr. Madrigal moves to approve on a temporary (30-day) basis. Mr. Hudson seconds. Temporary approval until the next meeting. All in favor. Ms. Monte abstains from voting.**

#### XII. Old Business

- I. Ms. Nugent Smith requested the Board to attend a planning meeting on April 12th from 2-6 PM at 3908 Veterans Blvd at Citizens National Bank meeting room for a Board retreat. This is the 10-year anniversary. - Dinner afterward at Andreas. Look for an email with Ronnie (emergenetics)
- J. Ms. Nugent Smith requested to look at the calendar for this Thursday, February 24th at 4:15 to go over the structure of the April 12th meeting.

#### XIII. New Business

- K. None

#### XIV. Executive Session

None

#### XV. Public Comment

- L. There is one public comment - Jamie McEvoy stated her comment.

#### XVI. Adjournment

- M. **Mr. Hudson moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Shane seconded the motion. VOTE: Motion carries. Unanimous approval. Meeting adjourned at 5:36 PM.**