

MINUTES

Discovery Health Sciences Foundation Board of Directors Monday, April 25, 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 4:18 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, entered 4:35	
6	Dr. Patty Glaser, ex officio member	X	
7	Ms. Diane Hollis		X
8	Mr. Jim Hudson	X, entered at 4:21	
9	Dr. Vinicio Madrigal	X	
10	Ms. Jeanne Monte	X	
11	Dr. Lacey Ellis	X	
12	Mr. Henry Shane	X	
13	Ms. Allison Sharai	X	
14	Mr. David Sherman		X
15	Mr. Chuck Toney, Jr.		X
16	Ms. Beth Walker		X

Non-Board members in attendance: Faith Broussard (development), Natalie Newton (development), Sharon Preen (CAO), Don Wheat (CFO), Jesse Watson (recruitment), and Christy Aymami (technology). Pledge of Allegiance, Ms. Jeanne Monte

**Denotes time joined the meeting.*

III. Public Comment

IV. Approval of Minutes.

- A. **ACTION ITEM: Dr. Madrigal moved to approve the minutes from March 2022. Ms. Monte seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion adopted by a unanimous vote.**

V. CFO Report, Don Wheat

- A. Mr. Wheat presents the CFO report to the Board covering the budget for the current school year and next school year.
- B. Mr. Wheat provided financials for KDHSA, DJOD, the Hub, and Friends of Discovery
- C. The audit has been completed and submitted to the District

VI. Treasurer's Report, Wayne Thomas

- A. Nothing to report.

VII. Friends of Discovery Report, Wayne Thomas

- A. Nothing to report.

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

- A. Ms. Preen states LEAP testing has begun on Discovery campuses and is running efficiently.
- B. 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. We will also have summer school for middle and high school. In July there will be special interest camps & day camp. Many families have already pre-registered their students for these programs.
- C. High school students have started doing service-learning projects across the community.
- D. Teacher recruitment continues. When recruitment started there were 57 open positions for the 22-23 school year. Since then, 23% of positions have been filled. 26% have offers pending. There is also some internal position movement. 39% remains open. The HR team is attending many recruitment events in the community and on college campuses.

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

- A. Dr. Glaser commends Ms. Nugent Smith for planning a successful inaugural Board retreat on April 12th. The first in 10 years.
- B. For 2022-23 for KDHSA all seats are full. For DJOD we have 57 open seats. The LA4 lottery will be run the first week of May through Jefferson Parish. LA4 helps service economically disadvantaged families.
- C. Families received notice of summer programs. Last summer Discovery had 500 students register and the schools expect that number again.
- D. Dr. Glaser and Ms. Nugent Smith will attend the Baton Rouge Ochsner Board meeting. The executive admin team has begun looking for a BROD principal and administrative assistant. The goal is to have those 2 positions filled by or before July 1, 2022. Discovery is submitting the first set of opening goals. Dr. Glaser will work with Ochsner on renovations. The Board needs to recruit Board members in Baton Rouge. Mr. Slone states that we should be intentional about who we recruit and make sure that it reflects the community it serves.

E. Construction:

- Vintage Campus – Addition of 18 modular classrooms – in process. The timeline is for installation to occur over the summer and open for use by August 1, 2022.
- KDHS - Funding for Arts & Athletic Performance Center – working on this. Supply chain issues are increasing costs. Both Landis and Sizeler are working hard together to come up with cost-saving solutions.

F. Events and Development:

- The Discovery Bash was a huge success and raised a net amount of \$117,800.
- Working with Emeril Foundation and Ochsner to schedule a DJOD ribbon cutting for the Emeril kitchen and garden. Likely September 2022.
- DJOD had an amazing visit from USDA for our farm-to-table work.
- The Discovery Spring Arts Festival took place this past weekend. Student art is displayed from all grade levels is on display. Students enjoyed a visit from Wendy Rodrigue.
- Actively recruiting teachers and staff for next year. Created incentives for teaching staff who recruit new teachers.

G. Challenges:

- Annual testing results will come in July and be by the student.
- Hiring the final positions – Nationwide shortage of teachers;
- Lowering the cost of the performing arts & athletic center without losing programs
- Diligence in spending the ESSER II & ESSER III allocation & receiving reimbursement;

XI. Action Items

- A. Tag-Along Policy - Ms. Newton presents to the Board the Tag-Along Policy changes the school is recommending be made. **Mr. Hudson motions to accept the policy. Dr. Madrigal seconds. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carries.**
- B. Adoption of 22-23 DHSF Board Meeting calendar. The first Board meeting of the 22-23 school year will be on June 27, 2022.

XII. Old Business

- A. Ms. Monte asks about the criteria for the student-work program for seniors. Dr. Glaser said Ms. Schott is working on this criteria and it will be ready for the May meeting.

XIII. New Business - None

XIV. Executive Session

- A. **Mr. Caldarera motions to enter the executive session. Ms. Monte seconds. The Board entered Executive Session at 5:19. Mr. Thomas motioned to exit the executive session. Ms. Monte seconds. The Board exited the executive session at 5:35 PM. No action was taken.**

XV. Public Comment

- A. Mr. Lee Reid states the public comment policy.
- B. Ms. Kim Deagano states comment.
- C. Ms. Daina Farley states comment.
- D. Ms. Jamie Mcevoy states comment.
- E. Ms. Jennifer Arves states comment.
- F. Mr. Bill Shanks states comment.
- G. Ms. Raphaelle O'Neil states comment.
- H. Mr. Clayton Cangelosi states comment.

Ms. Nugent Smith thanks those who commented.

XVI. Adjournment - **Mr. Slone moves to adjourn. Ms. Monte seconds. Meeting adjourned at 6:05 PM.**