

MINUTES

Discovery Health Sciences Foundation Board of Directors Monday, May 16, 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 4:15 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	
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).

**Denotes time joined the meeting.*

- III. Roll/Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Approval of Minutes
 - A. **ACTION ITEM: Mr. Shane moved to approve the minutes from April 2022. Mr. Slone 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. Mr. Wheat stated the budgets will be available on the website for public viewing starting tomorrow.
- 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 stated how the LEAP testing went across all campuses. Ms. Preen gives Kudos to the IT team and teachers for pulling off a very efficient state testing.
 - B. Discovery is planning for robust summer programs to include academics and camps. Bridges will be held at DJOD and KDHSA..
 - C. The admin team is planning a June PD for new teachers to educate them on Discovery, its history, mission, and protocols.
 - D. Teacher recruitment is ongoing.
 - E. Diversity & Inclusion work - The school has completed 4/8 training sessions. Working with the Beloved organization.
- X. . CEO/Head of School Report, Patty Glaser
 - A. Dr. Glaser commends the IT staff and the admin team for organizing a very efficient LEAP testing period.
 - B. Dr. Glaser shares the sad news of a 10th-grade student who passed away.
 - C. Dr. Glaser shares that Covid numbers are up. The school is following CDC policy.
 - D. Accelerate learning & Learning recovery - The school is hiring for summer programs. Dr. Glaser thinks the students are nearly caught up and on a very good academic track.
 - E. Construction:
 - Vintage Campus – in process. No update.
 - KDHSA - 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.
 - Ready to ask JPSB for bond (borrowing) funding.
 - a) **ACTION ITEM: Approval on JPSB funding for Performance Center. Mr. Reid is writing the documents - up to \$5M in bonds would be allowed to be borrowed to help pay for the Performance Center. Ms.**

Hollis motions to approve. Dr. Madrigal seconds. All in favor. Motion carries.

- F. Government: Ms. Schott and Dr. Glaser went to BESE to support BESE member Holly Boffy's special hearing to provide waivers for 12th-grade students (1,414 students). EOC tests for Biology and US History - an unintended consequence of 2020. The pass rate for US history is twice as low as any other EOC. This is impacting subgroups more - especially ELL students. The initial vote was 5-3 but lost. Six votes were needed (2/11 BESE members were absent). A substitute motion was made, seconded, and passed for all parishes declared an emergency by the Governor due to Ida. Passed 8-0 with 1 BESE member not voting.
- G. Events and Development:
 - The school has many end-of-year events coming up in May! The KDHSA class of 2022 high school graduation, DJOD PreK stepping up, DJOD Kindergarten stepping up, KDHSA Pre-K stepping up, KDHSA Kindergarten stepping up, and the KDHSA 8th-grade pinning.
- H. Challenges:
 - Annual testing results and addressing learning loss
 - 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;
 - Creative financing for the construction of the middle school wing so we can bring Maine students to Loyola-Vintage campus.

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 August 15, 2022.

XII. Old Business

- A. Ms. Nugent Smith thanks the Board members for prompt responses lately.

XIII. New Business

- A. Ms. Nugent Smith states there will be a youth leadership program that is being reactivated. Kenner Discovery would like to have 2 students involved in the program. Mr. Slone is working on the program. All schools will be invited to participate. Mr. Slone stated it will mirror Leadership Jefferson's monthly sessions.

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. None

XVI. Adjournment - **Dr. Madrigal moves to adjourn. Ms. Monte seconds. Meeting adjourned at 5:20 PM.**