

MINUTES

Discovery Health Sciences Foundation Board of Directors Monday, November 15, 2021, 4:15 p.m.

Regular Board Meeting

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Discovery Health Sciences Foundation, Inc. is held electronically to discuss matters that are critical to the continuation of the business of Discovery Schools and that are not able to be postponed due to legal requirements or other deadlines.

- I. Call to Order
 - A. **Mr. Slone called the meeting to order at 4:25 PM.**
- II. Roll Call

	<i>Board of Directors</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>
1	Ms. Lynda Nugent Smith, Chair		
2	Mr. Ronnie Slone, Vice-Chair	X	
3	Mr. Wayne Thomas, Treasurer	X	
4	Ms. Emily Arata	X*4:29 pm	
5	Mr. Joe Caldarera		
6	Dr. Patty Glaser, ex officio member	X	
7	Ms. Diane Hollis	X	
8	Mr. Jim Hudson		
9	Dr. Vinicio Madrigal		
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.		
16	Ms. Beth Walker		

**Denotes time joined the meeting.*

Non-Board members in attendance: Kaytlyn Bourgeois (Accountant), Faith Broussard (development), Natalie Newton (development), Sharon Preen (CAO) (virtual), Don Wheat (CFO), Jesse Watson (recruitment), and Christy Aymami (technology)

III. Pledge of Allegiance, Ms. Diane Hollis

IV. Public Comment

A. Mr. Slone explains the protocol for public comments for Board meetings. Public comments can be submitted prior to Board meetings by sending comments to public.comment@discoveryhsf.org. The public comments will be read aloud. In addition, as we move through the agenda, Ms. Smith will open public comments before all items that require a Board vote.

B. Mr. Slone opens it up for public comment. No public comments.

C. Ms. Newton noted no public comments were submitted prior to the meeting.

V. Approval of Minutes.

A. **ACTION ITEM: Ms. Hollis moved to approve the minutes from October 18, 2021. Mr. Shane seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion adopted by a unanimous vote.**

B. CFO Report, Don Wheat

C. Mr. Wheat presented an audit report to the Board.

D. Mr. Wheat explains the current financial standing for Discovery Schools, KDHSA, and DJOD.

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 explains the focus is currently learning recovery and hiring additional staff to help with learning gaps. The schools are hiring more co-teachers to reduce the student-teacher ratio and tutors to help students with specific content areas. There are several pending offers.

IX. CEO/Head of School Report, Patty Glaser

A. Dr. Glaser reviews COVID data including infection rate, staff vaccination rate, and updated mitigation strategies.

- B. Admissions: The Discovery Schools application window opened on November 1, 2021. The deadline for students to apply is February 4, 2022
 - C. IT update: all Chromebooks arrived and were distributed to students. Surfaces distributed to staff.
 - D. Accelerate learning & learning recovery: Tulane students are tutoring, hourly tutors, hiring co-teachers for 2nd grade at Maine campus is in progress, and hiring co-teachers to share for 3rd and 4th grade are in progress.
 - E. New Charter Application Status. On Thursday, November 18, 2021 school officials will attend a virtual performance interview with an organization called Schoolworks. The plan is to open Baton Rouge Discovery in August 2023 with 2022-23 as the planning year.
 - F. Construction: The Arts and Athletic Performance Center was approved by the district, however, the state denied it. School officials are working on an appeal.
 - G. Events and Development - The Fall Fest on October 30, 2021, was attended by over 4,000 people and a very successful fundraiser for the PTO. Thursday, November 4, 2021, was the Loyola campus ribbon cutting. Dr. Glaser attended the Emeril Lagasse Foundation luncheon. School officials are working with the City of Kenner on redoing Muss Bertolino Stadium. NSBR is writing the Reimagine grant for us.
 - H. Challenges: Annual testing results and addressing accelerated learning and learning loss. Appealing and gaining approval of \$3.6 for Arts & Athletic Performance Center, Nationwide shortage of teachers, Diligence in spending the ESSER III allocation, and receiving reimbursement. Creative Financing for the construction of the middle school wing so we can bring Maine campus students to the Loyola-Vintage campus.
- X. Action Items
 - A. None noted.
 - XI. Old Business
 - A. None noted.
 - XII. New Business
 - A. None noted.
 - XIII. Executive Session
 - A. None necessary.
 - XIV. Public Comment
 - A. None noted. Mr. opened the floor for public comment. No public comment.
 - XV. Adjournment
 - A. **Ms. Monte moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Thomas seconded the motion. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 5:20 PM.**