

October 13, 2021

Minutes of the Lawrence Alliance for Education Board – LAE

The Lawrence Alliance for Education Board meeting was held in person at the South Lawrence East School Auditorium with the following members present: Jessica Andors, Executive Director for the Lawrence Community Works, Patricia Mariano, Lawrence School Committee member, Julia Silverio, Silverio Insurance, Dr. Noemi Custodia-Lora, Vice President of NECC Lawrence Campus, Maria Moeller, CEO/The Community Group, Lawrence, Dr. Ventura Rodriguez, Chair. Absent Daniel Rivera, CEO/President MA Development.

Also present was Superintendent Cynthia Paris and Maria L. Campusano, Recording Secretary for this meeting.

Chair, Dr. Ventura Rodriguez, called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. Chair held the Pledge of Allegiance; noted the meeting was being broadcast live via YouTube Channel, under the Superintendent's Report, there will be an update of the LHS Campus, noted that there will be an executive session taking place for collective bargain contract, adding that they will take a vote to go on executive session and noted that after the executive session they will adjourn the meeting

Public comment: Dr. Ventura Rodriguez called the following:

1. Mr. H-Maali, 53 Chester Street, Lawrence, MA

Talked about Superintendent Paris' leadership, since her arrival she expended 100 days listening sessions, faced the gas explosion, to the worst world pandemic, led new policies that created new parent and community improvement, improved buildings, brought the crossing guards back, citizens united to support the superintendents and the teacher's union.

2. Sarah Banville, LPS RN

Talked about LPS nurses having two jobs; their regular work duties, plus functioning as chief covid staff. Overwhelmed by the extensive documentation and follow up with angry parents. Adding the shortage of nurses that place the remaining ones at risk of burning out and petitioning that LPS should step up to provide the support needed.

Superintendent Updates:

- Superintendent Paris expressed safety concerns at the LHS since the second week of school. While they were prepared that students would need additional social emotional support, they did not anticipate the high intensity level of emotional responses that students were experiencing. Maricel Goris, Assistant Superintendent provided an account of the recent school incidents and interventions taken, followed by Superintendent Paris' account of short term responses which included students eating at their classrooms, staggering dismissal times and adding the long-term solution which included the development of stakeholder groups.
- Melissa Spash, Assistant Superintendent, introduced CPRL Elizabeth Daniels, Project Director who provided an overview presentation regarding the Earned Autonomy Framework's deliverables', proposed recommendations for implementation in the course of three years considering the challenges of the pandemic. Recommended not to roll out this year, but to phase in first phase on data collection; testing different aspects of the framework, revisiting menu of

autonomies with a target-setting process indicator based on data. She concluded with the recommendation of an implementation plan to be developed more fully with an implementation team looking at a 3-year phase in.

- Maricel Goris introduced Nelson Butten, Director of Student and Family Engagement and Mark Kampert, Executive Director Youth Development Organization, Inc. They provided an update of the preliminary results of the survey for the Portrait of a Graduate (POG), explained how it was developed, who was part of the process, the findings, and next steps which included a draft presentation in January 2022 to the LAE Board, followed by the finalized graphic design in February 2022.
- MSBA, Odanis Hernandez, Chief Operating Officer introduced the project team with the design development project who provided an updated presentation of the Oliver School project.

VOTED: To approve the design development submitted for submission to the MSBA and according to the presentation at this meeting date October 13, 2021 which the report is subject to revision and final approval by the superintendent of the Lawrence Public Schools and by the LPS building committee representatives.

Upon the motion made by Dr. Ventura Rodriguez to: approve the design development
So, move by Jessica Andors and Seconded by Julia Silverio

The Vote Yes - Jessica Andors
 Yes - Julia Silverio
 Yes - Maria Moeller
 Yes - Dr. Ventura Rodriguez
 Yes - Patricia Mariano
 Yes - Noemi Custodia-Lora

Motion Passes

- UP Network Contract, Superintendent Paris provided a summary of the contract with specific changes highlighted throughout the contract.

VOTED: To approve the contract with the UP Education Network, Inc.
Upon the motion made by Dr. Ventura Rodriguez: to approve the contract
So, move by Julia Silverio; Seconded by: Noemi Custodia-Lora

The Vote Yes - Julia Silverio
 Yes - Maria Moeller
 Yes - Dr. Ventura Rodriguez
 Yes - Patricia Mariano
 Yes - Noemi Custodia-Lora

Motion Passes

***Jessica Andors excused herself from the vote**

- DCU Donation, Superintendent Paris requested the approval of the generous donation from the partners at DCU for the High School Learning Center in the amount of \$ 7,500.00.

VOTED: To approve receiving donation from DCU

Upon the motion made by Dr. Ventura Rodriguez: to approve the donation
So, move by Jessica Andors; Seconded by Julia Silverio

The Vote Yes- Julia Silverio
 Yes - Maria Moeller
 Yes - Dr. Ventura Rodriguez
 Yes - Patricia Mariano
 Yes - Noemi Custodia-Lora

Motion Passes

- Upon the motion made by Dr. Ventura Rodriguez to approve the minutes of September 8, 2021.
Dr. Ventura request to approve the minutes for September 8, 2021

VOTED: To approve the minutes of September 8, 2021

Upon the motion made by Dr. Ventura Rodriguez to approve the minutes
So, move by Julia Silverio; Seconded by Jessica Andors

The Vote: Yes - Julia Silverio
 Yes - Maria Moeller
 Yes - Dr. Ventura Rodriguez
 Yes - Patricia Mariano
 Yes - Noemi Custodia-Lora
 Yes - Jessica Andors

Motion Passes

Dr. Ventura Rodriguez requested to go into an executive meeting session for the purpose of discussing strategies regarding collective bargaining agreements. Chair also noted that at the conclusion of the executive session they will not return to the regular session upon the finalization of the executive session.

VOTED: To go to executive session

Upon the motion made by Dr. Ventura Rodriguez to go into to executive session
So, move by Julia Silverio; Seconded by Patricia Mariano

The Vote: Yes - Julia Silverio
 Yes - Maria Moeller
 Yes - Dr. Ventura Rodriguez
 Yes - Patricia Mariano
 Yes - Noemi Custodia-Lora
 Yes - Jessica Andors

Motion Passes

Dr. Ventura Rodriguez request to adjourn the meeting at

VOTED: To adjourn the executive session at 9:14p.m.

Upon the motion made by Dr. Ventura to adjourn the executive session

So, move by Julia Silverio, Seconded by Patricia Mariano

The Vote: Yes - Julia Silverio
 Yes - Maria Moeller
 Yes - Dr. Ventura Rodriguez
 Yes - Patricia Mariano
 Yes - Noemi Custodia-Lora
 Yes - Jessica Andors

Dr. Ventura Rodriguez, Chair