

# DuBois Integrity Academy

## Governance Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 17, 2019

6479 Church Street

Multi-purpose Room

Riverdale, Georgia 30274

**6:30pm**

**Minutes**

- ✦ Roll Call : Mr. Culver, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Merritt, Col. Morris, Ms. Lewis
- ✦ Meeting Called To Order 6:32PM
- ✦ Approval of Agenda Motioned by Mr. Merritt, 2nd by Mr. Culver (Carried unanimously)
- ✦ Approval of Previous Minutes Motioned by Mr. Merritt, 2nd by Mr. Mitchell (Carried unanimously)
- ✦ Building Bond Update (BB&T Capital Markets) Dr. Payne introduced Mr. Jones, our new Dean of Students and Family Affairs to the Board. She also introduced Ms. Temple who is will work in the Human Resources and Accounts Payable department. Mr. Cason conferenced in Bert Newsome of BB&T Capital Markets & Dan Fernandez who have been working on the building bond efforts. Bert discussed restructuring the financing from what was discussed originally. Bert explained to the Board that the due diligence items were close to being completed; and an investor presentation would be completed in the next couple of days. They estimated a legal approval in a few weeks.
- ✦ Employee Tax Credit Presentation A presentation was provided with information on the Employee Tax Credit. It was projected that if we have 80 employees for 5 years the school could earn \$1,600,000 in credits. Mr. Cason stated these are the tax payments that DIA makes as a part of employer requirements. Mr. Culver stated the company is legitimate and reputable in Georgia.
- ✦ New Board Member Recommendation Gwyn Ross was introduced to the Board for recommendation to fill the vacant board seat . Mrs. Ross gave an introduction and discussed what she had to offer to the school as a new board member. Ms. Lewis asked Mrs. Ross why she wanted to be a part of the Board and what would be her impact. Mrs. Ross answered, that she likes children, she is part of this community, and she has a real estate background.
- ✦ Financial Report
  1. YTD Financials Tabled until next month
  2. FY19 Audit Report Review There were No Findings for this year. We had a Clean Audit. We will be in the green with a 75 on the performance frameworks. Mr. Culver stated the team had a 45 minute conversation with the Auditor. The total fund balance has trended up over the past three years. COH has also increased. Motion to Adopt FY19 Audit made by Ms. Lewis. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Culver. (Carried unanimously)
  3. Medicaid Reimbursement Program Mr. Cason explained the Expanded Nursing Services for Local Educational Agencies Program. Dr. Payne discussed the medical needs of our students in the school. A solution will be coming.
- ✦ Executive Director/Principal Report
  1. School Opening Report (MAP Data, Other Data & FTE COUNT) Dr. Mack gave an update on MAP and iReady testing. MAP testing is almost completed. Kindergarten is starting this week. Assessing kindergarteners takes a little longer. iReady is a longer assessment than MAP so we are still working on completing this assessment. Wida is the national ESOL screener and students. We have assessed students and some class changes were made serve students. Gifted testing is taking place and Mrs. Davis is scoring them. Ms. Reid stated the Robotics team has been started and will meet tomorrow. STEM has been embedded into the Science curriculum. We will have to wait until next year to have the State come for STEM certification.

2. 2018/2019 Academic Achievement District Comparison Dr. Payne went over the GMAS of DIA to Clayton County to the State of Georgia. DIA out performed Clayton County in all areas but two. We knew we had some problems in fourth grade last year and we were still only 1 point below. The DIA to State differential is getting closer ever year. Mr. Cason stated that we will be green in academics this year. Mr. Cason discussed the third grade scores that progressed each year. He also reviewed the Beating the Odds slide with the Board.
3. School Operational Updates Mr. Cason discussed the renewal letter and highlighted the information on page three. The application opens in November and is due in January. The renewal request will be for K-5, and we can go back and amend it for 6<sup>th</sup> grade with the inaugural kindergarten class. Mr. Cason also mentioned looking at adding on Pre-School.
4. SCSC Monitoring visit report 9/5/2019 Mr. Cason discussed the finding we will receive concerning adding a sexual abuse reporting policy to the Employee and Student Handbooks. Dr. Payne discussed the change in the Governing Board responsibility in the Performance Frameworks
5. New School Logo Presentation Ms. Lewis suggested they continue to work on it. Motion was made to continue to enhance the logo. Motioned by Mr. Merritt, 2nd by Ms. Lewis (Carried unanimously)

✚ Old Business

✚ New Business

1. FY19 Audit Adoption (Adopted during above)
2. New Logo Adoption (Motion made above)

✚ Public Comment Board Questions & Comments

1. Parent asked if we would consider getting outside source to work on the Logo
2. Parents asked if she could volunteer for STEM
3. Grandparent commended everyone on the job done with limited resources
4. Visitor thanks everyone for the job done to grow with all they do and the limited resources
5. Mr. Cason stated that our bus driver lost his mother today and request support and thoughts for him.
6. Parent asked if nursing program includes grief counseling. Dr. Payne explained that we contract a grief counselor and it started last year once we found that we had 23 students who lost a parent, sibling, or caregiver. We continue to contract this service.
7. Mr. Cason asked Dr. Payne and Dean Jones to talk about Special Education. Dr. Payne discussed students who needed services that we would normally out service to GNETS. It would be a benefit to keep them in house. Dean Jones explained the EBD classroom. Mr. Merritt asked if students would be bullied if they were in the classroom for a segment and out for another. Administrators answered that students are pulled out all the time for various services so that would not be a problem. Ms. Lewis explained the benefit of the classroom.

✚ Motion to Adjourn

✚ Meeting Adjourned 8:41PM