

**Shreveport Charter Schools, Inc.**  
Linwood Public Charter School  
401 W. 70<sup>th</sup> Street · Shreveport, Louisiana 71106

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**Board of Trustees Meeting**

**FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES**

This meeting was held at 331 E. 71<sup>st</sup> Street and via zoom (Meeting ID: 267 635 4207) on **February 27, 2023,**  
**at 4:00 PM.**

**Board Members Present:** Gard Wayt, Travis Morehart, Lauren Marchive, Dr. Bernard Kimble, Lori Graham, Cynthia Franklin, Buck Magee, Sheryl Nix, Dr. Kerry Laster, Mildred Tolliver

**Leadership Team/Staff/Contractors Present:** Dr. Staughton Jennings, Jennifer Hamilton-Myles, Shirley Pierson, Tara Sealy, Shonda Bryant, Camille Cruse, Aaryenne Strickland, Marilyn Johnson-Preston, Cheradee Williams, Richard Hilliard, Starla Ross, Marvin McMurray; Kevin Cox and Andrew Nguyen of 4<sup>th</sup> Sector

**Call to Order:** Mr. Wayt called the meeting to order at 4:16 pm.

**Quorum Check:** A quorum was present.

**Approval of Agenda:**

- Mr. Morehart moved to approve the agenda as presented.
- Mr. Marchive seconded the motion.
- All voted in favor and the agenda was approved.

**Conflict of Interest Advisements:** There were none.

**Visitor Comments:** There were none.

**Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting:**

- Mr. Marchive moved to approve the January 9, 2023 minutes as distributed.
- Dr. Kimble seconded the motion.
- All voted in favor and the January 9, 2023, minutes were approved as distributed.

**Financial Report:**

Kevin Cox of 4<sup>th</sup> Sector presented the January Finance Report. See the [link](#) for details.

- Mr. Morehart moved to approve the January Finance Report as presented.
- Mr. Magee seconded the motion.
- All voted in favor and the January Finance Report was approved.

**Building Purchase**

Kevin will compile a spreadsheet to tract construction cost for the new building on a monthly basis. We have spent about \$1 M to date. ESSER funds of 1.3 -2.0 M have been approved.

**Audit Report**

- Mr. Morehart moved to accept the audit report as presented.
- Mr. Magee seconded the motion.
- All voted in favor and the audit report was accepted.

**Executive Director's Report:**

- Dr. Jennings gave the Executive Director's report. (Consent agenda reports had been sent electronically for the board's review prior to today's meeting.) The floor was opened for questions.

## **Consent Agenda Reports**

*(Items included: Academics, Operations, Marketing/Recruitment, Student Activities and Human Resources)*

### **Board Q & A**

#### **Academics**

Dr. Jennings shared that he submitted a document to the State that shared a historical snapshot of Linwood's performance.

Ms. Sealy invited the board to attend the Book Fair this week and the Black History Program tomorrow at 9 am and 6 pm.

#### **Operations**

##### **Parking Lot**

Ms. Pierson reported that the parking lot project was on hold. After discussion, there was a consensus from the board to move forward with the project and start bid advertisement.

##### **Boiler Bid Status**

Ms. Lewis shared that there has been a boiler request for approximately 40,000 dollars. The boiler order is in process and the boiler should be here within the next week.

#### **Marketing**

Dr. Jennings presented the marketing report update in Mrs. L. Williams' stead. He stated that there are currently 572 project returns and 378 spots to fill.

### **Approval of Consent Agenda Items**

- Mr. Morehart moved to approve the Consent Agenda reports as presented which includes the 23-24 School Year Calendar.
- Dr. Kimble seconded the motion.
- All voted in favor and the motion was adopted.

#### **Cyber Innovation Center Update**

Ms. Sealy stated that Ms. Nash is working with the robotic component, and the students are programming and moving towards being competitive. She also shared that the school has a coding group, through a grant, that teaches students how to code.

#### **Faculty Health Unit**

Ms. Myles reported that we are currently in the single digits for the number of absences due to health-related issues.

**Board Chairman's Report:** Mr. Wayt provided the Board Chairman's Report.

##### **Weight Training and Teacher Training**

Mr. Wayt reported that Dr. Kyle Pierce and some weightlifting students from LSUS presented a great 45-minute exhibition to our 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. He stated that the weightlifting program is set to start soon and continue in the summertime. The school will provide transportation to LSUS. Ms. Sealy shared that the goal of the program is to start as an elective.

##### **LSUS Partnership Conference**

Mr. Wayt reported that there was a meeting with LSUS to discuss creating a pathway for teacher training and certification. Dr. Jennings shared that the State changed the Praxis exam requirements, but schools are still requiring students to complete the Praxis I to be accepted to their certification program. Dr. Jennings also mentioned that he met with Loyola University New Orleans about how to work around this situation.

##### **LDOE Update & Superintendent Visit**

Mr. Wayt shared that the State Superintendent came to visit the school and was impressed. On April 27, the

superintendent will visit the 331 E. 71<sup>st</sup> Street location at 1 PM. Mr. Morehart recommended inviting our BESE representative to visit during the same time.

**BOT/ Leadership Conference**

There was no new report.

**Aquaponics Update**

Mr. Wayt reported that he visited the Aquaponics class, and it was amazing. He stated that there was a lot of engagement and energy from the teacher and students. Ms. Sealy shared that the program is going well. However, the school is still awaiting a curriculum for Aquaponics. Ms. Sealy will follow up with LSU about the curriculum because they will endorse the program. The program is offered as an elective and adds to our academic index score.

**Unfinished Business:** The board and independent consultant will meet virtually this Wednesday at 10:30 am to discuss the CEO evaluation.

**New Business:** The next academic committee meeting on March 8<sup>th</sup> will be cancelled due to the Plain Talk conference.

**Executive Session:** There was a brief executive session to discuss a personnel matter. Executive session opened at 5:33 pm. Executive session ended at 5:37 pm.

- Mr. Magee: Moved to return to regular session.
- Dr. Kimble: Seconded the motion.
- All voted in favor.

**Adjourn:** Mr. Magee moved, and Dr. Kimble seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 5:37 PM. All voted in favor.

**Please mark your calendars.**

The next meeting will be on **March 27, 2023**, at **4:00 PM**