



**KIPP ACADEMY LYNN PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AND  
KIPP ACADEMY BOSTON PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
October 28, 2020 | 9:00 a.m.**

The meeting of the Board of Trustees of **KIPP ACADEMY LYNN PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL and KIPP ACADEMY BOSTON PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL** (collectively, the “Schools”), a body politic and corporate created and existing under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 71, Section 89, convened at 9:00 a.m. on October 28, 2020 via Zoom, held remotely in compliance with Governor Baker’s March 12, 2020 Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, at which a quorum of the Trustees was present. The following Trustees were noted present by roll call: Amanda Seider, Shenkiat Lim, Michael Kendall, Doug Borchard, Tom Beecher, Luis Gondelles, Ivelisse Gonzalez, Jennifer Davis, David Daniel, Shellina Semexant, Rhonda Nikki Barnes, Stephanie Oliveras, Paul Ketterer, and Matt Fates

The following Trustees were absent: N/A

Additional participants: Eveleen Hsu, Caleb Dolan, Annabelle Feliz, Laurie Kennedy, Lovette Curry, Stephen Pizzimenti, Coretta Martin, Meg Smith, Myisha Rodriques, and John Kalafatas.

Seider called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and presided throughout the meeting. Coretta Martin kept the minutes of the meeting. Seider ascertained that sufficient Trustees were present at the meeting, and that, accordingly, a quorum existed.

After welcoming the Trustees who were present at the meeting, Seider then presented the agenda as follows: (1) Welcome and Introductions; (2) Unpacking the beginnings of our racial Identity; (3) KIPP MA’s Equity Evolution: How did we go from DEI to Leading for Racial Justice?; (4) KIPP MA’s Problem Statement & Strategy to Address; (5) Safe and Strong Start: Update; (6) Audit Review (7) Consent Agenda.

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Seider welcomed all participants to the meeting. Barnes then introduced Meg Smith and Myisha Rodriques, KIPP MA staff members joining the board, as well as John Kalalfates from the KIPP Foundation. Martin then led the board in an icebreaker in breakout spaces where participants shared their responses to the prompt.

**2. Unpacking the beginnings of our racial identity**

Hsu began the *Unpacking the Beginnings of our Racial Identity* session by reviewing the group norms. In small groups of 4-5 participants, this session continued with reintroductions within



groups and responses to “Bring us to a moment or series of moments that led you to want to be on the governing board of an education organization that primarily works with students of color”. Next, as a whole group the participants shared the similarities and differences among the stories shared and what that means as a greater board. Hsu then prompted the board to find what resonated with them in an excerpt from “A Talk To Teachers” by James Baldwin, October 16, 1963. As participants shared what resonates with them, Hsu found similarities and shared her experience as a the found KALE principal and how the impact of the two pandemic we continue to see: COVID-19 and racism, effect educators within the classroom. Lastly, Hsu shared KIPP MA’s Anti-Racism Journey and the cycle of who we are and what we do in the journey.

### **3. KIPP MA’s Equity Evolution: How did we go from DEI to Leading for Racial Justice?**

Dolan began by sharing where we have been as an organization in three chapters, each chapter accounting for a period in KIPP MA’s history. Dolan shared the experiences of a few lonely voices who advocated and worked to bring antiracist work to the forefront of KIPP MA’s priorities between 2010 and 2012 as chapter one. Chapter two outlines a step forward, resistance, followed by silence between 2012 and 2015. Chapter three bring us to the present moment and out lines KIPP MA’s sustained commitment, investment and change between 2016 and 2020. As part of chapter three and beyond Hsu reviewed the differences between equality, equity and justice, noting that ultimately justice prompts the fixing of systems that cause inequality.

### **4. KIPP MA’s Problem Statement & Strategy to Address**

Hsu presented the problem statement to the board, then lead them into small groups where they shared their reflections on the prompt. In small groups, the board reflected on KIPP MA’s vison and how the board plays a role in continuing to disrupt problem statement. As a full group the board shared their responses and the impact and responsibility as a board to uphold the organization’s mission to be an antiracist organization.

### **5. Safe and Strong Start: Update**

Barnes updated the board on KIPP MA’s safe and strong start and reviewed the overall preparedness of KIPP MA. Barnes noted the differences in protocol that the organization has implemented in comparison to the states model, with KIPP MA exceeding in a number of areas as a precaution for its students, families and staff. Attendance at each school exceeded the 80% attendance goal for the week of October 12, teacher and school leaders continue to monitor student participation as we continue remote learning.

### **6. Audit Review**

Pizzimenti lead the board in the audit review highlighting several positives. After a second year with a clean audit, this moves us back into the low risk auditee classification, meaning that we



will have lower levels of federal testing requirements in next year's audit. Several process improvements from the finance team greatly contributed to the positive results; full implementation of new credit card policies, introduction of prepaid PEX card policy, and tighter control on budgeting and invoice approval processes. Financial results were positive overall, partly due to schools being closed in the spring and the resulting expense savings, plus tuition coming in higher than budgeted. We met all of our renegotiated Citizens covenants without any issues. Lastly, FY21 COVID-19 grants will likely all be fully tested in next year's audit, so we will need to ensure we track those carefully.

## **7. Consent Agenda**

After discussion, the board, by unanimous roll call vote, took the following action:

### **VOTED: To approve the Acceptance of the board document.**

Seider opened the floor for discussion. The Board did not present questions or comments. The Board voted by roll call as follows:

Seider: YES, Barnes: YES, Lim: YES, Kendall: YES, Borchard: YES, Beecher: YES, Gondelles: YES, Gonzalez: YES, Davis: YES, Oliveras: YES, Semexant: YES, Daniel: YES.

### **VOTED: To approve the Minutes Representation Letter Fund.**

Seider opened the floor for discussion. The Board did not present questions or comments. The Board voted by roll call as follows:

Seider: YES, Barnes: YES, Lim: YES, Kendall: YES, Borchard: YES, Beecher: YES, Gondelles: YES, Gonzalez: YES, Davis: YES, Oliveras: YES, Semexant: YES, Daniel: YES.

### **VOTED: To approve the Signal Audit Management Representation Letter.**

Seider opened the floor for discussion. The Board did not present questions or comments. The Board voted by roll call as follows:

Seider: YES, Barnes: YES, Lim: YES, Kendall: YES, Borchard: YES, Beecher: YES, Gondelles: YES, Gonzalez: YES, Davis: YES, Oliveras: YES, Semexant: YES, Daniel: YES.

### **VOTED: To approve the Minutes Representation Letter.**

Seider opened the floor for discussion. The Board did not present questions or comments. The Board voted by roll call as follows:

Seider: YES, Barnes: YES, Lim: YES, Kendall: YES, Borchard: YES, Beecher: YES, Gondelles: YES, Gonzalez: YES, Davis: YES, Oliveras: YES, Semexant: YES, Daniel: YES.



At this time meeting minutes were not approved.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.

List of Documents Used at the Meeting ***(These documents must be retained by the public body, but do not need to be physically stored with the meeting minutes.)***

- 2020.10.28 KIPP MA Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda
- 2020.10.28 Board Retreat PPT
- 2020 KIPP Academy Financial Statement Draft 10-16-20
- 2020 KIPP Academy Management Letter Draft 10-16-20
- BOT Acceptance (Acceptance of the board document)
- Minutes Rep Letter- Funds
- Minutes Rep Letter
- Single Audit Management Rep Letter FY20

*Amanda Seider*

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[Board Secretary]