



STATESMEN
COLLEGE PREPARATORY ACADEMY FOR BOYS
Build Strong Boys

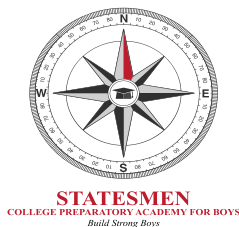
Minutes of Board of Trustees
November 29, 2023
by Zoom
6:30 p.m. – 9 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

1. **Board Members Present:** Alicia Adams, Satira Streeter Corbitt, Shawn Hardnett, Sandra McCoy, Ray D. McKenzie, Greg Van Houten, Nicole Solomon Mitchell, Bisi Oyedele, Raymond Weedon, and Bernie Woolfley.
2. **Guests and Staff Present:** Stephone Harris (Director of Operations) and Charles Moore (strategic planning consultant).
3. **Board Members Absent:** Juan Pagan, Samantha Barbee

AGENDA ITEMS

4. **Introduction of Stephone Harris**
 - a. New Director of Operations, Stephone Harris, introduced himself to the Board.
5. **Vote on Adding Ms. Barbara Williams to the Board**
 - a. Board members voted, either in advance of meeting or during meeting, on adding Ms. Barbara Williams to the Board. Ms. Williams is a Parent of three Statesmen scholars and a resident of Washington, D.C. The Board unanimously approved her appointment. Each present Board member then introduced themselves to Ms. Williams.
6. **Consent Agenda**
 - a. Board voted to approve the September Strategic Planning Retreat Meeting Minutes. The Board unanimously approved the minutes.
7. **Reminder Regarding Board Pledges and Gifts**
 - a. Reminder was shared that Board pledges and gifts are due by December 31, 2023.



8. Update on Student International Travel Plans

- a. Ms. Mitchell discussed the international travel plans for our seventh and eighth graders, to Europe and South Africa respectively.
- b. In a good place, as far as passports, etc., in trip readiness/preparation.

9. September Financials and Final Enrollment

- a. Presented by Stephone Harris, Director of Operations.
- b. More students and at-risk students enrolled than budgeted for, but less SPED level three and four students.
- c. Expected Days of Cash: 133.
- d. Overall, our current financial position is strong.

10. Investment Policy

- a. We have significant cash on hand, and it was discussed that the School should be earning a return on that money. An RFP for an investment advisor will be issued (the RFP is currently in draft form).

11. P.R. Harris Update

- a. Ingenuity Prep has been assigned the lease.
- b. Draft letter agreement with Ingenuity Prep has been finalized.
 - i. Provides for rent to be 100% of per-pupil funding through June 2024 less what we have already paid Building Pathways. Provides us time to negotiate our longer-term sublease.
 - ii. Board unanimously approved the letter agreement, as drafted.

12. Strategic Planning Discussion

- a. Presented by Mr. Charles Moore



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- i. Steps completed: Kickoff, engage staff on strategy, engage Academic Excellence Committee on program investments, engaged parents at Chat and Chew.
 - ii. Board identified “rigor” as the pillar of the program that should receive the most attention.
 - iii. Significant staff alignment as to the activities and efforts that make the most difference in achieving our mission.
 - iv. Discussed the “most important needs” identified by staff.
 - v. Debriefed the Chat & Chew conducted with parents, and their “wish lists” for the School.
- b. Ms. Adams – led conversation of the Portrait of a Statesmen Graduate.
- i. “The Portrait of a Statesmen Graduate” document was circulated before our meeting.
 - ii. Document will be added to Board Handbook, will be distributed to funders, parents, etc.
- c. Review strategy map.
- i. Mr. Hardnett discussed the role and place of the National Association of Black Male Educators (NABME), and our partnership with NABME.
 - ii. Discussed the role and importance of critical exposures and activities, the tension with other goals, and the academic and other justifications.
 1. Discussed possibility of more specifically programming critical exposure opportunities for 4th through 6th grades.
- 13. Adjourned:** The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.