



**Statesmen College Preparatory Academy for Boys PCS**  
**October 28, 2020 Board Retreat Minutes**  
**via Zoom**

1. **Board Members Present:** Nicole Solomon Mitchell, Ray McKenzie, Shawn Hardnett, Satira Streeter Corbitt, Sandi McCoy, Samantha Barbee, Alicia Adams, Raymond Weeden, Bisi Oyedele, Juan Pagan, Bernie Woolfley, and Greg Van Houten.
2. **Board Members Absent:** Mary Brown and James Cadogan.
3. **Staff Members Present:** Amanda Bloom, Rictor Craig, and Sharonda Mann.
4. **Outside Support Staff Present:** Joe Marren and Kim Swenson.
5. **Roll Call:** Roll call was taken, the results of which are reflected above.
6. **General Announcements and Welcome**
  - a. Nicole Solomon Mitchell (Board Chair) welcomed everyone to our first open Zoom meeting. Ms. Mitchell discussed general operating procedures, including the ten-minute comment period at the end of the meeting, and Statesmen's commitment to answer all questions before the next Board meeting.
7. **Approval of August 2020 Board Meeting Minutes**
  - a. Greg Van Houten moved to approve the August 2020 Board Meeting Minutes. Samantha Barbee seconded the motion. The present board members unanimously approved the minutes.
8. **Board & School Alignment**
  - a. Revisited Statesmen's four values—relationships, rigor, relevance, and resilience—and discussed how the Board's work should always align with those values.
9. **Finance**
  - a. Presented by Ms. Barbee.
  - b. Discussed how lowered expenses have offset modest revenue shortfall caused by slightly lower-than-projected enrollment.
  - c. Reviewed strong key performance indicators, including days of cash, gross margin, and grants invoiced.
  - d. Discussed FY21 forecasted operating expenses.
  - e. Discussed high-level budget variances and cash flow forecast.
  - f. Ms. Mitchell reminded Board regarding our goal of 100% Board giving. Ms. Mitchell noted that 100% of the Executive Committee has already given for 2020.

## 10. School Update

- a. Presented by Shawn Hardnett and Rictor Craig.
- b. Mr. Hardnett noted that, because we are at the beginning of the school year, we do not have *all* of the student achievement data that we may have later in the year.
- c. Mr. Hardnett noted concern for the physical and mental health of our families and students, given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
- d. Initial data suggests that the Summer School Intensive program worked to recover some academic losses caused by COVID-19 and distance learning.
- e. Mr. Hardnett reported that staff morale is high, as is parent satisfaction.
- f. Attendance is high, but academic engagement (via Zoom and at-distance) is a challenge.
- g. A small group of students struggle with attendance; a small group of students also struggle with achievement via distance learning.
- h. Discussed 2020-21 demographics. Noted increase in Ward 8 representation and the unique fact that we have students from every ward.
- i. 95.8% in-seat attendance for 2020-21 Q1 (very high compared to city-wide attendance during distance learning).
- j. Reenrollment rate should be at or near 95%.
- k. Mr. Craig noted the School's push to increase the "celebration" around achievement and growth during distance learning.
- l. Discussed and analyzed MAP achievement data.
- m. Noted that, on average, new students are coming in with slightly higher MAP scores.
- n. MAP indicates that the students who started at Statesmen last year grew at an average amount despite COVID-19.
- o. Discussed Statesmen's Distance Learning Strategy, which focuses on relationships, reading, and math.

## 11. Public Session/Comment Period

- a. No attendee raised any comments or questions for the Board's consideration.

## 12. Adjourned at 9:00 AM EST to enter Closed/Executive Session.

- a. Sandi McCoy moved to enter closed/executive session. Ray McKenzie seconded the motion. Unanimously approved by board members in-attendance.
- b. Discussed Board of Trustees development and training.
- c. This portion of the meeting was closed pursuant to D.C. Official Code §2-575(b)(12).