

**Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
November 25, 2019 – 6:30 PM
Grambling Community Center (City Hall)**

- A. Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order by Dr. Copeland at 6:42 PM.
- B. Prayer**
- C. Pledge of Allegiance**
- D. Approval of the Agenda** – Mr. Downs moved to approve the agenda. This was seconded by Mr. Wiley and approved by the Board without opposition.
- E. Adoption of Previous Minutes** – Previous minutes were not available but will be adopted at the next meeting.
- F. Roll Call** –
 - a. Present Members**
 - Robert Wiley
 - Hollis Downs
 - Dr. Birdex Copeland
 - Forrest Moegle
 - Eddie Robinson III
 - b. Absent Members**
 - Don Tatum
 - Rhonda Pruitt
- G. Lincoln Prep “Showcase”** – No showcase.
- H. Public Comments** –
- I. Report of the Executive Director** –
 - a.** The football team made it to the 1st round and lost 47-35. The boys’ basketball team lost their 1st game. The girls’ basketball team beat Byrd and Richwood. The girls’ team will be in Wossman’s tournament and both teams will play at Richwood on the 27th.
 - b.** All Board Members were given a handout describing the School Performance Score and how it compares to other schools. Lincoln Prep had Interventions for 1 subgroup last year but have improved this year and needed no interventions. Most other schools in the area required 1 or more interventions. Lincoln Prep received an overall grade of 60.1, which is a C. Assessments and ACT scores overall were an F but were slightly higher than previous years. The graduation rate is a B. The strength of diploma is 93.4. Student progress overall is a B. The state takes test scores from the previous year and gives a target score for students to achieve. If the students meet their target, 150 points are given. If they do not meet the target, the state uses a statistical model to line up all students in the state based on their scores. The top 20% gets the highest amount of points, which is 150. The top 40% gets 115, etc. This is a direct comparison of how each school performs with similar students. According to this model, 40% of Lincoln Prep’s high school students are in the top 40% of the state. 43% of the elementary and middle school students are in the top 40% of the state. Lincoln Prep also showed 13.2% improvement in Leap and EOC scores, which is 44 times the state average of 0.3%. Only 81 of 1267 schools in the state had a higher increase than this. Lincoln Prep achieved a B

for student growth. Nearly half of all testers received scores in the highest two growth categories. The Progress Score for K-8 was 79.2 and the Progress Score for high school was 88.7. Mr. Ford completed an analysis of the 3rd grade students and found that students who had been at Lincoln Prep for all 3 years had about 12% higher scores than students in their first year at Lincoln Prep. Lincoln Prep was number 1 in the region for post-secondary readiness. LPS also topped all local school districts in credentials earned with 79% of the seniors, 91% of the economically disadvantaged students, and 85% of students of color earning credentials. LPS also topped all local school districts in college enrollment. Mr. Ford discussed the 2-year comparison, which shows the overall SPS dropping from a 60.5 to a 60.1. The ACT index decreased 33.4%, which had a significant impact on this. All other areas showed increase, except for the Graduation Rate Index, which dropped 0.01%. 7 students graduated but the previous school had them listed as transitional 9th graders, which excludes them from the cohort with that group of 9th graders. Those 7 students will count towards the coming year's graduation rate. Transitional 9th grade is designed for students who may not have done well enough in 8th grade to pass into high school but can't be held in middle school for certain reasons. A comparison to local school districts was provided and shows Lincoln Prep being 1 of 4 to score in the 60s. A comparison was also provided to show Lincoln Prep compared to specific schools in the area. Lincoln Prep is in the average for ACT Composite scores overall. Lincoln Prep's Graduation Rate overall is slightly lower than surrounding areas but significantly higher than some for Economically Disadvantaged students and students of color. The data provided in the handout includes GHS virtual students that did not attend Lincoln Prep, but this will be the last year that those are included. When calculating the percentage of students who are either ready to enroll in college or ready to work with credentials upon graduating, Lincoln Prep averages significantly above the surrounding districts.

- c. The 2016-2017 school year began Lincoln Prep's 5-year charter. This Fall, the Department of Education performed an assessment based on 2018-2019 performance data to determine whether LPS is on track for renewal or not. Following this, BESE will determine whether to extend for another year or not. Next Fall, the Department of Education will perform another assessment based on the 2019-2020 performance data to either renew LPS contract or not renew it. The extension teleconference has been completed and the recommendation to extend will be presented at the December BESE Meeting. The Renewal Standards for the 1st renewal require that a D or higher letter grade must be maintained in the most recent year of the contract term. A C or higher letter grade is required for subsequent renewals. The term length varies based on the current letter grade, with 3 years given for D and F, 4 years for C, 5 years for B, and 6 years for A. Schools with an A or B have the opportunity to get additional years based on organizational and financial performance. The minimum standard requires that a new charter school be at a C in 8 years. Lincoln Prep has accomplished this in 2 years. LPS is striving to be a B school at the next renewal. Steps are being taken to assist in this, such as getting more students in Dual Enrollment, tutoring, etc. Supplemental Course Allocation covers the cost of Dual Enrollment courses for LPS students. The Carl Perkins Grant and funds from LOFSA also cover some of the cost in order to keep these courses

and opportunities free to LPS students. Mr. Ford stated that LPS has about 5 students currently taking the welding certification course. 164 students are currently enrolled in LP high school and we have registered for about 211 college courses in the Fall. The Early College Academy offers students the opportunity to graduate high school with an associate degree. Some students may graduate with 60+ credits, which means they would start college technically as a Junior.

J. New Business

- a. School Fee Policy** – LPS is proposing a School Fee policy. It is the same as the policy passed by the Lincoln Parish School Board this month. The overall purpose is to make sure that schools are not imposing fees on students that prevent the student from participating in academic programs. The Board could decide to either follow Lincoln Parish School Board’s fee schedule or adopt their own schedule to be changed as needed. The policy must be published, passed by the board, and posted on the website. The policy must state that the school shall not charge or assess a fee unless the fee has been set and included in the Schedule of Fees. It will also state that failure to pay any required fee shall not result in withholding the student’s educational record, which has been state law for a while. The Policy includes qualifications for an Economic Hardship Waiver, which would include a large portion of LPS students. Regarding extra-curricular activities, any item that the student will take home and keep, they must pay for. Anything reusable will be paid for by the school and funded through the Student Activity account. Mr. Wiley moved to adopt the Lincoln Parish Fee Schedule as it is used by the Lincoln Parish School Board. This was adopted by the Board without opposition. Mr. Downs moved to adopt the Lincoln Prep Fee policy. This was seconded by Mr. Robinson and approved without opposition from the Board.
- b. Selection of New Board Members** – Dr. Copeland nominated Clara Lewis and Barbara McIntyre to join the Board of Directors. Mr. Wiley moved to appointment Clara and Barbara to the Board. This was seconded by Mr. Downs. The Board approved the new members for a 3-year term.
- c. Adoption of Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire** – Board Members were given a copy of the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire as completed to be forwarded to the auditor. Mr. Robinson moved to adopt the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire as completed and signed. This was seconded by Mr. Wiley and adopted by the Board without opposition.

K. Reports –

- a. Financial** – Revenues received are on target. The October food service reimbursement was delayed due to the State hacking issue, but it has been rectified now. Expenditures are under budget. Salaries and Benefits are on target. Board Members were provided with a detailed copy of the Financial Report to review for additional information. Mr. Wiley expressed concern about staff members refraining from enrolling in health insurance. Mr. Ford stated that he has been encouraging staff to enroll in a high deductible plan with a health savings account. While LPS can not deposit directly into an employee’s health savings account, they can provide a health care bonus of \$100 per month that the employee can put into their own account. Mr. Ford will send Board Members a copy of the information provided to faculty members regarding this

account. Mr. Downs moved to adopt the Financial Report as printed. This was seconded by Mr. Moegle and adopted without opposition.

- b. Alumni and Community Relations** – No report.
 - c. Transportation and Facilities** – No report.
 - d. Education** – No report.
- L. Old Business** –
 - a. MOU between Grambling High Foundation and Grambling State University** – No discussion.
- M. Next Meeting Date** – The next meeting date is January 27, 2020 at 6:30 PM with the committees meeting at 6:00 PM, if necessary.
- N. Announcements** – Mr. Downs requested to continue discussion on the annual evaluation of the Executive Director. Ms. Boden was working on this during her time on the Board and it will be continued by Mr. Downs and Mr. Wiley.
- O. Executive Session** – Mr. Downs moved to enter an Executive Session. This was seconded by Mr. Wiley and the room was cleared of all non-Board members.
- P. Adjournment** – With nothing left to discuss, Mr. Downs moved to adjourn the meeting. This was seconded by Mr. Wiley and the meeting was adjourned at 8:26 PM.