

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

October 26, 2020 - 6:30 pm

Annual Budget Hearing – 6:00 PM

Via Teleconference

- A. Call to Order** – The hearing was called to order at 6:30 PM by Mr. Wiley.
- B. Prayer**
- C. Pledge of Allegiance**
- D. Approval of the General Meeting Agenda** - A motion was made by Daphne Gallot to approve the meeting agenda. This was seconded by Barbara McIntyre. The agenda was approved without opposition from the Board.
- E. Adoption of Previous Minutes** – Following a motion made by Mr. Downs and seconded by Mrs. Lewis, the minutes from the previous meeting were adopted with the stated corrections.
- F. Roll Call**
 - 1. Present Members**
 - Robert Wiley
 - Daphne Gallot
 - Barbara McIntyre
 - Clara Lewis
 - Don Tatum
 - Hollis Downs
 - 2. Absent Members**
 - Eddie Robinson III
- G. Lincoln Prep “Showcase”** – Melanie Colvin introduced Jayden Gilliam, a junior at Lincoln Prep. Jayden serves as a state Officer and the President of the Louisiana Gear Up program, which is a program that increases assistance to low income students. This is often done using trips and activities to help gain leadership skills. Jayden spoke about his positive experiences with Gear Up and stated that he has even completed financial awareness training, which will be useful later in life. Jayden began taking dual enrollment classes in his freshman year and currently has 17 credits. He stated that this will make his senior year a lot easier because he will not be required to take as many classes. Jayden has participated in local, state, and national leadership conferences. LA Gear Up also offers tutoring to students struggling in certain classes. Ms. Colvin stated that 6-9th and 12th grade is a state funded program, while 10th and 11th grade is federally funded.
- H. Public Comments** – Members of the public were present, but no comments were made.
- I. Report of the Executive Director** –
 - 1.** 588 students are currently enrolled. Some students enrolled at other schools that were currently offering physical classes and are going through the reconciliation process. 700+ applications have been received to date. New Living Word school is serving as the current location for Kindergarten through 4th grade, with some students attending virtually. Grades 5-12 will remain virtual through December. Limited in-person classes

will begin in November and some in December for special education students and those virtual students needing extra assistance.

2. The temporary campus for the high school, the former Fred's building, is expected to be completed next week. All furniture has been moved except for the front offices. There was a delay with the modular buildings because of coding issues. Additional paperwork has been filed and approved by the state. The expected completion date is 12/4.
3. Football season is underway. Although Lincoln Prep has not won a game yet, progress is being made. There are currently more players on the team than ever before but 90% of those have never played before. There are 3 seniors playing now and 1 expected to come back from injury soon. A home game is scheduled for 11/12 and will likely include homecoming activities. The location is to be determined, as LPSB was asked to reconsider their denial for Lincoln Prep to use the field at the junior high school. The basketball team has started practicing. More information regarding basketball season is forthcoming.
4. Lincoln Prep's contract was renewed for 4 more years, effective 7/1, when the current contract ends. The expectation for renewal is to get a grade of D after 5 years, then a 3-year renewal is given. Last year, in Lincoln Prep's 4th year, the state looked back at 3rd year and Lincoln Prep had achieved a C. This means that Lincoln Prep met and exceeded the expectation 2 years early.
5. The architect for the permanent campus is William McElroy, who designed Union High and MLK Middle in Monroe. The Basic School Program outline has been completed. This outline includes the number of rooms, gyms, etc. Drawing is underway and the team meets weekly on Thursdays to discuss. Financing has been approved by LPFA. The Bond Commission application has been submitted and they will meet on 11/19 to discuss/vote. Lincoln Prep's attorney met with the family owning the land last week and believes they may have enough information now to move forward with an outright purchase. Mr. Tatum asked about a backup plan if this land falls through. Mr. Ford stated that there are not many other options that would accommodate a full athletic facility. Mr. Downs asked if the delay in getting into the facilities will diminish the academic results, including student numbers. Mr. Ford stated that, while it is preferable to have students in person as much as possible, Lincoln Prep is well prepared due to starting virtual at the beginning of the COVID pandemic. He believes that Lincoln Prep is equal to, if not ahead, of where students in other school districts currently are. He believes that students will have everything they need to thrive.
6. Last Friday, the first Lincoln Prep staff member tested positive for Coronavirus. There have been some in the past that had to quarantine because of being in close contact with people around them who were positive, but none tested positive themselves. Due to HIPAA laws, the only information that can be released is that it was a staff member in a Kindergarten classroom. The parents of each student were contacted and informed that they would need to quarantine for 10 days. They were asked to monitor for symptoms and to see their doctor if symptoms present. Once the staff member and classroom are taken care of, notice will be sent to all Lincoln Prep staff family, etc. to let them know of the above and that no other students were affected. Today, one student tested positive. This student was at school on Friday but showed no symptoms. The

student had a rapid test today and was positive. The procedure for a positive asymptomatic test is to go back 48 hours from start of symptoms to determine if anyone else was exposed. 48 hours prior to symptom onset was Saturday, so notification is sent to necessary people, but no other steps are taken.

J. New Business

- 1. Election of New Board Member(s)** – Forrest Moegle has given his resignation due to a conflict with a teaching job that he received at La Tech. The Board appreciates his service during his time on the Board. So far, Mr. Washington is the only resume that was received but he stated that he has conflicting schedules and is no longer able to do it. Pamela Stewart served on the Board in the past and is interested in returning. Mr. Tatum moved to re-elect Mrs. Stewart to the Board of Directors. This was seconded by Mr. Downs. Mrs. Stewart was re-elected without opposition from the board. Mr. Ford added that 1 additional Board Member is needed to stay at 9 members. No GSU staff are permitted to join at this time.

K. Reports

- i. Financial** – Approximately 23% of the MFP funding has been received. This is a little bit behind because first 2 payments were based on previous enrollment numbers. The budget for this year is based on 590 students. Mr. Ford stated that enrollment is currently at 588 because some students chose to attend other schools temporarily and return to Lincoln Prep once in person classes resume. The Food Service started feeding again on 9/28, so there is nothing to report for the August budget but will be included in the October budget. The audit document request should be received soon, and the audit process will begin. The Charter report was submitted to the state this week. The annual AMR was finalized and submitted on 9/28, although it was not due until 10/31. Once the document request has been received from the Bond Commission, that will be completed. Mr. Ford added that some staff positions previously budgeted for have not been filled because the student count has not increased to that capacity yet. Mrs. McIntyre asked how many students are currently attending in person. Mr. Ford stated that K-4 are the only grades offering in person classes at this time. Approximately 2/3 of those, around 100-125 students, are attending in person. Lincoln prep has been able to repurpose some of the computers that were purchased for virtual to be used in classrooms.
- 2. Alumni and Community Relations** – No report.
- 3. Transportation and Facilities Update** – No report.
- 4. Education** – No report.

L. Old Business

- 1. Relationship between Grambling High Foundation and Grambling State University** – Lincoln Prep moved from the GSU high school cafeteria to the Alma J. Brown building because GSU was supposed to use the high school cafeteria. Since they did not use it, discussion is ongoing about moving the food service back there. Staff is working on the plans for this. The former Lincoln Prep building has been given back to GSU except for the trophy room, as previously discussed. The Attorney General stated that all GSU

items had to remain on GSU campus, although Lincoln Prep had been using them for years. Lincoln Prep is working to see if GSU can loan the items to us until we are able to purchase them for the permanent building.

- M. Next meeting** – The next Board Meeting is December 14, 2020 at 6:30 PM with committees meeting at 6:00 PM, if necessary.
- N. Announcement** – The Board congratulated Mr. Ford for completing the requirements to obtain a master’s degree in Teaching. He will receive this on November 18th, which is also 51st birthday.
- O. Executive Session** – Mr. Wiley stated that an executive session is needed and asked for a motion. Mrs. Gallot moved, and Mrs. McIntyre seconded the motion to enter into an executive session at 7:33 PM. All participants who are not Board Members were removed from the Zoom meeting. The Board returned to a regular session at 7:45 PM.
- P. Adjournment** – With nothing further to discuss, Mrs. Gallot moved, and Mrs. Lewis seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 PM.