

**The College Preparatory & Leadership Academy  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Virtual via Zoom Platform  
September 28, 2024 @ 9:00am**

**Members Present:** Marcus Brandon (chair), Dr. Tamara Turner (vice-chair), Dr. Michelle Meggs, Eugene Slocum, Dr. Linda McRae, Dr. Michelle Johnson (non-voting)

**Members Absent:** Dr. Benita Varnado

**Others Present:** Tacuma Johnson

**Public Comments:**

None.

**Approval of Minutes**

E. Slocum moved, M. Brandon seconded to approve the minutes from the June 15, 2024 minutes. Approved.

**Superintendent Report**

The enrollment has reached its highest in the school's 13-year history—current enrollment stands at 910. This enrollment has occurred without adding any additional buses. The school is approaching the capacity of its infrastructure.

The school is on-track for 32 high school graduates, 14 of whom will earn college credits—most of whom will achieve Associate Degrees from GTCC at the same time as they earn their high school diploma.

Dr. Johnson reiterated the school's performance goals as they relate to the charter renewal for 2028-2029. DPI will review the previous three years from the renewal date. The school "Met Growth" this year.

Using a grant from the Congdon Family Foundation, Dr. Johnson took 15 teachers and administrators to visit a school in Baker, LA and learn best practices. There is also a PD led by a school leader from Albuquerque, NM who will do training for our teachers and administrators as a part of this grant. This school specializes in internship/trade education to help the school expand its program in that area.

Dr. Johnson shared the new hire list for the beginning of the year. Almost all of the new hires are non-instructional or non-core-subject teachers, which means that CPLA is retaining its core teachers across Elementary, Middle, and High School. Remember that Dr. Johnson changed the educational staffing model from using Teacher Assistants to Instructional Assistants. Instructional Assistants have to demonstrate a core competency of subject and pedagogical proficiency. Also, two of the school's instructional assistants are alumni of CPLA.

**ATHLETIC:** This is the school's first year of varsity tackle football. The team is doing well.

Dr. Johnson wants the Board to remember our 2-year goal to take scholars on an international travel experience. Dr. T. Turner and E. Slocum mentioned that their schools have done international travel before and have a wealth of information to share in that regard.

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Dr. Johnson reviewed the Parents' Right to Know guidelines and how the school is complying with the letter and spirit of those requirements. She emphasized that our school is a commuter school, not a neighborhood school. Many of our parents bus their children to CPLA from miles away, so Dr. Johnson is intentional about providing many virtual opportunities for parents to engage.

Dr. L. McRae moved, Dr. M. Meggs seconded to approve the Superintendent Report. Approved.

**Finance Officer Report**

T. Johnson presented the YE Budget v Actual report. T. Johnson also distributed the Board Conflict of Interest & Anti-Nepotism Policy disclosures. This year's ADM is being finalized at DPI, that will inform the finalizing of the budget. E. Slocum moved, Dr. McRae seconded to approve the Finance Officer Report. Approved.

**Adjournment**

Dr. M. Meggs moved, Dr. T. Turner seconded to adjourn at 10:02 AM. Approved.