

The Lawson Academy

October 26, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

William A. Lawson Institute for Peace and Prosperity

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Terence Frederick
Bryce Kennard
Mary Ramos
Champ Warren
Yolanda Smith

STAFF/GUESTS

Cheryl Lawson, Executive Director
Ingrid Baker, Principal
Katina Gordon, CIS Counselor
Dr. Delic Loyde, Consultant
Mosab Imam, Business Manager

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Chavon Carr
Eric Goodie

The Lawson Academy Agenda

- 1. Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Mary Ramos at 9:38 a.m.
- 2. Establishment of Quorum.** Quorum was established at 9:38 a.m.
- 3. Opening Prayer.** Cheryl Lawson led a prayer.
- 4. Public Comment.** There was no public comment.
- 5. Academy Vision (9:39 a.m.).** Champ Warren read the Academy Vision.
- 6. Approval of Minutes (9:39 a.m. – 9:40 a.m.).** Champ Warren moved the approval of the September 28, 2024 Academy Minutes and Board of Directors Minutes. Bryce Kennard seconded the motion. The motion was approved by T. Frederick, B. Kennard, M. Ramos, C. Warren and Y. Smith.
- 7. Academy Report (9:40 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.).** Demographic analysis was reviewed. Principal Baker provided an update on the results of the Interim STAAR for Math and English/Language Arts. There is content which is tested but not yet taught. Student performance shows that much is needed to get these students ready for the STAAR next spring. Ms. Katina Gordon, the Communities in Schools counselor, spoke about herself and the work she is doing in support of The Lawson Academy. There is an expected caseload of 73 students, and the current load is 40. She is providing one-on-one and small group sessions for students along with parents, as needed. A teacher has resigned and one of the adjunct teachers was assigned as a replacement, avoiding additional hiring. The Science class will participate in a STEM enrichment program in partnership with the Port City Chapter of the Links in November. We also look forward to the creation of a NSBE Chapter (National Society of Black Engineers) in partnership with this same group.
- 8. Lone Star Governance (10:00 – 10:02 a.m.).** Dr. Loyde was not in attendance. The Lawson Academy has been removed from the LSG Exemplar application this year, due to the conflict which would exist with our use of Dr. Loyde as a Mentor in the TERM project. The Board remains an Exemplar Board on the TEA website.

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9. Superintendent's Report (10:02 – 10:11 a.m.). Superintendent Lawson reported that we have been removed from the Charter School Incubator Program because of our low STAAR results last year. A slide show on the Recruitment Activity was presented, showing 14 leads in September and 62 leads in October. The TEA has closed the 2022 Annual Finance Report which is the audit from that fiscal year. Now that the work of the Lawson Academy Real Estate Co Board has ended, the two members who were on that board are being considered to be added to this WALIPP Board of Directors. Yolanda Smith moved the approval of Rashonner Lillie and Vernon Lewis to serve on the WALIPP Board of Directors. Champ Warren seconded the motion. The motion was approved by T. Frederick, B. Kennard, M. Ramos, C. Warren and Y. Smith.

10. Executive Session. There was no Executive Session.

12. Adjourn Meeting. Champ Warren moved adjournment. Yolanda Smith seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 10:11 a.m.