

## The Lawson Academy

November 16, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes

### William A. Lawson Institute for Peace and Prosperity

#### BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Chavon Carr  
Mary Ramos  
Champ Warren  
Yolanda Smith

#### BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Terence Frederick  
Eric Goodie  
Bryce Kennard

#### STAFF/GUESTS

Cheryl Lawson, Executive Director  
Dr. Marthea Raney, Principal  
Ms. Deborah Nickerson, Teacher

### The Lawson Academy Agenda

- 1. Call to Order.** The Zoom meeting was called to order by Mary Ramos at 9:47 a.m.
- 2. Establishment of Quorum.** Quorum was established at 9:47a.m.
- 3. Opening Prayer.** Cheryl Lawson led a prayer.
- 4. Public Comment.** There was no public comment.
- 5. Academy Vision (9:39 a.m. – 9:39 a.m.).** Dr. Marthea Raney read the Vision to the Board.
- 6. Approval of Minutes (9:50 – 9:50 a.m.).** Champ Warren moved the approval of the October 28, 2023 Academy and Board of Directors minutes. Yolanda Smith seconded the motion. The motion was approved by C. Carr, M. Ramos, Y. Smith and C. Warren.
- 7. Academy Report (9:39 – 10:11 a.m.).** Principal Raney discussed the student data and the review of our academic progress through teacher-tests for Mathematics and English/Language Arts & Reading. There was a presentation of a TikTok video on Edgenuity teacher Deborah Nickerson. Ms. Nickerson presented the results of Edgenuity assessments showing student growth in reading and math. There was discussion on student performance in our school and across the region, with many students not on grade level. The Lawson Academy is not listed as an “Improvement Required” school, meaning that without Accountability data (pending a lawsuit with TEA), the score is likely higher than a C.
- 9. Lone Star Governance (10:11 – 10:13 a.m.).** Dr. Delic Loyde was not in attendance. Deciding on a date for the two-day Lone Star Governance class, Saturday, February 24 and Sunday, February 25 were selected. Other board members will be invited to confirm their availability before securing the presenters.
- 10. Superintendent’s Report (10:13 – 10:29 a.m.).** Superintendent Lawson displayed the proof of Audit Submission (one of the LSG Constraints). The Resolution to expand to a campus site at Regency Lofts was presented and discussed. Champ Warren moved the approval of Resolution 24-02: Expansion to Regency Pre-K Site. Yolanda Smith seconded the motion. The motion was approved by C. Carr, M. Ramos, Y. Smith and C. Warren. The meetings with Marvin Pierre of 8 Million Stories and the possibility of expansion to high school grades was discussed. Champ Warren has been aware of 8 Million Stories for

## **The Lawson Academy**

### November 16, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes

some time and introduced them to The Lawson Academy a year or so ago. There was enthusiasm for the opportunity to grow up in grades for 9, 10, 11 and 12. Continuing discussions will take place to determine if a partnership is possible.

**11. Executive Session.** There was no Executive Session.

**12. Adjourn Meeting.** Champ Warren moved adjournment. Chavon Carr seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 10:31 a.m.