

**Success Preparatory Academy  
Board Meeting  
September 7, 2011**

**Board Members in Attendance**

Sassy Wheeler, Sean Singleton, Sassy Wheeler, Avery Corenswet, Nia Davis, Ben Blanchard, Anderson Baker, Jack Carey

**Unable to Attend**

Avione Brown Pichon, Kathy Broussard, Lee Adler

**Also in Attendance**

St. Claire Adriaan, Niloy Gangopadhyay, Kendall Wolfson, Heidi Jones, Hedaayah Abdol, Jenny Peterson

**Call to Order**

6:34 p.m. Meeting called to order by Board Chair Sassy Wheeler.  
Sassy Wheeler made a motion to appoint Avery Corenswet as acting Secretary  
Seconded by Ben Blanchard.  
Approved unanimously

**1. Review Agenda**

Change in agenda: will not review July minutes at this meeting

Motion by Anderson Baker to accept agenda.

Seconded by Sean Singleton.

Unanimous.

**2. Review Meeting Minutes: August 2011**

Motion by Anderson Baker to accept minutes.

Seconded by Sean Singleton

Unanimous

### 3. School Leaders Reports

St. Claire stated that the YoNOLA drama group is back with the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes with more structure this year. After auditioning, 16-20 will participate in the program at the Southern Rep theater.

Test reports: St. Claire stated:

Still have some students who will be taking the LEAP (?) - approximated 10 in each grad  
Current 5<sup>th</sup> graders came in lower than expected

1 student came in from another school at pre K level

% on reports needs to be checked- Jack

Tests are from the program we have; close correlation to common core content standards

Sassy elaborated on common core content standards, that they are nationwide

Ben complemented the Special Ed report

Special Ed: St. Claire stated:

2 students are in adapted PE being done by the Sun center

Sassy asked how Nancy was brought in

St. Claire stated that Nancy was invited in to review the Special Ed program

Enrollment:

Anderson asked how we are so far below projections for 5<sup>th</sup> grade

St. Claire stated that more students did not advance to 5<sup>th</sup> than expected and we lost some students to new schools where siblings attend. He felt we could get 4 or 5 more by Oct. 1.

Niloy stated they had additional ideas for next year to prevent loss of students to other schools due to siblings.

Ben stated that we need to sell the school to the parents in the spring, to focus on being here 9 years from now.

Jack discussed the idea of incentives to parents for enrolling students. Niloy stated that they offer discounts in the spring for purchase of uniforms as an incentive.

St. Claire stated that 4 4<sup>th</sup> grade students aged out to 6<sup>th</sup> grade

Ben asked when Step results would be available. Niloy stated we will have in Oct/Nov.

### 4. Committee Reports

A. Academic Excellence- no report

B. Development

Jack stated that all classrooms are accounted for with some lagniappe donors possibly for the library or music class. Gave kudos to Daniel O'Connell for the work he has done.

Niloy recognized Jack for the run he completed this weekend.

Discussion on meet and greets for potential board members

Sassy stated that we need more potential donor events at the schools and liked the idea of an open house. Ben agreed.

Sean suggested the Donuts for Dad event as a model.

It was discussed that there needed to be multiple options and flexibility in these events.

Jack will identify dates with Niloy and St. Claire for school days for these events.

Niloy liked the idea of a meet and greet outside of schools.

Jack and Ben are to present ideas for these events in October.

C. Facilities- no report

D. Finance

Will vote on options to plug gap in October

Finance chair was unable to attend tonight's meeting

Kendall discussed the RFP process for the maintenance contract; SPA received a protest letter from one of the companies who was seeking the contract. The RSD recommended that we clarify the RFP and redo the process. A timeline will be finalized by the end of the week. We are currently on a month to month with the old provider.

E. Governance- no comments

## 5. **Open Discussion**

IDEA risk pool for the state; cost is 3 times the standard reimbursement. We have a few students who would qualify. Jack recommended to have the SPED group review.

Jack mentioned that the RSD plan by new superintendent White was just released and there is a focus on enrollment process improvements.

Jack also asked about the 4<sup>th</sup> grade math scores, that we have a lot to do to make up the gap. What are the opportunities for volunteers to mentor/tutor students?

Ms Abdol (?) stated that there are extra people in 4<sup>th</sup> grade now to assist.

Avery stated that we need to make sure we have a policy for volunteers in the school which include background checks. Question was asked if this would apply to parents if they volunteer.

St. Claire wanted to let the board know that there would be an assembly on Friday at 11am in memory of 9/11.

## 6. **Action Items Review**

Jack, Niloy and St. Claire will have dates for meet and greets both in and out of school

Sean will bring information on mentoring/tutoring programs  
Jack and Avione will work on the volunteer application and policy.

**Adjournment**

Next meeting will be held on October 13, 2011

Sassy Wheeler moved to adjourn. Seconded by Ben Blanchard.

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.