**The Lawson Academy**
March 28, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes

# William A. Lawson Institute for Peace and Prosperity

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**
Hether Benjamin Brown
Chavon Carr
Terence Frederick
Catherine Mosbacher
Imogen Papadopoulos
Mary Ramos
Morris Smith
Kimberly Wilkinson

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT**
Yolanda Smith

**STAFF/GUESTS**
Cheryl Lawson, Executive Director
Dr. Marthea Raney, Principal
Annette Simmons, Business Manager
Dr. Delic Loyde

# The Lawson Academy Agenda

**1. Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Mary Ramos at 9:35 a.m.

**2. Establishment of Quorum.** The quorum was established at 9:35 a.m.

**3. Opening Prayer & Pledge of Allegiance.** A motion to dispense with the Pledge of Allegiance was made by Terence Frederick. Morris Smith seconded the motion. The motion was approved by H. Benjamin-Brown, C. Carr, T. Frederick, C. Mosbacher, I. Papadopoulos, M. Ramos, M. Smith and K. Wilkinson.

**4. Public Comment.** There was no public comment.

**5. Academy Vision (9:37 a.m. – 9:37 a.m.).** Cheryl Lawson read the Vision to the Board.

**6. Approval of Minutes (9:38 – 9:39 a.m.).** Imogen Papadopoulos made a motion to approve Minutes of the February 22, 2020 meeting. Catherine Mosbacher seconded the motion. The motion was approved by H. Benjamin-Brown, C. Carr, T. Frederick, C. Mosbacher, I. Papadopoulos, M. Ramos, M. Smith and K. Wilkinson.

**7. Governance Committee (9:40 – 9:45 a.m.).** Committee Chair Catherine Mosbacher updated the Board had not yet finished their work, but that they are hoping to have a Zoom Meeting to finish before the next Board of Directors meeting. It was decided that Cheryl Lawson would send access to the Zoom environment to all Board members.

**8. Academy Report (9:45 – 10:15 a.m.).** Principal Marthea Raney reviewed the memorandum from Cheryl Lawson which described the implementation of distance learning (student access to computers, teacher professional development and food service) following the COVID-19 closure. Cheryl Lawson demonstrated what classrooms look like in the Zoom sessions, showing several active sessions. Questions were discussed regarding ADA funding: Texas Education Agency will continue to fund schools. Instructional Continuity is the term used for current distance learning strategies: survey of students regarding technology, grade-level content and the ability to monitor

student progress. There was discussion about the Stimulus Bill, Terence Frederick indicated he would share information with Cheryl Lawson regarding the CARES Act. Longitudinal Analysis was reviewed and Kimberly Wilkinson suggested that we prepare this report annually. Distance learning could also work for students who are sick at home. All board members will receive a link to observe distance learning and teachers will be informed that board members may 'pop in'.

**9. Lone Star Governance ( N/A ).**

**10. Superintendent's Report (10:15 – 10:35 a.m.).** Superintendent Cheryl Lawson discussed the TEA Resolution and Missed School Days Waiver. They allow the Superintendent to submit whatever documents are required based on COVID-19 changes that occur. Catherine Mosbacher moved approval of the TEA Resolution and the Missed School Days Waiver. The motion was approved by H. Benjamin-Brown, C. Carr, T. Frederick, C. Mosbacher, I. Papadopoulos, M. Ramos, M. Smith and K. Wilkinson. Compute purchases which had been expected was impossible since there were none to be bought – so many schools need computers for the kids.

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

**12. Adjourn Meeting.** Kimberly Wilkinson moved adjournment at 10:36 a.m. Morris Smith seconded the motion. The motion was approved by H. Benjamin-Brown, C. Carr, T. Frederick, C. Mosbacher, I. Papadopoulos, M. Ramos, M. Smith and K. Wilkinson.