

***STEM Magnet Academy  
Local School Council  
Regular Meeting Minutes***

July 1, 2014

**I. Call to order**

Ms. McManus called to order the organizational meeting of the Local School Council for the STEM Magnet Academy at 1:01pm on July 1, 2014 at the STEM Magnet Academy gymnasium.

**II. Roll call**

Ms. McManus conducted a roll call. The following persons were present:

Jeremiah Abiade (arrived at 1:15pm)  
Maria Amoruso  
Deana Caccavale  
Deidra Harper  
Sadika Langston  
Jeff McCarter  
Dr. Deborah Bonner  
Dr. William O'Neill  
Gretchen Brinza  
Lindsay McGrane  
Zakiya Libby  
Maria McManus

Quorum was established.

**III. Selection of Temporary Chairperson**

Ms. McManus nominated Dr. Bonner to serve as temporary chairperson. Dr. Bonner accepted nomination.

**IV. Selection of Temporary Secretary**

Mrs. Amoruso volunteered to serve as temporary secretary.

At this point, Mr. McCarter asked that Marcus Pittman (LSC Relations) describe the role and terms of officers elected to LSC positions. Mr. Pittman described the role of the chairperson, vice-chairperson, secretary, and Freedom of Information officer. Mr. Pittman explained that all LSC officers serve 1 year terms.

## **V. Approval of Agenda**

LSC members review agenda. Ms. McManus moves to adopt agenda. Mr. Abiade seconded the motion and the agenda was unanimously approved.

## **VI. Nomination and Selection of Chairperson**

Mrs. Caccavale nominated Mrs. Langston for chairperson, Mrs. Langston accepted the nomination. Mrs. Brinza nominated Mr. Abiade for chairperson, Mr. Abiade accepted the nomination. Dr. Bonner asked both candidates to speak about their qualifications for the position. Dr. Bonner moved to vote for the position of chairperson. Mr. Pittman is asked about the possibility of using a secret ballot. Mr. Pittman states that the LSC handbook does not allow for secret ballots.

Vote: 5 for Mr. Abiade, 6 for Mrs. Langston, 1 abstention.

Mr. McCarter makes statement about both candidates. Mr. Pittman is asked about the option of having co-chairpersons and says that it is not permitted, per LSC handbook. Mrs. Harper makes statement about the qualifications of both candidates. Mrs. Amoruso asks both candidates to share their experiences as chairperson of an organization. Both Mr. Abiade and Mrs. Langston state that they have experience in chairing committees. A second vote for chairperson is conducted.

Vote: 5 for Mr. Abiade, 6 for Mrs. Langston, 1 abstention.

LSC moves to table the issue of selecting a chairperson.

## **VII. Nominations and Selection of the Secretary**

Dr. Bonner opens the floor for nominations for secretary. Ms. McManus nominates Mrs. McGrane for secretary, Mrs. McGrane accepts. Mrs. Harper nominates Mrs. Amoruso, Mrs. Amoruso declines. Dr. Bonner closes the floor to nominations. Mr. McCarter moves to vote for the office of secretary, Mr. Abiade seconds the motion.

Vote: 12 for Mrs. McGrane.

## **VIII. Nominations and Selection of the Vice-Chair**

Dr. Bonner opens the floor for discussion of whether to create the position of vice chairperson for the STEM Magnet Academy LSC. Mr. McCarter moves to create a vice chair position, Mr. Abiade seconds the motion.

Vote: 11 in favor, 1 abstention.

Dr. Bonner opens the floor to nominations for the position of vice chair. Mr. McCarter

nominates Mrs. Langston for vice chair, Mrs. Langston declines. Mrs. Langston nominates Mr. Abiade for vice chair, Mr. Abiade accepts. Ms. McManus nominates Dr. O'Neill for the position of vice chair, Dr. O'Neill accepts. Mr. Abiade and Dr. O'Neill share their reasoning for running for the vice chair position. Mr. McCarter moves to vote again for the chairperson position as the outcome of that vote will impact votes for vice chair position. Mrs. Harper, Mrs. Amoruso, and Dr. O'Neill second the motion to vote again on the chairperson position. Motion passes unanimously.

Ms. McManus moves to reopen the floor for nominations for chairperson, Dr. O'Neill seconds the motion.

Vote: 8 in favor of reopening nominations.

Dr. Bonner reopened the floor for nominations for the position of chairperson. Mr. Abiade nominates Mrs. Amoruso, Mrs. Amoruso accepts. Mrs. Caccavale nominates Mrs. Langston, Mrs. Langston accepts. Mrs. Amoruso nominates Mr. Abiade, Mr. Abiade accepts. Mrs. Amoruso and Mr. Abiade speak about why they are running for chairperson of the LSC, Mrs. Langston declines the opportunity to further comment based on the fact that she has commented previously. Mr. McCarter moves to vote for the position of chairperson, Mrs. Harper seconds. Motion is approved unanimously.

Vote: 1 for Mrs. Amoruso, 4 for Mr. Abiade, 6 for Mrs. Langston, 1 abstention.

Mrs. Amoruso declines the nomination for the position of chairperson in the interest of moving forward. Mr. Pittman says that we have the option of tabling the vote for chairperson until the next meeting. LSC discusses reasons for electing chairperson. Mrs. McGrane moves to hear final candidate statements and take one more vote. Mrs. McGrane suggests that election of chairperson be tabled if quorum is not reached on this vote. Mr. Abiade and Mrs. Langston make statements about why they are running to chair the LSC at STEM. Ms. McManus moves to vote for chairperson, motion passes unanimously.

Vote: 5 for Mr. Abiade, 6 for Mrs. Langston, 1 abstention.

Mr. McCarter moves to set a date for the next meeting and table all other business excluding public participation until the next meeting, Dr. O'Neill seconds the motion.

Vote: 7 for, 2 against.

## **IX. Set Regular meeting Schedule for School Year**

Mr. Pittman states that meetings can occur monthly, bimonthly, or quarterly. The LSC

is required to have 3 meetings/year. LSC discusses frequency of meetings. Mr. McCarter moves to establish monthly meetings, Mrs. Amoruso seconds the motion.

Vote: 7 for establishing monthly meetings.

Mrs. Langston asks if this can be changed as needed, Mr. Pittman confirms that frequency of meetings can be changed. Mrs. Amoruso asks if you can join a meeting via conference call. Mr. Pittman states that there must be a quorum (7 members) physically present to vote to allow other members to join via conference call. LSC discusses setting a regular meeting schedule. Mr. McCarter moves to adopt a 5:30 monthly meeting on the following dates: 8/5/14; 9/8/14; 10/7/14; 11/5/14; 12/2/14; 1/14/15; 2/3/15; 3/4/15; 4/14/15; 5/6/15; 6/2/15.

Vote: Unanimous approval of calendar.

## **X. Public Participation**

Dennis O'Neill – States that he has been involved in school issues for several local schools (Smythe, Jackson, Galileo) and charges the LSC to work together to advance the interests of the school. Suggests that the space constraints facing STEM should the focus for the LSC.

## **XI. Adjournment**

Ms. McManus will create the agenda for the next LSC meeting by July 22<sup>nd</sup> and submit it to LSC members. Adjustments to the agenda should be submitted by July 28<sup>th</sup>. Mr. McCarter and Dr. O'Neill left the meeting at 3:45pm. Dr. Bonner suggests that one of our candidates for chairperson serve as temporary chair for the next meeting. Mr. Abiade volunteers to chair. Ms. McManus moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:48pm, Mrs. McGrane seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes submitted by: Lindsay McGrane

Minutes approved with amendments noted: 12 in favor