

THE MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL FOR MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE FOUNDATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
22 September 2018  
Columbus, MS

Present: Jack Carter, Germain McConnell, Chad Edmonson, Jennifer Sloan-Ziegler, Cynthia Henderson, Ryder Taff, Janet Greenslade (PLUS), Sheila Westbrook

Present on Phone/Webex: Dylan Allen, Kim Padeletti, Orlando Hill, Deyo Johnson, Crystal Lauderdale, Nate Clay, Mattie Clay, Karen Lundy, Michael Goggins

Guests: Kassie Brooks

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Cynthia Henderson called the meeting to order and welcomed all members. Introductions were made for new members. The minutes from the 3 March 2018 meeting were approved.

SCHOOL REPORT

Dr. McConnell presented the school report. Noted that MSMS hosted a college fair "College View" for all of Lowndes County. This is a small outreach for the school. Discussed upcoming event calendar.

Ranking celebration: Dr. McConnell extended an invitation to the board to celebrate MSMS's improved national ranking according to Niche.com. He gave details about how our ranking has improved.

He also discussed staffing and issues raising morale of non-teaching staff. Other priorities are still full-time faculty for engineering as well as a part time lab assistant for supervising students.

He questioned the process for getting Camp Funds released. A discussion occurred about the MSMS Foundation historical requirements of a P&L statement. The board decided, based on the current funding, that a P&L was not required as long as the fund balance exceeded MSMS's request in any given year.

Dr. McConnell would like the Foundation funding approval to come earlier in the year - April, ideally, when they receive funding numbers from the state. Cynthia Henderson noted that was quite feasible.

Sheila Westbrook presented that her office was working on outreach programs and a Toyota partnership. On the Admissions schedule, MSMS is now in the middle of super nights right now. There are 85 applications started and they have a goal of 230 completed applications this year. They continue to try and change the

narrative/relationship with other schools to one where MSMS is an extension of the schools, not competing for their best and brightest.

Jack Carter moved that we accept the school report. It was accepted unanimously.

### FINANCIAL REPORT

Without a spring campaign, we are behind last year on donations. Also missing a few large donors. Chad Edmonson spoke to the investment account returns.

Dillon Allen moved that we accept the financial report. Motion was seconded and accepted unanimously.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Financial, Planning and Fundraising committees have no reports to present.

Scholarship committee funded 7 applications for room and board. College scholarship applications were much more competitive this year.

Janet Greenslade presented PLUS report. Making it a priority to look for 3 year commitments, which should help ease the natural turnover in the organization.

Kim Padeletti gave a verbal update on MSMSAA. Not much since last meet ups in March and alumni weekend in April. Aiming for a New Orleans meet up before the end of the year, Atlanta meet up potentially before the end of the year. Potential for an NCSSS alumni meet up to coincide with their Houston conference. Also working on alumni speaker list.

Executive Committee report. Adding an employer match search function to website was approved. Funding for a trip for Emma Richardson and two students to New York for student awards was approved. Funding for the online raffle program for the Music Program was approved. Chad Edmonson motioned that we accept the reports as presented. Motion was seconded and accepted unanimously.

### FOUNDATION ACTIVITY REPORT

Alumni weekend was much lower attendance than last year. No specific reasons for this have been identified.

The next MSMS Foundation project is to complete the new website. This will be more secure, more editable in addition to having access for PLUS and Alumni members. New alumni database option is opt-out and discussion occurred over whether it should be made to be opt-in. Chad Edmonson motions that we have an opt out database but restrict viewable information to Name, Class, City/State and Email. Motion was seconded and accepted unanimously.

The end of year fundraising campaign was discussed, including Facebook #givingtuesday. New social fundraising functionality is available on website now. Campaign will start the first week of October through the last week of December.

Some logistics discussion around Alumni Weekend 2019.

Motion was made by Dr McConnell to accept the Foundation Activity Report. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

#### OFFICER ELECTIONS

Chad Edmonson proposed Cynthia Henderson for President. This was approved unanimously.

Cynthia Henderson proposed Chad Edmonson for Vice President. This was approved unanimously.

Cynthia Henderson proposed Ryder Taff for Secretary. This was approved unanimously.

Cynthia Henderson proposed John Davis for Treasurer. This was approved unanimously.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Motion was made that so long as account balance exceeds the amount requested for summer camps, the money may be disbursed without the P&L requirement. This was accepted unanimously.

Discussed Dr McConnell's additional \$57,500 request for the current year. We will discuss this in executive committee once we have more clarity on balances.

Cynthia motioned that the PLUS budget be approved as presented. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

#### NEXT MEETING

Next meeting date was set for January 12th. Location to be determined.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Jennifer Sloan-Ziegler moved that we adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded and approved unanimously.