



Visible Men Academy
Board of Directors Meeting
December 6, 2023
4:30PM – 6:00PM

AGENDA

- I. **Welcome and Roll Call- Naiema Frieson-Board Chair**
Approval of minutes from November 8, 2023 meeting

- II. **Mission Moment- Dr. Janjay Gehndyu**

- III. **Board Chair Report – Naiema Frieson- Board Chair**
 - a. **Approval of November Minutes**

- IV. **The State of the School Report –Dr. Janjay Gehndyu, School Principal**
 - a. **Charter Renewal update**
 - b. **Financial update**

- V. **Development- Jay Lockaby**
 - a. **PR**
 - b. **Giving Tuesday Update**
 - c. **End of year appeal**
 - d. **Shine On!**

- VI. **Enrollment: Single Gender Classrooms Vote- Naiema Frieson-Board Chair**
 - a. **Next steps**

- VII. **New Business**

- VIII. **Meeting Adjourned**



Board Meeting | December 6, 2023
4:30pm – 6:30pm | MINUTES

The board meeting was held part in-person at VMA and part via Zoom.

Board Members Present

Naiema T. Frieson, Board Chair (Zooms)
Melissa Dunlap, Development Chair (Zoom)
Marilyn Kline (Zoom)
Jeff Meyer (Zoom)
Louis Parker, Founder & Board Member Emeritus
Willitone Petit, Treasurer (Zoom)
Dr. Janet Taylor (Zoom)
Earnest Wilks (Zoom)
Greg Vogel, Teacher Representative (Zoom)
Tara Sall (Zoom)

Board Members Absent

Dilicia Navarro, Parent Representative

Staff Present

Janjay Gehndyu
Jay Lockaby
Lori Benton

Naiema Frieson called meeting to order

Nov. Board meeting minutes approved. Unanimous

Mission Moment (Dr. Gehndyu)

Fall book fair each student was able to receive a book. Student received a cook book and baked cookies for his class. Student has had a complete turn-around in his academics being at VMA. Another student stated his goals for the 2024 school year, trying new sports, and reaching towards getting on the honor roll.

1. Board Chair Report (Naiema)

-Shared how she is pleased with the administration and staff moving the school forward. Dr. Gehndyu has spoken with County Commissioners on the behalf of the school. Lori and Naiema are working on the 3rd annual art show. Jay has been working with Allison Moore on PR and social media. Jay led the effort on using new CRM system. Working on making an offer to the church on purchasing the building. Any board members on helping get building approved. ACT helping with getting board governance documents updated with new policy and procedure to introduce in the new year. Charly Palmer will be apart of the art show! Prominent artist who is receiving a stamp.

4. State of the School report (Janjay Gehndyu)

- Met with a county commissioner Bearden which led to meeting with Van Osterbridge. Who stated they may want to put a drug rehab facility in place of where the school should be.
- contacted the school district commissioner C.Choate and gaining support for having a school on the land
- Charter renewal- Documentation is much be than the previous year. Charter renewal has gone extremely Clancey has organized many of the documents. Vote for charter is going up to the school board in February. Board members will be asked to visit the school.
- Financial update Nov. & Dec. operations goal is to raise \$124K/ Jay dialing for dollars
- Jay a great spokesperson for VMA
- Love Lunch still receiving dollars

Development Report (Jay Lockaby)

- PR was very active for the month of November. Bradenton Herald article VMA Christmas miracle. Bay news 9 had a special on Pie day
- Giving Tuesday has an approximate for \$10,000.
- Shine on April 27 connecting with Bobby and Christina Bonilla & Janet Taylor board member
- Donor Stewardship. Donor should be thanked 7 times. Asking board members to come by and donor thank you calls. On track to have the best year we have had so far.
- Letters should be sent to donors for tax purposes. Phone calls are meaningful
- Visible art grows hearts and will be marketed by the PR team.

5. VMA looking at becoming Co-ed school with single gender classrooms. Board did not make a vote and will address it at the next meeting.

No new business.

Meeting adjourned after 1 hour, 25 minutes.