

New Orleans Military and Maritime Academy  
Meeting Minutes  
28 October 2019  
5:00p.m.

1. Roll call –Mr. Peyton Bush, MGySgt Melanie Young, Col Terry Ebbert, Mr. John Charpentier, Mr. Doug Downing, Mr. Tony Staines, Mr. David Welker. Absent: Dr. Marcellus Grace, Mr. Tom Shinn, Mr. James Bean, Gen David Mize, Mrs. Carol McCall.
2. Approval of Minutes – Motion to approve by Mr. Downing; second by Mr. Charpentier; all in favor.
3. Reports and Recommendations
  - a. Financial Report – Mr. Downing gave financial report.
    - i. Review of statements through September reveal \$220K deficit, which is normal for this time of year due to timing.
    - ii. School remains in strong cash position with 3 months of operating reserves
    - iii. Budget currently for student count of 925; currently at 954, which would improve financials above current budget.
  - b. General School Update – Commandant provided the report.
    - i. School fully operational on all fronts, all going as planned.
    - ii. Early results from daily formation have been constructive, with significant positive feedback.
    - iii. Currently working to enhance end of day/after school procedures.
    - iv. Enrollment has tracked from low 900's, and moved up to 950's
      1. Demographics roughly 1/3 across African-American, Hispanic and Caucasian (significant growth in Hispanic population over the past 3 years).
    - v. Per request of LDoE, NOMMA provided definition of “military dependent”; LDoE approved definition as submitted. This will help us better serve that population.
    - vi. New disciplinary policies have helped to tighten up behavior issues
      1. Greater degree of accountability wrt upholding behavioral standards
      2. Three students referred to Orleans Parish Student Hearing Office and were ultimately expelled due to level of infraction and pattern of misbehavior.
    - vii. Armed intruder drill held last month; NOPD reps participated.
    - viii. NOMMA was again named as a Naval Honor School.
    - ix. Planning our own JROTC annual drill meet on 12/7, to be held at JRB Belle Chasse.
    - x. Red ribbon week underway and receiving support from MFR; focus on substance abuse awareness and education for NOMMA cadets.

- c. Academic Update – Principal gave the update.
  - i. New math curriculum introduced this year (Springboard); Math teachers participated in 3-day PD session in advance of implementation.
  - ii. Four (4) faculty members attended LAPCS conference.
  - iii. First NOMMA alumni association meeting held on Saturday 14 Sep.
  - iv. Had first college/career days; had over 30 colleges and recruiters show up.
  - v. Held ACT testing October 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - vi. October 8<sup>th</sup> had professional development event, with parent/teacher conferences the next day; had over 300 parents sign in.
  - vii. Gave PSAT to select students for first time at NOMMA.
    - 1. Also giving ASVAB test for military entrance (to Juniors and Seniors).
  - viii. Next open house 10/29 for next school year.
  - ix. Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>, SPS scores will be released to school officials (School Performance Scores). Released to the public on November 6<sup>th</sup>.
  - x. Athletics:
    - 1. 2<sup>nd</sup> cross country meet of the year; NOMMA placed 4<sup>th</sup> (first time placing – missed podium by 3 seconds); one cadet broke school record in 3 mile run.
    - 2. First wrestling match to be held on Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>
- d. Development Update – Commandant gave update.
  - i. Brought in new development consultant and grant writer; so far her efforts have been impressive and she is making positive contribution.
  - ii. Have submitted numerous grant applications.
  - iii. Received pledge from community donor (first check \$20K of \$40K pledged annually).
- e. Facilities Update – Commandant included in General update.
  - i. Dealing with leaks and other normal items.
  - ii. Sidewalk starting to sink again, so may have to address that soon.
- 4. Old Business – Campus Expansion; Commandant gave report
  - a. No new news. Have not received feedback on CEA that NOMMA sent to ADD.
- 5. New Business – Commandant mentioned the following:
  - a. Student fees: Board must approve student fees, then they must be posted to website per new state law.
    - i. Principal explained fees; board reviewed and asked questions.
    - ii. Motion to approve fees by Mr. Downing; second by Mr. Bush; motion approved unanimously.

- b. New Market Tax Credit Unwind: discussion of financing and expiration of the Tax Compliance Period
  - i. NMTC were used 7 years ago to complete school (one of three primary sources of funds); loan has been retired, and NMTC will be second source of funds retired.
  - ii. Asking Board members to approve re-affirmation of compliance with terms and terminate indemnifications; also asking to approve consolidation of NOMMA Real Estate debt, and subsequent purchase of the debt by NOMMA (in order to retire the debt).
    - 1. This is the Put provision originally included in the debt documents.
    - 2. Exercise of the Put is done through Membership Purchase Agreement (and Assignment of Interest), which requires Board resolution and approval.
      - a. Authorizing Col Ebbert to sign documents to effect this series of transactions.
  - iii. On the motion of Trustee Staines, seconded by Trustee Downing, the Board unanimously approved a resolution authorizing the execution of documents necessary in connection with the conclusion of the New Markets Tax Credit transaction utilized to fund the construction of New Orleans Military and Maritime Academy, including the execution of a Membership Purchase Agreement, Reaffirmation of Tax Credit Indemnity, and Membership Interest Assignment; and providing for other matters in connection with the foregoing. A copy of the complete resolution is on file in the official minutes of the meeting.

6. Public Remarks – None.

7. Remarks from Board Members:

- a. Commandant: annual audit begins tomorrow.
- b. USMC birthday ball celebration this Friday 1 Nov.
- c. Next meeting scheduled for 11/19; Commandant asked for feedback on proposed meeting dates by next meeting.

8. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn by Mr. Bush, second by Mr. Welker. Motion was approved unanimously.