

**NEW ORLEANS**  
MILITARY & MARITIME  
ACADEMY

Meeting Minutes  
26 May 2021  
5:00p.m.

Meeting was called to order by Board President, Col Terry Ebbert, at 5:06 p.m.

Roll call – Col Terry Ebbert, Mr. James Bean, Mr. Peyton Bush, Dr. Marcellus Grace, Mrs. Carol McCall (ZOOM), MajGen David Mize, Mr. Tony Staines, Mr. David Welker, MGySgt Melanie Young, Quorum present.

Absent: Mr. Anh Joseph Cao, Mr. John Charpentier, Mr. Doug Downing, LtCol Thomas Shinn

1. Approval of Minutes – Motion to approve by Mr. Downing; all in favor unanimously.
2. Reports and Recommendations
  - a. Financial Report – Presented by NOMMA Finance Director. School is in strong financial standing. Cash covers 7 months of operating expenses. Revenue is a little short of budget. State/Local funding is slightly ahead of budget. Donations and grants continue to lag. Salaries/Benefits are under budget. ESSR grants will cover summer school and augment SY 21-22 funding. Commandant advised of current status of BESE and State Legislators recommendation regarding proposed employee raises (\$800 increase for teachers; \$400 for support staff). Motion to approve by Mr. Bush. 2nd by Dr. Grace.
  - b. General School Update – Commandant gave the update. Graduation was held May 21 and May 22. There was a great collaborative effort by staff and the 2-day event was very successful. Final exams scheduled for May 26-28. Awards ceremony was held on May 24 and May 25. We currently have no active COVID cases. Implemented advertising campaign to support cadet enrollment, including billboards, signs, radio, and social media mediums. NOMMA is anticipating full, in-person, on-campus attendance when we resume in August. Principal advised that Round 2 of OneApp ended Friday, May 21. Between both rounds we added approximately 106 8<sup>th</sup> graders, lower than desired, but overall enrollment for SY 2021-22 consistent with current year. We requested 4 additional MI (Military Instructor) positions but the National Board cannot financially support increase at this time. We have interviewed and made an offer to one additional MI for the upcoming school year. Our JROTC program is foundational to our school.
  - c. Academic Update – Principal gave the update. This is last week of school for cadets and teachers (10-month employees). There are 9 cadet interns working this summer through WorkForce NOLA. These are paid internships. 2 faculty members went to Xavier University to the grand opening of WBOK. We are now

working on a partnership with WBOK and Xavier university to support our Jump Start Digital Media pathway. We anticipate learning loss due to the pandemic yet initial indicators suggest our recent English LEAP scores are consistent with 2019 LEAP scores. A number of our cadets failing the English portion of the LEAP are ELL (English Language Learners). NOMMA will begin a robust Summer School on June 1 for approximately 200 cadets to assist with credit recover and learning loss. There has not been a lot of staff turnover this year. Thus far, NOMMA Administrators have conducted 50 end-of-year conferences with our teachers. They are looking forward to being back in school at full capacity and many commented during the conference how appreciative they are of the way NOMMA has handled the return to campus.

d. Facilities Update – Commandant gave the report. Design of new fitness/weight room in the annex is completed, equipment orders have been placed, with completion expected during the Summer. One of our oversized computer labs is being renovated to provide additional office space; project expected to last 3-4 weeks. Exterior lighting has been improved and the debris from the fire across the street has been cleaned up.

e. Development Update– Commandant gave the report. We received \$625 in donations during the GiveNOLA event. New Schools for New Orleans has given us a grant for \$30,000.

f. Nominating Committee – Nothing to report.

3. Unfinished Business – Commandant provided.

a. Campus Expansion: Mr. Bush reported that he has been in dialogue with Algiers Development District (ADD) development consultant. Both NOMMA and ADD are obtaining bank appraisals for the parcels necessary for expansion. These appraisals will factor into negotiations regarding cost of the parcels. A 3-year option agreement is being prepared with a long term lease/option to purchase included as an appendix.

4. New Business – Commandant provided.

a. NOMMA Summer Learning Program: Mr. DeFrates, NOMMA Summer Learning Program Director, gave a presentation on how summer school will be conducted this year. It will be a much more robust program due to the effects of the pandemic. SLP will run from June 7 – July 9. Areas that will be covered will include LEAP Remediation, Credit Recovery and SPED Instruction. MCJROTC summer camps will be held again during this period. Areas of instruction in that camp include Marksmanship, Leadership, Supply, and Honor Guard. There will be approximately 200-300 cadets on campus during this time (8<sup>th</sup> Grade and High School). For those 8<sup>th</sup> graders who did

not pass, this will give them an opportunity to pass and promote to 9<sup>th</sup> grade. We should have our final cadet count this Friday. There will be a full complement of instructional, administrative and operations staff on hand. The schedule includes a daily meeting between Summer School Director and teachers. There will be core classes with enrichment, the LEAP remediation will cover all LEAP tested subjects. There will be 23 classes for credit recovery. Instruction every day from 9 am – 12:00 pm. They will be dismissed at 12:30 after lunch. Breakfast and lunch will be provided at no cost to our cadets. The current plan is to keep all the cadets in our main building. Bus transportation will be provided to our Jefferson Parish cadets, RTA tokens are available for our Orleans Parish cadets. This program is funded 100%.

- b. SY 2021-22 Budget Discussion: NOMMA Finance Director presented 2021-2022 preliminary budget proposal, including anticipated student count, revenues, expenses, ESSER grants figures. He noted sources of revenue and anticipated areas of increased expenses (yellow bus transportation, custodial costs, equipment upgrades).

5. Public Comment: N/A

6. Remarks from Board Members.

Commandant reminded board members that their financial disclosures must be turned in and reminded them to frequently check their NOMMA emails.

7. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn at 6:48 pm by Mr. Bush; second by Mr. Bean.

8. Next Meeting Date: June 30, 2021