



Board Meeting 4/20/26

Zoom Meeting ID: 977 7313 9415

Zoom Passcode: 3400

Call to Order: Board Chair, Bishop Mark Tolbert

- Bishop Tolbert called to order the monthly Board Meeting at 7:04pm.

Roll Call

- Bishop Mark Tolbert
- Blaine Clark
- TuJuania Scott
- Linda Edgely
- Raevynn Carter

First Motion: Motion to approve March's minutes.

-TuJuania Scott put forth the motion to approve March's minutes.

-Blaine Clark seconded the motion.

-Motion approved.

Second Motion: Motion to approve monthly bills.

-Blaine Clark put forth the motion to approve monthly bills.

-Linda Edgely seconded the motion.

-Motion approved.

Superintendent's Report – Dr. Mitchell

- Over the past month, Dr. Hayes and I have been working with the transition team at DeLaSalle to provide information to parents, and working to make the transition as smooth as possible.
- Since last month, we lost about 12 students due to moving. Our current enrollment, including Pre-K, is 337 (see enrollment report below). I will say that our attendance rates are improving as the spring comes, so I think the last time I checked we were at 92% attendance, which is actually very good for this time of year.
 - Enrollment Report (As of 4/20/26)
 - PreK – 10
 - Kinder – 34
 - 1st – 36
 - 2nd – 56
 - 3rd – 38
 - 4th – 36
 - 5th – 36
 - 6th – 24
 - 7th – 38
 - 8th – 29
 - **Total – 337**
- Our next board meeting is May 18th. I will not be present. That is my daughter's high school graduation evening, so I just wanted to let everyone know. I will give my report to Dr. Hayes.

Principal's Report – Dr. Hayes

- For MAP testing, everything is set and we start tomorrow, 4/21. We had our Zap the MAP, our preparation for MAP testing celebration, this morning. We had parents and students there. Everybody was really fired up. So everything is ready to go, they will be testing from tomorrow, 4/21, until 5/15. We will be finished a little earlier this year, so we won't be running into the end of the school year like we did last year.
- For Summer School, we finally settled on 6/2 – 6/30. That gives us a few extra days. We need those days because we are not going to be there 6/16-6/17 due to the World Cup, and 6/18-6/19 due to Juneteenth. We worked with EdOps to make sure we got the number of days we need to get in to have a full Summer School year.
- On May 11th, during that morning meeting, we are having an award ceremony for our volunteers (Kiewitt reading volunteers, Capital One volunteer, etc.). We have some awards for them, so we are going to give them the awards in front of the students and everybody.

- We had to change some of our end-of-year events because we didn't know the exact dates yet. We do know now that the last day of school will be May 28th, and it will be a half day. KCPS is going till May 27th, but we had one more day out classified as a snow day which is why we are going until the 28th instead of the 27th.
 - Teacher appreciation week is coming up on the first week of May.
 - On May 12th we have our end-of-the-year spring performance show.
 - On May 14th we have the Shark Tank presentations at 1:30pm.
 - On May 20th we have our Kindergarten graduation celebration.
 - On May 21st we have our 8th grade graduation celebration at 1pm.

Questions about Principal's Report

- **Blaine Clark** – Did we get the Special Education coverage straightened out after the last board meeting? We finalized on that, so is everything going smooth with that?
 - **Dr. Hayes** – Everything is going very smooth on that.
 - **Blaine Clark** – We just want to make sure we get Ms. Hughes, yourself, and Mr. Wallace on that for the ASBR reporting. Everything Mr. Wallace needs is fed into that because it is always a challenge getting him the right data. We should start that communication sooner than later on what he is going to need, then Ms. Hughes can go ahead and start compiling that data.

Treasury Report – Mr. Clark

- On page 4, that's the income section of the financial statement of activities.
 - March Income - \$684,000
 - YTD Income - \$5.89 million
- On page 10:
 - March Total Expenses - \$584,381
 - YTD Total Expenses - \$5.378 million
 - March Net Operating Income - \$99,734
 - YTD Net Income - \$512,802
 - Profit Margin – about 8%
- Linda Edgely put forth motion to approve the March reported financials as presented.
- Troy Nash seconded the motion.
- Motion approved.

Informational Items

- **Mr. Sean Stalling, Executive Director of DeLaSalle**
 - **Mr. Sean Stalling** – My name is Sean Stalling, and I am the Executive Director at DeLaSalle. This is finishing my 6th year at DeLaSalle. I have always been very respectful of the work over at Tolbert, and when I learned of the possible closure at Tolbert, I approached Bishop Tolbert and asked him if DeLaSalle could be a viable option to work together in order to make sure that the Tolbert community and school still goes about. In that conversation, and we spoke a few times, we were in agreement that this could be a really viable option to a bigger vision and mission for the community amongst Troost. And so, with that, I went to the Commission and proposed this idea to them. On March 27th there was an agreement that DeLaSalle will acquire Tolbert and through that relationship we will have a K-12 system along the Troost corridor. What that basically means is that we really want to lean in to the fact that there are some significant synergies between Tolbert and DeLaSalle, and that the end game would be we would have a Pre-K through 12th grade district, as Tolbert has Pre-K as well, along the Troost corridor. We would go from 31st street at Operation Breakthrough down to Cleaver where we would look at that slot of land, and from east of Troost. We would make a commitment to families in the community that if students come into that zone, that we will promise them that we will walk the walk with the families in the community from Pre-K to college or career. It's exciting because I think both organizations have a history, with Tolbert being 27 years old and DeLaSalle going into its 55th year next year. We also already have a partnership with Operation Breakthrough and they are celebrating their 50th this year. The synergies would really work well for each community, and so, that is ultimately the big vision and we want to produce an excellent education experience for the students and families that come into that zone. As of right now, I have talked to parents, teachers, and leaders there at Tolbert, and the end game for us is to really develop a healthy system that serves all children.

Questions for Mr. Sean Stalling, Executive Director of DeLaSalle

- **Dr. Mitchell** – You have one question in the chat. What is the population of DeLaSalle?
 - **Mr. Sean Stalling** – 220 students currently at DeLaSalle. We serve about 170 at the high school, and then we have students that we serve in the juvenile detention center and through our alternative program at MCC. We developed an alternative strategy for DeLaSalle where DeLaSalle serves kids in an alternative space. We have that alternative space at MCC, and the name of that school is

called Kintsugi. We serve kids through Kintsugi within the juvenile detention center, so we have a partnership with the juvenile court system. Then at 37th and Troost, that's the high school, so we have a 9-12 structure there.

- **Bishop Tolbert** – There is another question in the chat. Are you taking away band? Or does DeLaSalle have a music department?
 - **Mr. Sean Stalling** – No, we are not taking away band. Our goal is to make sure we maintain some of the special features that Tolbert offers. I think the music program, basically, is a very strong suit for Tolbert, and that's been articulated very well from all levels of the organization. There is a sense of pride there and we want to do that. DeLaSalle currently does not have a music program, but we have been in conversation the past few years of developing a music program. And so, we think through this partnership we will be able to create some opportunities at the high school as well. So no, there is no intention of taking those things away from Tolbert.

- **Dr. Mitchell** – One final question in the chat. How will this partnership improve sports?
 - **Mr. Sean Stalling** – That's a good question. I don't know how it will necessarily improve sports, but I do know that the sharing of facilities and resources can all really come together. I'll be honest, sports have not been first on my list. I have seen the track team at Tolbert. I know DeLaSalle has a very spirited track team, and we don't have as many sports, but at the high school we have girls' basketball, boys' basketball, and this year going into next year we developed a partnership with another school to have girls' volleyball.

- **Bishop Tolbert** – Talk about your garden program and some of the things you're going to be doing.
 - **Mr. Sean Stalling** – Yep, I want to correct you, it's not a garden. And I have to correct you because people correct me. It's a "Learning Farm" and it's a farm with an acre of land off to the side of the school. Two years ago there was all this military equipment out there, and we took it down. We weren't using it, so I took those materials down and let the ground heal because it gets damaged a little bit. As a result, we have a partnership with Build Trybe who is also along Troost. Build Trybe came in and worked with some of the kids in the apprentice program. What we did is say let's bring a learning farm to the school. The kids designed the farm and worked with architects in the first semester to get the farm laid out. Then we started to build programs right there. As a result, if you look at our farm today, you will see the orchard is put in place, and its small trees so we won't see a full bloom for about 2-3 years. The raised beds are out there and then there is still space so we are going to have duck pond in the back, a butterfly garden, a chicken coop, and goats that the kids convinced us to bring on our property. That is going to teach trades, agriculture, and that's going to be a seed to plate environment so it's going to enhance our culinary program. We are doing that in order to make sure that healthy foods are available in our

community. We have a Lion's Haven where we bring that food into the school. People get outreach. Our families come in and access that. We are going to give it to our cafeteria, as well as, to our culinary department so that we can generate healthy food and healthy environments. In addition to the learning farm and partnership with Build Trybe, we have WeCode KC which is an African-American women-founded organization and they focus on STEM. With that, we are going to have offerings in robotics, cyber security, and AI development and technologies. We will be able to push all of that down into the K-8 environment. We will be ready to turnkey those things, especially when it comes to specials, which helps gives teachers breaks and planning time.

- **Bishop Tolbert** – We have another question in the chat. How do parents help support the kids and teachers in this merger?
 - **Dr. Mitchell** – There will be several opportunities for parents to participate. There are parent listening tours that will be taking place from the DeLaSalle team, and so, we can certainly let our community know when those are and parents can attend those. The way its structured there are some offered in the day and some offered in the evening so parents can come share ideas. The whole Tolbert and DeLaSalle team will be working together so parents can actively participate in that process.
 - **Mr. Sean Stalling** – I want to double tap on everything Dr. Mitchell said. I think parents are vital to this. I want parents to come in and talk with me and my team as a part of the listening tour, and then to ask us questions. I don't have the times and dates in front of me, but I do a morning and evening. I'm willing to do several times a week in order to engage as many parents as possible. I want to be really open and transparent with the parents, and really talk and understand what parents want to be successful.

Items for Consideration/Approval

- **Request approval for PTO Payout**
 - **Dr. Mitchell** – We have about 6 weeks of school left, and we are getting ready to do a merger with DeLaSalle. As an incentive for those staff members who have PTO days left, and I've talked to Dr. Roper, Mr. Clark, and Ms. Middlebrooks about this, we wanted to do an incentive to keep teachers and staff members from taking PTO, because when we merge that PTO does not carry over. And so, we wanted to keep a positive climate of testing and culture going and not having 15 people absent we have to cover classes for. We wanted to offer some kind of incentive at the end so that everybody who does not use PTO days will be paid a

portion of those days. For instance, if you got 16 PTO days left when this year is over that you did not take, then we want to give a portion of that back as a financial incentive. Whether it be \$50 a day or \$100 a day based on how many PTO days you have left. Most staff members don't have a lot of PTO days left, but if you pay it based off \$50 a day, that equals a grand total of \$23,000, and based off \$100 a day is \$46,000. Just so the board knows, we are not having a problem getting employees to come to work. We want to use it as a thank you for keeping the culture positive and keeping the consistency for the kids in these last 6 weeks prior to the merger.

- **Blaine Clark** – We had the business office summarize the data. We looked at the data across every employee that has PTO available, and we looked at it at two cost points; \$50/day and \$100/day. I would size the range to be between \$26,000 and \$50,000, based upon the list that was provided for PTO, as of 4/15/26. We would finalize that PTO list at the end of the school year to figure out the remaining PTO balances. Assuming worst case scenario, because PTO doesn't accrue, we are looking at between \$26,000 to \$50,000 based on the April 15th data.

Questions about approval for PTO Payout

- **Bishop Tolbert** – I think the concern is to make sure that if people know that they can get it, they won't rush and take it and throw us in trouble during the MAP testing. Is that what I'm hearing?
 - **Blaine Clark** – Yes, that's fair. The other thought is that with the PTO not carrying over, and with the transition the PTO would not carry over to the new system so we wanted to make sure PTO wasn't lost. So this serves two fold; one is to incent staff to continue to support through the end of the year, and the other is to ensure staff that you will not lose all of that PTO. They will get some type of value for that in the transition.
- **Bishop Tolbert** – So if we wait until next board meeting, can we get a more precise number? Or do we need to address that tonight specifically?
 - **Blaine Clark** – I think if we can put a motion on that we approve the motion and we will size the expense, but we want to communicate to staff that it will be considered because if we wait till the next board meeting we may not be able to get that communication out to the staff so that they can manage their time accordingly.
- Blaine Clark put forth motion that we approve the payout of any unused PTO as it closes out the school year.
- Linda Edgely seconded the motion.

- Motion approved.

Adjournment

- Aldon Jones put forth motion for adjournment.
- TuJuania Scott seconded the motion.
- Motion approved.

Next Board Meeting: Monday May 18th at 7pm