

# DRAFT

## Rocketship DC Board of Trustees Meeting (2024-25 Q4) (Tuesday, June 10, 2025)

Generated by Cristina Vasquez on Thursday, June 12, 2025

### 1. Opening Items

#### A. Call to Order

At 1:04pm, Ms. Johnson called the meeting to order and took roll call.

Present: Camilla Jensen, Joey Sloter, Kamuzu Saunders, Lauren Marcus, Melissa Martin, Nana Hanson-Hall, Rachel Tommelleo, Rena Johnson

Absent: Ashanti Herndon, Jennifer McManus, Matt Aaron

### 2. Consent Items

#### A. Approve minutes from March 4, 2025 Rocketship DC Board of Trustees meeting

#### B. Reappoint Joey Sloter, Matt Aaron, Rena Johnson and Melissa Martin to the DC Board of Trustees for a term of two years term through June 2027

#### C. Approve the Rocketship DC Board of Trustees 2025-26 meeting calendar

At 1:06pm, Ms. Johnson asked for a motion to approve the consent items 2(A-C). A motion was made by Ms. Sloter, seconded by Mr. Saunders and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Yes: Camilla Jensen, Joey Sloter, Kamuzu Saunders, Lauren Marcus, Melissa Martin, Nana Hanson-Hall, Rachel Tommelleo, Rena Johnson

No: --

Abstain: --

### 3. Action Items: Governance - Review and Approval

#### A. Approve Resolution #2025-01 Appointing Kamuzu Saunders as Board Chair of the Rocketship DC Board of Trustees

At 1:07pm, Matt Aaron joined the meeting.

At 1:07pm, Ms. Johnson asked for questions or comments on action item 3(A). No comments were made.

At 1:07pm, Ms. Johnson asked for a motion to approve action item 3(A) appointing Kamuzu Saunders as Board Chair. A motion was made by Ms. Martin, seconded by Ms. Sloter and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Yes: Camilla Jensen, Joey Sloter, Kamuzu Saunders, Lauren Marcus, Melissa Martin, Nana Hanson-Hall, Rachel Tommelleo, Rena Johnson, Matt Aaron

No: --

Abstain: --

### 4. Action Items: Agreements - Review and Approval

#### A. Approve the Food Service Management Company Contract Extension with Red Rabbit, LLC

#### B. Approve the Janitorial Service Contract Renewal with Busy Bee Environmental Services, Inc.

At 1:08pm, Ms. Johnson asked for questions or comments on action items 4(A-B). Board members asked staff questions in regard to student satisfaction with meals provided by the vendor.

At 1:08pm, Ms. Johnson asked for a motion to approve the action items 4(A-B). A motion was made by Ms. Sloter, seconded by Mr. Saunders and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Yes: Camilla Jensen, Joey Sloter, Kamuzu Saunders, Lauren Marcus, Melissa Martin, Nana Hanson-Hall, Rachel Tommelleo, Rena Johnson, Matt Aaron

No: --

Abstain: --

### 5. Action Items: Operations - Review and Approval

#### A. Approve the 2025-26 Rocketship Education Employee Handbook for DC

#### B. Approve the 2025-26 Rocketship DC Student and Parent Handbook

#### C. Approve the 2025-26 School Instructional Calendar for Rocketship Schools in DC

At 1:11pm, Ms. Johnson asked for questions or comments on action items 5(A-C). Ms. Tommelleo asked for clarification on snow days and staff professional development days listed on the school instructional calendar. Staff provided clarification on how those days impact the calendar and time off for staff.

At 1:17pm, Ms. Johnson asked for a motion to approve the action items 5(A-C). A motion was made by Ms. Sloter, seconded by Ms. Martin and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Yes: Camilla Jensen, Joey Sloter, Kamuzu Saunders, Lauren Marcus, Melissa Martin, Nana Hanson-Hall, Rachel Tommelleo, Rena Johnson, Matt Aaron

No: --

Abstain: --

### 6. Information Items

#### A. List of checks in excess of \$100,000

At 1:18pm, the board was given an opportunity to ask questions regarding the list of checks that were in excess of \$100,000. No comments were made.

#### B. Mission Moment

At 1:19pm, Tamika Joyner, Director of Strategic Partnerships, highlighted Enrollment Saturday 2025, an annual enrollment event that brings families into schools to finalize their enrollment for the upcoming school year, sharing the positive impact the event has on student enrollment. No action was taken.

At 1:22pm, Jennifer McManus joined the meeting.

### **C. Board Updates**

At 1:24pm, Executive Director Zakiya Sackor provided updates to the board in regards to student academic progress. Board members acknowledged improved growth across schools in the second semester. Board members asked questions in regard to how the results compared to the pre-pandemic results and how the Achievement Committee can continue to support. No action was taken.

### **D. Family Recruitment and Enrollment Update**

At 1:30pm, Tamika Joyner provided a recruitment update, sharing data on applications as well as summer recruitment strategies. Ashlee Watson, Regional Director of Culture, additionally provided an enrollment update, sharing re-enrollment data and the regional re-enrollment strategy which aims to identify families earlier in the season who are not returning. The board asked for periodic updates on this topic. No action was taken.

## **7. Action Items: Finance - Review and Approval**

### **A. Approve Amended Rocketship Fiscal Policies**

At 1:52pm, Chief Financial Officer Ben Carson shared proposed updates to Rocketship's Fiscal Policies. No comments were made.

At 1:55pm, Ms. Johnson asked for a motion to approve the action item 7(A). A motion was made by Ms. Hanson-Hall, seconded by Mr. Saunders and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Yes: Camilla Jensen, Joey Sloter, Kamuzu Saunders, Lauren Marcus, Melissa Martin, Nana Hanson-Hall, Rachel Tommelleo, Rena Johnson, Matt Aaron, Jennifer McManus

No: --

Abstain: --

### **B. 2025-26 Annual Planning Review and Approval of 2025-26 Rocketship Education DC Budget and all DC School Level Budgets**

At 1:56pm, Ms. Sackor, Kerry Flanagan, National Chief of Staff, and Mr. Carson reviewed the 2025-26 annual plan. Ms. Flanagan reviewed the Rocketship Annual Planning process and Rocketship network priorities for 2025-26. Ms. Sackor reviewed the DC regional priorities for 2025-26. Board members asked questions in regard to the early childhood program and its effect on student recruitment. Mr. Carson reviewed the annual budget, including budgeting context, enrollment and staffing projections, and the school and regional team budgets. The board inquired about revenue streams for the upcoming year and how the budget compares to previous years.

At 2:25pm, Ms. McManus left the meeting.

At 2:38pm, Ms. Johnson asked for a motion to approve action item 7(B). A motion was made by Mr. Aaron, seconded by Ms. Jensen and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Yes: Camilla Jensen, Joey Sloter, Kamuzu Saunders, Lauren Marcus, Melissa Martin, Nana Hanson-Hall, Rachel Tommelleo, Rena Johnson, Matt Aaron

No: --

Abstain: --

## **8. Action Items: Agreements - Review and Approval**

### **A. AppleTree Update and Approval of Amendment to Second Management Agreement between AppleTree and Rocketship**

At 2:39pm, Ms. Sackor provided an update on the one year extension of the current AppleTree contract.

At 2:40pm, Ms. Johnson asked for a motion to approve action item 8(A). A motion was made by Mr. Saunders, seconded by Ms. Hanson-Hall and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Yes: Camilla Jensen, Joey Sloter, Kamuzu Saunders, Lauren Marcus, Melissa Martin, Nana Hanson-Hall, Rachel Tommelleo, Rena Johnson, Matt Aaron

No: --

Abstain: --

## **9. Closed Session**

### **A. Discussion of Personnel Matters pursuant to DC Code § 2-575(b)(10): Regional Management Update**

### **B. Closed Session - Legal Consultation pursuant to DC Code § 2-575(b)(4)**

At 2:41pm, Ms. Johnson asked for a motion to move to Closed Session. The motion was made by Ms. Sloter, seconded by Ms. Hanson-Hall, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Y: Camilla Jensen, Joey Sloter, Kamuzu Saunders, Lauren Marcus, Melissa Martin, Nana Hanson-Hall, Rachel Tommelleo, Rena Johnson, Matt Aaron

N: ---

Abstain: ---

## **10. Report Out**

### **Public report on actions taken in closed session**

At 3:30pm, Ms. Johnson took roll call. With a quorum of committee members present, Ms. Johnson called the open session meeting back to order.

Present: Camilla Jensen, Joey Sloter, Kamuzu Saunders, Lauren Marcus, Melissa Martin, Nana Hanson-Hall, Rachel Tommelleo, Rena Johnson, Matt Aaron

At 3:31pm, Ms. Johnson reported that no actions were taken on items 9(A-B) during the closed session.

## **11. Adjourn**

### **A. Meeting Adjourned**

At 3:32pm, Ms. Johnson asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. This motion was made by Mr. Saunders, seconded by Ms. Martin, and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Y: Camilla Jensen, Joey Sloter, Kamuzu Saunders, Lauren Marcus, Melissa Martin, Nana Hanson-Hall, Rachel Tommelleo, Rena Johnson, Matt Aaron

N: ---

Abstain: ---