

**MINUTES OF THE NEW INITIATIVES COMMITTEE OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
CAPITAL AREA FINANCE AUTHORITY**

August 17, 2023

A meeting of the New Initiatives Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Capital Area Finance Authority (“CAFA”) was held on **Thursday, August 17, 2023**, at **12:00 pm** pursuant to due notice having been given in accordance with the Bylaws of the Authority and the provisions of the Louisiana Public Meetings Law.

The following Committee Members were present:

**Mr. Blaine Grimes
Mr. Jay Gaudet
Ms. Sharon Perez
Mr. Dennis Blunt
Ms. Lauren Crump
Ms. Valerie Schexnayder**

Also in attendance was Mr. Mark Drennen, Ms. Vickie Theriot and Ms. Connie Meyer of the Authority, Ms. Dawn DePorter, Ms. Kinda Saunders, Ms. Brooke Barnett-Bernal and Ms. Emily Graham (via Zoom) of the Capital Renaissance International School and Mr. Blue Loupe of Taylor Porter Law Firm.

In the absence of Mr. Mosely, Mr. Grimes called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm and called on Mr. Drennen to introduce the project to be presented to the New Initiatives Committee.

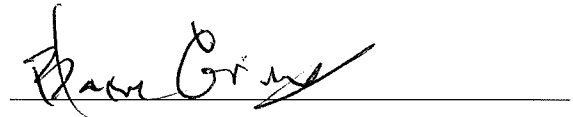
Mr. Drennen stated that the Capital Renaissance International School (“CRIS”), a non-profit 501 (c) 3, would present to the Committee an overview of the school’s mission, its purpose and the impact it has on the community. He stated that CRIS would be requesting a short-term loan.

Ms. Dawn DePorter, President/Director, Ms. Kinda Saunders, Vice President/Director & Founder and Ms. Brooke Barnett-Bernal, Secretary/Director & Founder presented to the Committee and gave an overview of the cleanup and renovations of the property and building that was leased and is now the new facilities of CRIS. Ms. Bernal explained that the school, located on Barringer Foreman Road, was established in August 2022, 3 months after the sudden and unexpected closure of Baton Rouge International School. Ms. Bernal stated that a request for a short-term loan was being requested by CRIS for the 2023-2024 school year and explained the purpose of the funds. She stated the CRIS expected to repay the short-term loan using funds received from State Appropriations per Act 397 in the fall of 2023.

After a short discussion, Ms. Perez made a motion to recommend to the Board an interest-free short-term loan to CRIS. The motion was seconded by Ms. Schexnayder and the motion passed.

Mr. Loupe stated that he would create the appropriate loan documents for execution.

With no further business to come before the Committee the meeting was adjourned at 12:28 pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Blaine Grimes", is written over a horizontal line.

Mr. Blaine Grimes, Board Chair