

APPROVED



Excelsior Village Academies

Minutes

Excelsior Village Academies' Board Meeting

Date and Time

Saturday September 21, 2024 at 11:00 AM

Location

The Excelsior Village Academies' Board of Directors will meet in person. Please see the location below:

5295 Highway 155 N; Stockbridge, GA 30281

You can also join virtually. Please see the meeting details below:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8754612347?pwd=UXN0amZyMmE3YlVNamhHK3JWVGJKUT09>

Meeting ID: 875 461 2347

Passcode: EVA24

One tap mobile

+13052241968,,8754612347#,,,,*218913# US

+13092053325,,8754612347#,,,,*218913# US

Directors Present

A. Holmes, D. Paige, N. Brinson, R. Hutchins, T. Burrell, W. Smith

Directors Absent

K. Rutherford

Directors who arrived after the meeting opened

D. Paige

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

R. Hutchins called a meeting of the board of directors of Excelsior Village Academies to order on Saturday Sep 21, 2024 at 11:07 AM.

B. Record Attendance

C. Approve Minutes

N. Brinson made a motion to approve the minutes from Excelsior Village Academies' Board Meeting on 08-17-24.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

D. Approve Minutes

N. Brinson made a motion to approve the minutes from Excelsior Village Academies' Board Meeting on 07-20-24.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

E. Approve Minutes

N. Brinson made a motion to approve the minutes from Monthly Meeting on 09-20-23.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

F. Approve Minutes

N. Brinson made a motion to approve the minutes from Special Meeting on 04-08-24.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

D. Paige arrived at 11:08 AM.

II. Finance

A. Budget

- 2024-2025 Finacial Update
 - There is a slight \$3k increase in operating income between the previous and present forecast.

- Savings in personnel spending b/c of teaching staff changes and increase in supplies spending since the last update.
- Because of the receipt of NSVF Fund and CPS Grant, EVA ended August with \$531K cash on hand.
- EVA is currently on track to meet SCSC Dashboard indicators about the budget. We will continue to track it as the year goes on
- Accomplishments:
 - Additional CSP drawdown approved
 - Enrollment is approaching target
 - No significant personnel changes

B. Fundraising

- Fundraising Efforts:
 - We want to match fundraising to specific goals highlighted by EVA needs.
- Grit N Wit Vendor (Fundraising Vendor)
 - The EVA 5K has become an obstacle course
 - Grit N Wit is a vendor that puts together a 16-20 course event
 - **Cost:** \$5,500.
 - This will be money from the board, not the school.
 - They can assist in marketing, but we can also supplement with our own marketing to ensure we are meeting EVA's needs.
 - **Target:** April 2025
- EVA Swag Store (Fundraising Opportunity)
- EVA Letter Writing Campaign (Strategic Ask Opportunity)
 - Four letters have been written and will go out after the swag is ordered and delivered.
 - **Goal:** We want them to come to see the school and invest in our mission.

W. Smith made a motion to approve further contracting with Grit N Wit for the EVA Obstacle Course.

R. Hutchins seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

R. Hutchins made a motion to launch the public EVA Swag Store as a fundraiser for EVA.

A. Holmes seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

R. Hutchins made a motion to move forward with the EVA Letter Writing Campaign, starting with the first four (4) letters to go out this fall.

N. Brinson seconded the motion.

- Is there space for a template to send to the greater community outside these four foundations?
 - Yes, we need to streamline the list of the people we want to contact and create a template for the board to use to reach out to their networks.

- Board will create a spreadsheet to keep track of all the people we reach out

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

C. Next Steps

III. Updates

A. GADOE Monitoring

- Monitoring tasks have been flagged for the board
 - The first deadline for initial tasks is Oct. 1
 - The first FTE update is the second week of October

B. Enrollment

- Initially, enrollment was capped at 117; after the 14-day attendance purge, EVA was 20 scholars short of the 117 goal.
- As of 9/21 - EVA was at 87 scholars, down by 31. During initial monitoring to GADOE, EVA reported 107 scholars, which is still 21 scholars down from 117
- By the October FTE reporting deadline, there will be a cut-off for SY25, and we will start moving toward enrollment targets for SY26

C. Personnel Update

- New TA & New SPED teacher starting Monday, Sept. 23
- Currently down two teachers
 - Kindergarten and 3rd-grade teacher vacancies
- Two subs starting and will shadow DOI, DOS, and School Leader as onboarding

D. Facilities

- Closing out on facility tasks
- Phase 2 discussions on the horizon
- Campus security is top of mind for the school community

E. Grants

- CSP
 - Doing much better with drawdowns
 - There has been an expansion of opportunities for the school to utilize the funds in various ways
 - Recently reimbursed for kitchen equipment, the October drawdown will cover furniture
- NSVF

- \$280K released for use

F. First Weeks of School

G. Path to Proficiency: State of Union

- 2 Reading Assessments, ERLA and iReady. Created a highly coordinated approach to diagnosing student proficiency
- 27% proficiency schoolwide, 8% proficient in 3rd grade
- The school goal will be a 10% increase for a 37% proficiency rate by EOY
- Math goals are still being calculated based off iReady screener
- Big focus for the next 6 weeks will be reading to help start this work
- There has been a charge for families to support the work at home in conjunction with the work that is happening at school right now

IV. Community Engagement

A. Upcoming Events

Back to School Night - Sept. 26

- Set-Up @ 3:00p
- Event is 5:30p - 6:30p

V. Board Business

A. SCSC Monitoring Handbook

Scope of Monitoring:

- Based on SY25 (July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025)
- Uses the Comprehensive Performance Framework Section III

B. Reminders

- Look ahead on calendars to alert the Board Chair before meeting if absent or tardy
- We will look to reschedule the Dec. 21 meeting to the Dec. 14

R. Hutchins made a motion to move into an Executive Session regarding a potential board member.

D. Paige seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

C. Executive Session

The board discussed the qualifications of a new board member.

R. Hutchins made a motion to close to the executive session and go back to the general meeting.

A. Holmes seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

D. Prospective Board Member

N. Brinson made a motion to approve Ralph Culpepper as a new board member.

W. Smith seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

VI. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 12:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

R. Hutchins