

APPROVED



## Equitas Academy Charter School

### Minutes

#### Board Meeting

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##### Date and Time

Thursday February 23, 2023 at 3:00 PM

##### Location

1612 West Pico Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90015

Additional call-in address:

9601 Wilshire Blvd, Beverly Hills, CA 90210

When: Feb 23, 2023 03:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

**Topic: February Board Meeting**

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

[https://equitasacademy.zoom.us/j/87889526095?  
pwd=WElrY1hFLzNxSXVxSHFRY2tXUC9OZz09](https://equitasacademy.zoom.us/j/87889526095?pwd=WElrY1hFLzNxSXVxSHFRY2tXUC9OZz09)

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Or One tap mobile :

US: +16699006833,,87889526095#,,, \*891990# or  
+16694449171,,87889526095#,,, \*891990#

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PUBLIC COMMENT AT EQUITAS ACADEMY BOARD MEETINGS – An opportunity for the public to address the Board will be provided prior to discussion and action on agenda items. Members of the public who wish to speak on any item are requested to identify themselves and indicate on which agenda item they wish to speak. The Board will provide an opportunity for the public to speak for a maximum of three (3) minutes, unless granted additional time at the discretion of the Board. Testimony shall be limited in content to matters pertaining to Equitas Academy. The Board may not take any action on matters discussed during the public testimony period that are not listed on the agenda. Brown Act Compliance: Agenda posted at School.

**Pursuant to the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990,** any individual with a disability who requires reasonable accommodation to attend or participate in a meeting of the Board of Directors, may request assistance in advance of the meeting by contacting Equitas Academy Charter School at 1700 West Pico Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90015 or by phone [\(213\) 201-0440](tel:2132010440).

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#### **Directors Present**

A. Santino, C. Langston (remote), D. Krishna (remote), D. Ortiz (remote), L. Heisser, O. Bajracharya, P. Reddy, T. Bell

#### **Directors Absent**

*None*

#### **Directors who arrived after the meeting opened**

D. Ortiz

#### **Guests Present**

Andres Figueroa, B. Rush, Brittany Rush, C. Melgares, Carla Perez, E. Wyatt, G. Serrano Navarro, Grecia, Greg Ottinger, J. Edelman (remote), J. Rayas, Jessica Rendon, K. Farrar, K. Gouveia (remote), L. Lofton, L. Mitre, Lilia, M. Gomez, R. Spencer, S. Roditti, Vivian Pena, Y. Chiquito, Yug Fon

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### **I. Opening Items**

#### **A. Record Attendance and Guests**

#### **B. Board findings pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)**

A. Santino made a motion to Approve Board Findings pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e).

O. Bajracharya seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

T. Bell           Aye  
C. Langston     Aye  
L. Heisser       Aye  
A. Santino       Aye  
D. Ortiz          Aye  
P. Reddy         Aye  
O. Bajracharya   Aye  
D. Krishna       Aye

**C. Call the Meeting to Order**

T. Bell called a meeting of the board of directors of Equitas Academy Charter School to order on Thursday Feb 23, 2023 at 3:02 PM.

D. Ortiz arrived at 3:03 PM.

**D. Approve Minutes**

C. Langston made a motion to approve the minutes from Special Board Meeting on 12-19-22.

A. Santino seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

D. Ortiz   Aye

**E. Approve Minutes**

O. Bajracharya made a motion to approve the minutes from Board Meeting on 12-08-22.

L. Heisser seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

A. Santino     Aye  
D. Krishna     Aye  
L. Heisser     Aye  
C. Langston    Aye  
D. Ortiz        Aye  
T. Bell         Aye  
O. Bajracharya   Aye  
P. Reddy        Aye

**II. Public Comment**

**A. Public Comment**

No members of the public are present. No public comment was made.

### **III. XI. Closed Session - CEO Performance and Ongoing Feedback**

#### **A. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE (Gov. Code section 54957(b)(1)).**

Closed session was focused on CEO performance and Goals.

### **IV. Organizational updates: CEO report**

#### **A. Monitoring Progress of our Forward Initiatives**

Equitas Staff presented on forward initiatives.

- Sofia Roditti gave an update on the CEO report.
- Kyle Gouveia presented on Panorama Survey and MAP results.
- Lilia Mitre presented on family survey data.
- Brittany Rush presented on DEIA priorities. Robert Spencer presented on specific School Site Survey data.
- Sofia Roditti presented on Charter Renewal Status.
- Jessica Rendon, School Director of EQ, regarding annual initiatives and growth.
- Carla Perez, EQ2 School Director, regarding annual initiatives and growth.

#### **B. Professional Development: Fundraising Education with Wanda Scott**

Wanda Scott lead the Board in Professional Development in Fundraising Education.

#### **C. Break**

#### **D. Board Review of Monthly Financials**

P. Reddy made a motion to Approve Board Review of Monthly Financials.

O. Bajracharya seconded the motion.

Greg Ottinger, Interim COO, and Yug Fon Chiquito, Managing Director of Finance, present the monthly financials.

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

##### **Roll Call**

O. Bajracharya	Aye
T. Bell	Aye
D. Krishna	Aye
P. Reddy	Aye
A. Santino	Aye
D. Ortiz	Aye
L. Heisser	Aye
C. Langston	Aye

#### **E.**

### **Transitional Kindergarten Credential Requirements**

O. Bajracharya made a motion to Approve Transitional Kindergarten Credential Requirements.

L. Heisser seconded the motion.

Jessica Edelman presented on Transitional Kindergarten Credential Requirements.

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

#### **Roll Call**

L. Heisser	Aye
O. Bajracharya	Aye
A. Santino	Aye
P. Reddy	Aye
C. Langston	Aye
D. Krishna	Aye
T. Bell	Aye
D. Ortiz	Aye

### **F. Update to Fiscal Policies**

O. Bajracharya made a motion to Approve update to Fiscal Policies to include the Managing Director of Finances.

A. Santino seconded the motion.

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

#### **Roll Call**

A. Santino	Aye
O. Bajracharya	Aye
C. Langston	Aye
D. Ortiz	Aye
T. Bell	Aye
D. Krishna	Aye
P. Reddy	Aye
L. Heisser	Aye

### **G. Declaration of Need**

C. Langston made a motion to Approve 2022-2023 Equitas Academy Charter Declaration of Need.

P. Reddy seconded the motion.

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

#### **Roll Call**

L. Heisser	Aye
C. Langston	Aye
D. Ortiz	Aye
O. Bajracharya	Aye
D. Krishna	Aye
T. Bell	Aye

**Roll Call**

P. Reddy        Aye  
A. Santino      Aye

**H. Form 700/Conflict of Interest**

Cecilia Melgares facilitated a discussion regarding the annual Form 700 requirements.

**I. Contract: Woodcraft Rangers Summer Learning**

Jennifer Freeman and Grecia Serrano-Navarro presented the contract for summer programming with Woodcraft Rangers Summer Learning Program.

**J. 22-23 Expanded Learning Opportunities Plan**

A. Santino made a motion to Approve Expanded Learning Opportunities Plan.

D. Krishna seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

L. Heisser        Aye  
O. Bajracharya   Aye  
T. Bell            Aye  
P. Reddy        Aye  
D. Krishna       Aye  
A. Santino       Aye  
D. Ortiz          Aye  
C. Langston      Aye

**V. Academic Accountability Committee**

**A. Update on 22-23 Goals**

Alyssa Santino provided an update from the academic accountability committee.

**VI. Finance Committee**

**A. Update on 22-23 Goals**

Prabhu Reddy provided an update from the Finance Committee.

**VII. Governance Committee**

**A. Acceptance of Resignation**

Lindsey Heisser has shared an update about the resignation of Board member Franks Spindler.

**B. Recruitment Updates: New Committee Members**

Board to discuss and vote on new committee members.

O. Bajracharya made a motion to Approve.

L. Heisser seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

D. Ortiz	Aye
O. Bajracharya	Aye
P. Reddy	Aye
A. Santino	Aye
C. Langston	Aye
L. Heisser	Aye
T. Bell	Aye
D. Krishna	Aye

**C. Update on 22-23 Goals**

**VIII. Resource Development Committee**

**A. Update on 22-23 Goals**

Deepa Krishna presented updates from the Resource Development Committee

**IX. Culmination of Meeting**

**A. Announcements**

Kate Farrar shares announcement regarding the Brown Act.

Sofia Roditti shares an announcement regarding establishing an Ad Hoc committee.

**B. Evaluations of Meeting**

Feedback included the following Points:

- It is Evident that committees are flowing really well.
- Logistically thinking about the space, we should continue to think about the space in the room
- Pre-work packet us strong and clear. Questions submitted before is working really well.
- An opportunity to have a board level learning about finance would be valuable in the next 12 months.
- Meetings are running seamlessly
- The Board would like to know how they can continue and support in different ways.
- The new structure and covering high priority items first is valuable.

## **X. 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 6:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
T. Bell