

APPROVED



## Equitas Academy Charter School

### Minutes

#### December Board Meeting

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##### **Date and Time**

Thursday December 7, 2023 at 3:00 PM

##### **Location**

1612 W Pico Blvd, Los Angeles, CA

Additional call-in locations:

1700 W Pico Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90015

2723 W 8th St, Los Angeles, CA 90005

1050 Beacon Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90015

2501 W 7th St, Los Angeles, CA 90057

11100 Santa Monica Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90025

4324 Franklin Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90027

##### **Topic: December Board Meeting**

When: Dec 7, 2023 03:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

[https://equitasacademy.zoom.us/j/87384059417?](https://equitasacademy.zoom.us/j/87384059417?pwd=WWZiZGh1OWpKZkhHckJ4bXJpaFNzZz09)

[pwd=WWZiZGh1OWpKZkhHckJ4bXJpaFNzZz09](https://equitasacademy.zoom.us/j/87384059417?pwd=WWZiZGh1OWpKZkhHckJ4bXJpaFNzZz09)

Passcode: 891990

Or One tap mobile :

+16699006833,,87384059417#,,,,\*891990# US (San Jose)

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Or Telephone:

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Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

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- +1 507 473 4847 US
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- +1 309 205 3325 US
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Webinar ID: 873 8405 9417

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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, L. Heisser, O. Bajracharya, P. Reddy, S. Jauregui, T. Bell, T. Hollenberg

**Directors Absent**

D. Ortiz, R. McKenzie

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

C. Langston, L. Heisser, S. Jauregui

### **Guests Present**

C. Melgares, J. Edelman, J. Freeman, J. Rudolph, K. Farrar, K. Gouveia, N. Peters, R. Spencer, S. Roditti, Y. Chiquito

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## **I. Opening Items**

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

L. Heisser arrived at 3:15 PM.

C. Langston arrived at 3:15 PM.

S. Jauregui arrived at 3:16 PM.

### **B. Call the Meeting to Order**

T. Bell called a meeting of the board of directors of Equitas Academy Charter School to order on Thursday Dec 7, 2023 at 3:14 PM.

### **C. Approve Minutes**

A. Santino made a motion to approve the minutes from Board Meeting on 10-26-23.

L. Heisser seconded the motion.

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

#### **Roll Call**

O. Bajracharya Aye

A. Santino Aye

R. McKenzie Absent

T. Bell Aye

P. Reddy Aye

D. Ortiz Absent

C. Langston Aye

T. Hollenberg Aye

S. Jauregui Aye

L. Heisser Aye

## **II. Closed Session**

### **A. CEO Performance**

O. Bajracharya made a motion to Approve.

P. Reddy seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

D. Ortiz	Absent
T. Bell	Aye
C. Langston	Aye
T. Hollenberg	Aye
L. Heisser	Aye
R. McKenzie	Absent
S. Jauregui	Aye
A. Santino	Aye
O. Bajracharya	Aye
P. Reddy	Aye

**B. LIABILITY CLAIMS**

**III. Public Report on Action Taken in Closed-Session**

**A. CEO Performance**

Jason Rudolph reported out of the action taken in closed session, which included discussing CEO Performance and Liability Claims.

**IV. Organization Updates**

**A. Organizational Spotlight: Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Anti-Racism (DEIA) Highlights**

Brittany Rush, Director of DEIA, introduces Dr. Ally Hong, a parent of Equitas. Brittany presented on the African American Affinity Group and the Inclusive Caregiver Workshop

**B. Strategic Planning: Graduate Profile Follow-Up**

Sofia Roditti (CEO) presented updates on the Strategic Planning Process and noted that Equitas has stayed on track with the scheduled timeline. Committees who have dedicated time to this process are appreciated including:

- 2 Task Force groups
- Ad Hoc Committee of the Board
- Steering Committee

**C. Monitoring Progress**

Board submitted questions on the Monitoring Progress board deck.

Staff addressed questions on the following topics:

- Organizational Dashboard : MAP, iReady, SBAC
- Academic data review : Math, ELA, Science
- Net income: on track

-Talent: Retention and hiring updates

#### **D. Charter Renewal Follow-up**

Jason Rudolph led the presentation on charter renewal follow-up. The presentation reviewed:

- Charter terms and expiration dates
- Renewal tracks (high, medium, low)
- Renewal track determinative data

EQ2 Team (Carla Perez, Principal and Bobby Conosa-Carr) presented on the following:

- Strategies to accelerate learning and incentivize student engagement
- Board support
- Family communication

#### **E. Break**

Board and staff took a 5-minute break.

#### **F. Monthly Financials**

P. Reddy made a motion to Approve.

S. Jauregui seconded the motion.

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

##### **Roll Call**

C. Langston	Aye
P. Reddy	Aye
T. Bell	Aye
S. Jauregui	Aye
L. Heisser	Aye
D. Ortiz	Absent
T. Hollenberg	Aye
O. Bajracharya	Aye
A. Santino	Aye
R. McKenzie	Absent

#### **G. FY24 Revised Budget**

C. Langston made a motion to Approve.

O. Bajracharya seconded the motion.

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

##### **Roll Call**

T. Bell	Aye
C. Langston	Aye

**Roll Call**

L. Heisser Aye  
T. Hollenberg Aye  
O. Bajracharya Aye  
P. Reddy Aye  
D. Ortiz Absent  
R. McKenzie Absent  
S. Jauregui Aye  
A. Santino Aye

**H. Line of Credit Renewal**

Yug Fon Chiquito discussed applying for a larger line of credit.

P. Reddy made a motion to approve line of credit.

A. Santino seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

R. McKenzie Absent  
T. Bell Aye  
T. Hollenberg Aye  
S. Jauregui Aye  
A. Santino Aye  
C. Langston Aye  
L. Heisser Aye  
O. Bajracharya Aye  
D. Ortiz Absent  
P. Reddy Aye

**I. Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) Revisions Update**

Staff noted that LAUSD had provided feedback on the LCAPs approved in June 2023; the corrections were made and were submitted as appropriate.

**V. Consent**

**A. First Interim Report**

P. Reddy made a motion to approve first interim report.

C. Langston seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

L. Heisser Aye  
T. Hollenberg Aye  
A. Santino Aye  
R. McKenzie Absent  
S. Jauregui Aye

**Roll Call**

D. Ortiz           Absent  
O. Bajracharya   Aye  
T. Bell             Aye  
C. Langston       Aye  
P. Reddy           Aye

**B. LAUSD Compliance Monitoring Document**

P. Reddy made a motion to approve LAUSD Compliance Monitoring Documents.

C. Langston seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

S. Jauregui       Aye  
P. Reddy           Aye  
A. Santino         Aye  
O. Bajracharya   Aye  
L. Heisser         Aye  
R. McKenzie      Absent  
T. Hollenberg    Aye  
T. Bell             Aye  
D. Ortiz           Absent  
C. Langston       Aye

**C. Annual Update of the School Safety Plan**

P. Reddy made a motion to approve Annual Update of the School Safety Plans.

C. Langston seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

D. Ortiz           Absent  
T. Bell             Aye  
C. Langston       Aye  
T. Hollenberg    Aye  
P. Reddy           Aye  
L. Heisser         Aye  
O. Bajracharya   Aye  
S. Jauregui       Aye  
R. McKenzie      Absent  
A. Santino         Aye

**VI. Academic Accountability Committee**

**A. Update on '23-'24 Goals**

Alyssa provided updates on the academic accountability committee

- Sylvia has joined the committee

## **VII. Finance Committee**

### **A. Update on '23-'24 Goals**

Prahbu provided updates on the finance committee and strategy for cash management

## **VIII. Governance Committee**

### **A. Update on '23-24 Goals**

Lindsey provided updates on the governance committee

- More members may potentially be recruited
- Manuel Cute Ramos will no longer be serving as a committee member

## **IX. Resource Development Committee**

### **A. Update on '23-'24 Goals**

Catie provided updates on the resource development committee

- 67% of their goal has been raised or committed

## **X. Culmination of Meeting**

### **A. Announcements**

### **B. Evaluation of Meeting**

Feedback from the board:

- Materials ahead of time are helpful
- Timing cycle has led to robust and efficient board meetings
- Hearing the context from staff is helpful
- Reminders and follow ups are helpful

Future Ideas

- Fundraising events
- Reach out to individual networks

## **XI. 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 5:57 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
T. Bell