APPROVED

Equitas Academy Charter School

Minutes

February Board Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday February 22, 2024 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
2420 Mathews Ave #A, Redondo Beach, CA 90278
509 S Lincoln Pl, Monrovia, CA 91016
9601 Wilshire Blvd, Floor 7, Beverly Hills, CA 90210
4425 Riverside Drive, Burbank, CA 91505

Topic: February Board Meeting
When: Feb 22, 2024 03:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Please click the link below to join the webinar:
https://equitasacademy.zoom.us/j/82322047636?pwd=UVRPdENmTXM2WnNRNDBOeW45NHY0dz09
Passcode: 891990
Or One tap mobile :
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Webinar ID: 823 2204 7636
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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.

Directors Present
A. Santino (remote), C. Langston, D. Ortiz, L. Heisser, O. Bajracharya, P. Reddy, S. Jauregui (remote), T. Bell, T. Hollenberg

Directors Absent

R. McKenzie

Directors who arrived after the meeting opened
L. Heisser

Guests Present
A. Figueroa, Adriana Perez, Alaina Pariano, Amanda Pardo, Andres Figueroa, B. Canosa-Carr, Bobby Canosa-Carr, C. Melgares, Carla Perez, J. Edelman, J. Freeman, J. Gonzalez, J. Rayas, J. Rudolph, Joanna Montgomery, Jose Gonzalez, Julie Chang, Junior Rayas, K. Farrar, K. Gouveia, Kawika Chun, L. Lofton, N. Peters (remote), R. Spencer, S. Roditti, Samira Estialai, Sarah Hughes, V. Pena, Y. Chiquito

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I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance and Guests

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 Feb 22, 2024 at 3:07 PM.

C. EQ6 Scholar Presentation

EQ6 3rd grade scholars provided a presentation on Black leaders to celebrate Black History Month.
L. Heisser arrived at 3:20 PM.

D. Approve Minutes

C. Langston made a motion to approve the minutes from December Board Meeting on 12-07-23.
D. Ortiz seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

II. Public Comment

A. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

III. Public Report on Action Taken in Closed-Session

A. Student Discipline & Principal Personnel

No action was taken during closed session.

IV. Organization Updates

A. EQ2 Renewal Update

Carla Perez presented an update on scholar data and details on the start of Saturday School.

B. Strategic Planning Update

C. Equitas' Mission, Vision, Equitas Approach, Learner Profile, Core Values

O. Bajracharya made a motion to Approve Equitas' Mission, Vision, Approach, Learner Profile, & Core Values.
T. Hollenberg seconded the motion.
Sofia Rodiitti shared final updates to the the Equitas Mission, Vision, Equitas Approach, Learner Profile & Core Values resulting from the strategic planning process.

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

Roll Call

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

D. Strategic Planning Update

Sofia Roditti shared an update on Equitas #5 & #6 alignment and Fifth Grade Academy (5GA).

E.

Actualizing Key Priorities

Sofia Roditti, Robert Spencer and staff answered questions submitted by the board focused on actualizing key priorities including the following areas of focus.

- Organizational Dashboard
- Academic and Parent Satisfaction Data
- Enrollment
- Intent to Stay and Community of Care Data

F. Break

G. Monthly Financials

P. Reddy made a motion to Approve Monthly December 2023 Monthly Financials.
D. Ortiz seconded the motion.
Yug Fon Chiquito presented December 2023 monthly financials.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

H. Budget Update

Yug Fon Chiquito shared details on the budget update process.

I. Updated Fiscal Policies

P. Reddy made a motion to Approve Updated Fiscal Policies.
D. Ortiz seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

L. Heisser	Aye
C. Langston	Aye
R. McKenzie	Absent
T. Hollenberg	Aye
D. Ortiz	Aye
A. Santino	Aye

Roll Call

P. Reddy	Aye
T. Bell	Aye
O. Bajracharya	Aye
S. Jauregui	Aye

J. Approval of '22-'23 Audit

Jason Rudolph shared an update on the 22'-23' Audit. There was no vote was taken on this item.

K. Declaration of Need

C. Langston made a motion to Approve the Declaration of Need.
L. Heisser seconded the motion.
Jessica Edelman presented the declaration of need.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

L. '24-'25 Academic Calendar

O. Bajracharya made a motion to Approve the 24'-25' Academic Calendar.
T. Hollenberg seconded the motion.
Cecilia Melgares presented the updated academic calendar
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

M. Form 700/Conflict of Interest

Cecilia Melgares shared an update on Form 700 guidelines and requirements

N. School Nutrition Program Request for Proposal (RFP) Packet

C. Langston made a motion to Approve the School Nutrition Program Request for Proposal Packet.
O. Bajracharya seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

O. Request for Proposals ("RFPs")

Jennifer Freeman and Jason Rudolph shared an update on upcoming Request for Proposal (RFP) for School Business Services and After School Programs.

P. LCAP Mid-Year Review

Kate Farrar shared a mid year update on the Equitas LCAP.

V. Consent

A. '23-'24 Expanded Learning Opportunities Plan

P. Reddy made a motion to Approve '23-'24 Expanded Learning Opportunities Plan.
C. Langston seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

B. Title III Plan

P. Reddy made a motion to Approve the Title III Plan.
C. Langston seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

C.

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP ("CLA") Contract

P. Reddy made a motion to Approve CLA/Auditor Contract.
C. Langston seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

VI. Resource Devlopment Committee

A. Update on '23-'24 Goals

Catie Langston shared an update on fundraising goals and the upcoming opportunity for March Madness.

VII. Academic Accountability Committee

A. Update on '23-'24 Goals

Alyssa Santino shared an update that the Academic Committee goals and are on track.

VIII. Finance Committee

A. Update on '23-'24 Goals

Prabhu Reddy shared that the finance committee goals are on track.

IX. Governance Committee

A. Update on '23-'24 Goals

Lindsey Heisser shared updates on additional committee and board member candidates and ongoing work to grow a strong board.

B. Board Retreat Update

Lindsey Heisser shared details on the Board Retreat scheduled for May 17-18th.

X. Culmination of Meeting

A. Announcements

No Announcements were made.

B. Evaluation of Meeting

Highlights, Thoughts & Questions:

- Having the scholars in the room. The board would like to know in advance for further engagement.
- Loved hearing EQ2 scholar and would like to hear more from students about the academic warriors.

- Loves seeing the sense of pride that we saw demonstrated by scholars. How do we allow that opportunity with more students.
- Would Academic warriors or Saturday school be an appropriate venue for Board members to get more involved?
- Equitas is intentional in empowering students and their voices.
- So many topics were covered and it was a great journey.
- The questions that pushed the practicality of the plans.
- Data and the collection of the data.
- Restructure of the meeting that allowed things that required more time to land at the end.
- Enjoyed time to think during portions of the meeting.
- Kudos to Carla for sharing so much progress and demonstrating leadership.

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 6:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
T. Bell