

APPROVED



## Equitas Academy Charter School

### Minutes

#### December Board Meeting

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

Thursday December 12, 2024 at 3:30 PM

##### **Location**

1612 W Pico Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90015

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

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

When: Dec 12, 2024 03:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://equitasacademy.zoom.us/j/83659873589?pwd=b9lWrlgpdGRsBco7LDMUpKga2G0hCJ.1>

Passcode: 891990

Or One tap mobile :

+16699006833,,83659873589#,,, \*891990# US (San Jose)

+16694449171,,83659873589#,,, \*891990# US

Or Telephone:

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

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

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+1 669 444 9171 US  
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+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)  
+1 386 347 5053 US  
+1 507 473 4847 US  
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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**

C. Langston, D. Ortiz, L. Heisser, M. Gomez, P. Reddy, S. Jauregui, T. Hollenberg

#### **Directors Absent**

R. McKenzie, T. Bell

#### **Guests Present**

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C. Melgares, J. Edelman, J. Freeman, J. Rudolph, K. Farrar (remote), N. Peters, R. Spencer, S. Roditti

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## **I. Opening Items**

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

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

L. Heisser called a meeting of the board of directors of Equitas Academy Charter School to order on Thursday Dec 12, 2024 at 3:35 PM.

### **C. Scholar Speakers**

Two EQ2 scholars, Marcia Juarez and Violet Gonzalez, presented to the board on what they presented to the LAUSD board for the EQ2 charter renewal on 11/19/24.

### **D. Approve Minutes**

C. Langston made a motion to approve the minutes from October Board Meeting on 10-24-24.

M. Gomez seconded the motion.

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

#### **Roll Call**

P. Reddy	Aye
S. Jauregui	Aye
T. Hollenberg	Aye
C. Langston	Aye
D. Ortiz	Aye
T. Bell	Absent
L. Heisser	Aye
M. Gomez	Aye
R. McKenzie	Absent

## **II. Public Comment**

### **A. Public Comment**

No public comment.

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

### **A. Public Report on Action Taken in Closed-Session**

Board met to discuss CEO mid-year review and there is no action taken.

## IV. Organizational Updates

### A. Key Strategies to Achieve Breakthrough Academic Results

Robert Spencer and Jennifer Freeman presented on key strategies to achieve breakthrough academic results for emergent bilingual scholars and scholars with disabilities.

### B. Principal Presentation

Carla Perez (Principal at EQ2) presented on:

- Reading proficiency goals/wildly important goal.

### C. Board Resolution

P. Reddy made a motion to Approve Board Resolution.

S. Jauregui seconded the motion.

Jason Rudolph present on board resolution and board to vote on submission of request for material revision regarding Equitas Academy Charter Schools, Inc. merger and acquisition of Collegiate Charter High School of Los Angeles.

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

#### Roll Call

T. Hollenberg	Aye
T. Bell	Absent
P. Reddy	Aye
C. Langston	Aye
M. Gomez	Aye
R. McKenzie	Absent
S. Jauregui	Aye
L. Heisser	Aye
D. Ortiz	Aye

### D. CEO Fundraising Update

Sofia Roditti, CEO, presented to the board on fundraising goals and the amount to get to these goals for:

- TK-12 expansion
- Literacy and Language Acquisition

Sofia also presented on fundraising amount so far, this fiscal year.

### E. Equitas Approach Priorities

Staff answered questions from the board on regarding:

- Organizational updates including iReady
- Reading proficiency
- Math SBAC Proficiency
- iReady
- Chronic Absenteeism
- Board support for WIG
- Student belonging
- Student Site Council (SSC)
- Parent Action Team

#### **F. Break**

#### **G. '23-'24 Audit**

D. Ortiz made a motion to Approve '23-'24 audit.

M. Gomez seconded the motion.

Lili Huang (CliftonLarsonAllen LLP) presented to the board on the '23-'24 financial audit.

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

##### **Roll Call**

C. Langston	Aye
T. Hollenberg	Aye
R. McKenzie	Absent
T. Bell	Absent
P. Reddy	Aye
L. Heisser	Aye
D. Ortiz	Aye
S. Jauregui	Aye
M. Gomez	Aye

#### **H. Monthly Financials**

C. Langston made a motion to Approve monthly financials and first interim report.

P. Reddy seconded the motion.

Jason Rudolph (COO) presented on monthly financials.

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

##### **Roll Call**

S. Jauregui	Aye
C. Langston	Aye
D. Ortiz	Aye
R. McKenzie	Absent
T. Bell	Absent
P. Reddy	Aye
T. Hollenberg	Aye
M. Gomez	Aye

**Roll Call**

L. Heisser      Aye

**I. Sanctuary Policy**

P. Reddy made a motion to Approve the updated sanctuary policy.

L. Heisser seconded the motion.

Dakota Ortiz introduced the policy to the board.

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

**Roll Call**

T. Hollenberg   Aye

S. Jauregui      Aye

T. Bell            Absent

D. Ortiz          Aye

M. Gomez        Aye

P. Reddy          Aye

L. Heisser        Aye

R. McKenzie    Absent

C. Langston     Aye

**J. Vision for Equity**

M. Gomez made a motion to Approve Vision for Equity.

S. Jauregui seconded the motion.

Brittany Rush (Director of DEIA) provided an update on Vision for Equity policy, including

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

**Roll Call**

R. McKenzie    Absent

S. Jauregui      Aye

C. Langston     Aye

D. Ortiz          Aye

T. Hollenberg   Aye

P. Reddy          Aye

M. Gomez        Aye

T. Bell            Absent

L. Heisser        Aye

**K. Equitas Academy #5 Renewal**

Jason Rudolph (COO) presented to the board on Equitas Academy #5 renewal, which is fall of 2025.

**L. Revised Classroom-Based Attendance Policy & Related Truancy Procedures**

T. Hollenberg made a motion to Approve Revised Classroom-Based Attendance Policy & Related Truancy Procedures.

C. Langston seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

T. Hollenberg	Aye
L. Heisser	Aye
D. Ortiz	Aye
R. McKenzie	Absent
T. Bell	Absent
C. Langston	Aye
M. Gomez	Aye
P. Reddy	Aye
S. Jauregui	Aye

**V. Consent**

**A. LAUSD Compliance Monitoring Document**

P. Reddy made a motion to Approve LAUSD Compliance Monitoring Document.  
S. Jauregui seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

D. Ortiz	Aye
T. Bell	Absent
P. Reddy	Aye
C. Langston	Aye
S. Jauregui	Aye
T. Hollenberg	Aye
L. Heisser	Aye
M. Gomez	Aye
R. McKenzie	Absent

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

P. Reddy made a motion to Approve Annual Update of the School Safety Plan.  
S. Jauregui seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

T. Bell	Absent
R. McKenzie	Absent
M. Gomez	Aye
P. Reddy	Aye
D. Ortiz	Aye
S. Jauregui	Aye
C. Langston	Aye
T. Hollenberg	Aye

**Roll Call**

L. Heisser      Aye

**VI. Resource Development**

**A. Committee Goals**

C.Langston encouraged everyone to ask their networks to donate.

**VII. Academic Accountability**

**A. Committee Goals**

S.Jauregui **shared that two potential committee members toured Equitas today.**

**VIII. Finance**

**A. Committee Goals**

T. Hollenberg shared that interest rates are dropping, it is important to prioritize cash investment strategy Q1. One time funds will run out and the school will need to make choices, so it would be helpful to get a multi-year financial model.

**IX. Governance Committee**

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

New Committee members have joined and they will be great supports for meeting the strategic goals. The board will vote to approve new committee members to join, the committee they will join still needs to be decided.

M. Gomez made a motion to Approve new committee members to join.

L. Heisser seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

L. Heisser      Aye

R. McKenzie    Absent

T. Bell           Absent

P. Reddy        Aye

D. Ortiz         Aye

C. Langston    Aye

S. Jauregui     Aye

M. Gomez      Aye

T. Hollenberg   Aye

**B. Committee Goals**

**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,  
L. Heisser