

APPROVED



# Explorations Charter School

## Minutes

### Governing Board Regular Meeting

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#### Date and Time

Tuesday February 21, 2023 at 5:30 PM

#### Location

Virtual

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#### Directors Present

Ginni Block (remote), Hilary Paden (remote), Lori Noto (remote), Melony Brady-Shanley (remote), Robert Peterson (remote), Sarah Annis Haynes (remote)

#### Directors Absent

Bill Hallam

#### Guests Present

Jill Johnson (remote), Joe White (remote), Susan O'Rourke (remote)

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### I. Opening Items

#### A. Record Attendance

#### B. Call the Meeting to Order

Robert Peterson called a meeting of the board of directors of Explorations Charter School to order on Tuesday Feb 21, 2023 at 5:30 PM.

#### C. Approve Minutes

Lori Noto made a motion to approve the minutes from January Board's Meeting.  
Ginni Block seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

## **II. Committee Updates**

### **A. Finance Committee**

Ginni Block made a motion to approve the minutes from February's Finance Committee Meeting Finance Committee Meeting on 02-21-23.  
Robert Peterson seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

### **B. Financial Report**

We are 50% through the school year.  
Waiting on bill from the transportation company.  
Still waiting on grant money and money from the state.  
Robert Peterson made a motion to To approve the January Financial Report.  
Ginni Block seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

### **C. Education Committee**

Jill and Joe will be meeting with our Student Information System representative regarding how to proceed on the changing passing grades to 65 from the current 70.

### **D. Policy Committee**

Policy committee to meet next week to review policies that need to be updated or approved at the March's meeting.

## **III. School News**

### **A. Attendance/Chronic Absenteeism Update**

Chronic Absentee rates for the month of January to February have gone down.

### **B. General Update**

Teachers participated in a Professional Development on 2/17.  
Part of the day was spent discussing Education Modified (special education/504 online program).  
The other half of the day, was a Sexual Harassment Training lead by an attorney.  
The Grant from the Northwest CT Community Foundation is wrapping up. This grant provided funding to build infrastructure for Manufacturing, Robotics and Computer Science Classes. Mathew Harris has created a Donor Choose to help raise additional funds to help his Manufacturing class for the rest of the year.

#### **IV. Other Business**

##### **A. Staffing**

English Teacher, Nicole Doiron has put in her notice. Her last day will be March 3.

Emma will be returning from her maternity leave to fill in for Nicole's position for the rest of the school year.

Ed Advance has received a grant for school based mental health in the Northwest Corner. With this grant, the hope is for a 1/2 time school counselor to help students with transition. Hoping for the person to be in place by the end of the school year.

##### **B. Upcoming Events**

- Tomorrow, February 22 is a Pizza Field Trip to reward students from 2nd quarter who attended school 90% or higher
- Friday, February 24 there will be a bonus skating trip for Juniors and Seniors
- March 1, Northwest Community College will be visiting with students during the day, and parents at night
- March 16, There will be a state visit. This time focusing on math curriculum. They will be meeting with Sarah Gubetta and Jordan Hagenow.
- Kings CPA to present audit at next Board Meeting.

##### **C. Board Members**

Jill and Joe need to review the Charter regarding the make up of the Board and who has voting/non voting rights.

Jill to reach out to ask for student representatives.

Sarah Haynes, will ask David Haynes, student if he is interested in participating on the Board for the remainder of the school year.

#### **V. Executive Session**

##### **A. Enter Executive Session**

None

##### **B. Leaving Executive Session and Return to Board Meeting**

#### **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 6:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Robert Peterson

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**Documents used during the meeting**

- Board Minutes 1-17-23.pdf
- Monthly Report January 2023.pdf
- BOY - 1-31-2023 - Data Reporting.pdf