



# Explorations Charter School

## Minutes

### Governing Board Regular Meeting

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#### Date and Time

Tuesday February 20, 2024 at 5:30 PM

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#### Directors Present

Ginni Block (remote), Hilary Paden (remote), Kristin Peterson (remote), Lori Noto (remote), Robert Peterson (remote), Sarah Annis Haynes (remote)

#### Directors Absent

Bill Hallam, Melony Brady-Shanley

#### 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 20, 2024 at 5:32 PM.

#### C. Approve Minutes - 1/23/2024 Regular Board Meeting

Ginni Block made a motion to approve the minutes from Governing Board Regular Meeting on 01-23-24.

Lori Noto seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

<b>Roll Call</b>	
Robert Peterson	Aye
Melony Brady-Shanley	Absent
Hilary Paden	Aye
Bill Hallam	Absent
Lori Noto	Aye
Sarah Annis Haynes	Aye
Kristin Peterson	Aye
Ginni Block	Aye

**II. Financial**

**A. Monthly Report**

Discussion held.  
Ginni Block made a motion to approve the finance monthly report.  
Lori Noto seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

<b>Roll Call</b>	
Lori Noto	Aye
Kristin Peterson	Aye
Bill Hallam	Absent
Sarah Annis Haynes	Aye
Hilary Paden	Aye
Melony Brady-Shanley	Absent
Ginni Block	Aye
Robert Peterson	Aye

**B. Review and Approval of updated 2023-2024 Budget**

Robert Peterson made a motion to approve the updated 2023-2024 Budget.  
Hilary Paden seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

<b>Roll Call</b>	
Ginni Block	Aye
Melony Brady-Shanley	Absent
Hilary Paden	Aye
Lori Noto	Aye
Sarah Annis Haynes	Aye
Robert Peterson	Aye
Kristin Peterson	Aye
Bill Hallam	Absent

III. Committee Updates

A. Finance Committee

Presented by Ginni Block

Chris King hopefully to present audit at March meeting.

Karpet Partners Inc has been hired for the carpet downstairs. Picasso has been hired for the walls.

Robert Peterson made a motion to approve the minutes from Finance Committee Meeting on 02-20-24.

Ginni Block seconded the motion.

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

B. Director Evaluation Committee

Lori Noto presented.

Lori has created an Evaluation based off one from the State Department of Education. There will be 3 surveys: one for parents; one for students and one for the staff.

C. Personnel Committee

Sarah Haynes presented.

Bill Hallam and Sarah to meet tomorrow.

Updated the Personnel Handbook to have digital links to related school policies.

D. Bylaws Committee

Discussion held. Agreed a Bylaws Committee needs to be added. Jill, Bob and Kris to be on it.

IV. School News

A. Attendance/Chronic Absenteeism

January:

CA (ytd) = 40.5% (was 46.2% last year)

Avg Daily Attendance = 88.24% (up from 86.46% last year)

Avg. Daily Attendance / CA

9th - 84.19% - 44%  
10th - 91.96 - 35%  
11th - 86.91% - 43%  
12th - 89.48% - 44%

Administration to continue with parent meetings, talking with outside counselors, and DCF referrals.

Have put up new promotional posters sponsored by EdAdvance with slogans, "School is better with you in it."

Suggested activity: have students redesign posters so it means something more personal to them.

**B. General Updates**

School enrollment is currently at 84 students. 1 student graduated in January. Currently have 17 seniors. Looking for 92 students for the fall. Currently have 12 applications.

April 10th is Open House.

**V. Other Business**

**A. Flooding Emergency Update**

Renovations started today.

**B. School Discipline Report by Commissioner of Education**

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Board/BoardMaterials021424/2022\\_2023\\_Report\\_on\\_Student\\_Discipline\\_in\\_Connecticut\\_Public\\_Schools.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Board/BoardMaterials021424/2022_2023_Report_on_Student_Discipline_in_Connecticut_Public_Schools.pdf)

Through efforts focused on restorative practices, we have been identified as a Tier I school (Low Suspension Rate / Disproportionality).

**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 6:47 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Robert Peterson

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**Documents used during the meeting**

- January2024Financial.pdf