

APPROVED



Explorations Charter School

Minutes

Governing Board Regular Meeting

Date and Time

Tuesday June 18, 2024 at 5:30 PM

Location

Virtual Meeting

Governing Board Meeting

Tuesday, June 18 · 5:30 – 6:30pm

Time zone: America/New_York

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/iht-qmfu-trs>

Or dial: (US) +1 218-301-8558 PIN: 731 684 040#

More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/iht-qmfu-trs?pin=1783593570712>

Directors Present

Ginni Block (remote), Kali Blakeslee (remote), Kristin Peterson (remote), Lori Noto (remote), Robert Peterson (remote)

Directors Absent

Hilary Paden, Melony Brady-Shanley, Sarah Annis Haynes

Guests Present

Chris King (remote), Greg Skinner (remote), Jill Johnson, Joe White (remote), Susan O'Rourke (remote)

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 Jun 18, 2024 at 5:35 PM.

C. Approve Minutes - 5/21/2024 Regular Board Meeting

Ginni Block made a motion to approve the minutes from Governing Board Regular Meeting on 05-21-24.

Kristin Peterson seconded the motion.

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

II. Financial

A. 2022-2023 Audit Presentation

Chris King (King CPAs) presented the 2022-2023 Audit via Power Point. There were no findings in the Audit. Chris provided a copy of the presentation to Jill Johnson.

The Board thanked Chris for his presentation.

B. Monthly Report

The school still has funds on the line of credit and we are waiting for final special education funds to come in from two districts. Jill Johnson said we have grant funds that have been drawn down recently and the funds will be deposited by year end. We have also recently received more insurance funds to cover the rebuild and the contents. The final check received for per pupil was more than expected resulting in an end of year amount over the budgeted amount.

Robert Peterson made a motion to Approve the May 2024 Financial Report.

Ginni Block seconded the motion.

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

C. Status of ERTC Funds from IRS

Jill Johnson reached out to the IRS regarding our payment and the processing of the ERTC. She was told that our application is in and is awaiting processing. There is no time frame for receiving the funds. Chris King said there are currently around 1.4 million unprocessed applications that are being done by hand due to excessive fraud.

III. Committee Updates

A. Finance Committee

The Finance Committee is scheduled to meet to discuss the possibility of working with a Grant Writer / Funding Planner and will update the board at the retreat.

B. CEO Support & Evaluation

Lori Noto and Jill Johnson will look at the evaluation together and make goals for next year. These goals will be reviewed at the board retreat as part of the discussion of the overall evaluation process.

C. Personnel Committee

The committee has finalized the employee handbook. The members plan to meet prior to the board retreat to look over the handbook.

D. Policy Committee

No update

E. By-Law Revision

No updates. Robert Peterson asked the committee members to look over the bylaws and send any suggestions to Jill Johnson.

IV. School News

A. Attendance/Chronic Absenteeism

The final numbers from June have not been calculated at this time, however the expectation is that the numbers will be lower than 42.3%

May:

CA (ytd) = 42.3% (down from 50.6 as of end of April, was 48.8% last year)

Avg Daily Attendance = 87.41%

Grade Level - Avg. Daily Attendance / CA

9th - 84.81% / 50%

10th - 90.41% / 27.3%

11th - 86.59% / 40%

12th - 86.71% / 53.3%

B. Charter Renewal Update

On Wednesday, June 5th, Jill Johnson and Bob Peterson went to Hartford to speak before the State Board of Education. Explorations was approved for a two year conditional renewal. Conditions of the renewal include writing a corrective action plan and making updates to the accounting and board policy (bylaws) manual.

C. General Updates

Enrollment: Applications are still coming in. Jill Johnson and Bill Hallam plan to meet Thursday to discuss enrollment.

V. Other Business

A. Board Retreat Update - set agenda

The date for the board retreat is August 3rd at 9AM at LARC in Torrington. Thanks to Hilary for securing this location. Jill Johnson and Robert Peterson will meet to finalize the agenda.

B. 2024-2025 Governing Board Meeting Dates

The meetings will remain on the third Tuesday of each month at 5:30PM.

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 6:34 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joe White

Documents used during the meeting

- Audit Presentation 2023.pdf
- Monthly Report May 2024.pdf
- renewal_of_state_charter_explorations_charter_school_winsted - Resolution.pdf