

DRAFT



Explorations Charter School

Minutes

Governing Board Regular Meeting

Date and Time

Tuesday October 15, 2024 at 5:30 PM

Location

Governing Board Meeting

Tuesday, October 15 · 5:30 – 6:30pm

Time zone: America/New_York

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/kkj-kymf-epc>

Or dial: (US) +1 401-903-0736 PIN: 455 651 865#

More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/kkj-kymf-epc?pin=9603775716174>

Directors Present

Bryan Raydenbow (remote), Ginni Block (remote), Hilary Paden (remote), Kali Blakeslee (remote), Robert Peterson (remote), Sarah Annis Haynes (remote)

Directors Absent

Greg Skinner, Lori Noto

Guests Present

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 Oct 15, 2024 at 5:33 PM.

C. Approve Minutes - 09/17/2024

Ginni Block made a motion to approve the minutes from Governing Board Regular Meeting on 09-17-24.

Hilary Paden seconded the motion.

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

II. Financial

A. September Monthly Report

Ginni Block made a motion to Approve the September Financial Report as presented. Robert Peterson seconded the motion.

1. September Monthly Report: Up to date through the month of September. Pupil services billing Special Ed this week. Received about 50% of the money from the SDE. Amendments to the budget forthcoming (Salary, Benefits, Utilities). Nothing outstanding with the exception of the monies from the state.
2. October count: 77 enrollment; budgeted for 92 pupils. 80K budget deficit predicted. IRS employee retention credit is in process. According to IRS, checks will be sent starting in September throughout the fall. Estimate is a December check. Hope to have revised budget by the next meeting.
3. Approx. 33 - 35K expected from insurance company from 9/2023 flooding incoming within the month. Will be a reimbursement.

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

III. Committee Reports

A. By-Law Committee

Proposed working session date postponed to 11/2. Policy committee invited to join and work simultaneously.

B. Policy Committee

No updates

IV. School News

A. Charter Renewal Update

Email received on 10/15 c. 5:40 pm from SDE that our corrective action plans (CAP) have all been officially accepted.

Staff to be updated on roles in CAP at scheduled meeting on Wednesday, October 16.

Thursday, October 17, 2024 Jill and Sarah meeting with SDE accountability and support subcommittee to discuss CAP progress and benchmark testing.

B. General Updates

Enrollment was 77 as of October 1, 2024. As of October 15, enrollment is at 72 students: 1 student withdrew to attend a adult education program; 2 additional students PPTed to sending schools; 2 additional students have been administratively withdrawn per the advice of the Charter office and a letter has been sent to sending districts'

Superintendents. Currently accepting applications for enrollments of students in good standing. Bill and Jill meeting to discuss enrolling prospective students pre-January this week. Prospective student outreach to Torrington Middle School on Thursday, October 10. Went very well. Meeting with Lewis Mills social worker re: current and prospective students this week. Thomaston Middle School presentation next week. NBC Connecticut "Great Kids" re: GSA grant segment to air in November. Representatives from EdAdvance coming on Friday, October 18 to offer support re: attendance. John Stepney passed Praxis test; certification in progress. Greg Skinner passed Foundations of Reading for final certification.

C. Attendance

September chronically absent (CA) student report rate: 44.2%. Due to various factors, a significant improvement in October in anticipated.

V. 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 6:03 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kali Blakeslee