

APPROVED



# Explorations Charter School

## Minutes

### Governing Board Regular Meeting

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#### Date and Time

Tuesday January 21, 2025 at 5:30 PM

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#### Directors Present

Bryan Raydenbow (remote), Ginni Block (remote), Greg Skinner (remote), Hilary Paden (remote), Julie Luby (remote), Kali Blakeslee (remote), Lori Noto (remote), Robert Peterson (remote), Sarah Annis Haynes (remote)

#### Directors Absent

*None*

#### Directors who arrived after the meeting opened

Hilary Paden, Julie Luby

#### Guests Present

Christopher King (remote), 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 Jan 21, 2025 at 5:33 PM.

### C. Approve Minutes - 11/19/2024

Robert Peterson made a motion to approve the minutes from Governing Board Regular Meeting on 11-19-24.

Lori Noto seconded the motion.

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

#### Roll Call

Julie Luby	Aye
Robert Peterson	Aye
Greg Skinner	Aye
Sarah Annis Haynes	Aye
Ginni Block	Aye
Hilary Paden	Aye
Kali Blakeslee	Aye
Lori Noto	Aye
Bryan Raydenbow	Aye

Hilary Paden arrived.

## II. Financial

### A. Audit Report Presentation

Presented by Christopher King, re: Audit. See attachments. Here is an overview:

- State Single Audit.
- EFS procedures. IRS Form 990 to be filed soon.
- Statement of Financial Position (balance sheet): employee retention tax credit receivable. IRS says the claim is "in process."
- 2024 short-term loan converted to long-term mortgage.
- Cash Flow = Negative
- Statement of Functional Expenses: programs vs. management (can show efficiency )
- General accounting policies
- Credit line and short-term bank loan
- \$1,084,864 state funds expected (state per-pupil grant funding)

Julie Luby arrived.

### B. December Monthly Report

See attached report. Here are the highlights:

- We're halfway through the school year.
- Open for questions.

- Finance committee waiting to finalize the income versus the expenditures.
- Revised budget forthcoming for February meeting.

Robert Peterson made a motion to approve the minutes from.

Bryan Raydenbow seconded the motion.

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

### **III. Committee Reports**

#### **A. Policy Committee**

Joe White: re: technology policy.

- Discussion re: cell phones and technology use

From Greg Skinner via chat: [https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.nicusa.ctsafe&pcampaignid=web\\_share](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.nicusa.ctsafe&pcampaignid=web_share)

#### **B. Finance Committee**

Ginni Block: Revised budget.

- State check is different than the amount expected.
- Revised budget pending information from the state.

#### **C. By-Law Revision Committee**

Jill Johnson expressed gratitude to the bylaw committee.

- Bylaws finalized.
- p.5: Answers to questions from our attorney to be added.
- Table discussion for next meeting.

#### **D. Personnel Committee**

Sarah Haynes:

- Employee handbook.
- Requests Board input before sending to our attorney.

### **IV. School News**

## **A. Charter Renewal Update**

Sarah Haynes:

- Summary of most recent meetings (2)
- The feeling is the State was happy with our data and reporting
- Concerns re: attendance
- Gratitude to Joe White for putting the data and the presentation together

Jill Johnson:

- Meeting 1/21 re: assessments and data
- Communication with PLCs forthcoming
- The Charter Renewal process begins again in May 2025
- Reports pending to Accountability and Support Subcommittee

## **B. General Updates**

Jill Johnson led a discussion. Key points included:

- Enrollment = 73 students. 3 new students starting 1/27 (Semester 2).
- Open House March 26 for the 2025 - 2026 school year.
- Positive feelings about community outreach

Attendance:

- 40.5% November
- 51.4% December
- State average c. 19%
- Sending district average c. 30%

Staffing Update:

- Jeff Sesko returned 1/21
- To be teaching Art and History, co-teaching BLS with Kali Blakeslee
- Erika will teach digital arts.
- Erin will teach concurrent enrollment courses. Funding through EdAdvance to cover partial salary.

Title XIV Update:

- The 2024 version was overturned and converted to the 2020 version.
- Superintendents' meeting is forthcoming and the topic will be discussed in greater detail.

### **C. Student Membership To the Board**

Lori Noto and Sarah Haynes have received applications from 2 students seeking an appointment on the board.

Interviews forthcoming.

## **V. Closing Items**

### **A. Adjourn Meeting**

Jill requests February meeting moved to February 25.

Sarah Annis Haynes made a motion to Move February meeting one week to February 25.

Bryan Raydenbow seconded the motion.

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

Lori Noto made a motion to Adjourn meeting.

Robert Peterson seconded the motion.

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

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:57 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kali Blakeslee

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### **Documents used during the meeting**

*None*