



The Exploris School

The Exploris School Board Regular Monthly Meeting

Date and Time

Thursday September 28, 2023 at 4:30 PM EDT

Location

The Exploris School: Elementary Campus
17 S Swain St, Raleigh, NC 27601, USA
5th Grade Classroom

Agenda

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
I. Opening Items			4:30 PM
A. Record Attendance		Edward Buchan	1 m
B. Call the Meeting to Order		Steven Darroch	1 m
C. Approve Minutes	Approve Minutes	Edward Buchan	2 m
Approve minutes for The Exploris School Board Regular Monthly Meeting on August 24, 2023			
D. Public Comment		Steven Darroch	15 m
PUBLIC COMMENT			

Fifteen minutes will be allocated on the agenda for public input at each meeting.
Additional time may be added at the discretion of the Chair.

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
<p>Public comment may be oral, in person, or in written form to be read by the Chair.</p> <p>Public comment is limited to no more than 3 minutes per person.</p> <p>It is recommended that public comment be written out and provided to the board following the three minutes to ensure the entire message is heard by the board.</p> <p>Each speaker will clearly state their full name and county of residence.</p> <p>All public comment should be factual and should not include personally identifiable information of students or personnel in order to maintain confidentiality. Speakers should avoid using names of students or staff and maintain confidentiality and privacy standards.</p> <p>All public comments will be taken under advisement by the Board, but will not elicit an immediate written or spoken response. The names of persons providing public comment and a brief summary of topics or input will be included in the meeting minutes published.</p> <p>A response will be provided to the stakeholder within seven (7) days. Those providing public comment are asked to provide in writing (either in person or via email to board@exploris.org) their contact information including name, County of residence, and address (either email or postal, whichever is preferred).</p> <p>Specific issues about a particular student or teacher should be addressed to the elementary or middle school director, rather than the Board of Directors.</p>			
E.	Board Development: Legislative Updates	Ryan Boyce	15 m
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Governance Committee will give general updates on recent legislation that will potentially affect our school. 		
II.	Committee Reports		5:04 PM
A.	Governance	Vote	Ryan Boyce
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vote to adopt SB49 policies • Other general Governance updates 		
B.	Finance	Vote	Koren Morgan

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly Financial Reports 			
C. Educational Excellence	Vote	Eric Grunden	5 m
D. Director Evaluation & Support	Discuss	Steven Darroch	5 m
E. Facilities	Vote	Josh Corbat	5 m
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates on Facilities Project 			
F. Kaizen	FYI	Daniel Hencher	5 m
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kaizen leaders will give an update to the Board. 			
III. Meeting Items			5:34 PM
A. Directors Report	Discuss	Deborah Brown	5 m
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly Report & Updates (The Directors Report will not be made verbally during meetings. Please review the written report prior to the meeting. We will answer questions and provide critical updates and vote on any requested items.) 			
B. Board Business	Discuss	Steven Darroch	5 m
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Discussions 			
IV. Closed Session			5:44 PM
A. Facilities & Legal Items	Discuss	Josh Corbat	10 m
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates on Facilities • Updates on Personnel Issues • Updates on any Open Legal Items 			
V. Closing Items			5:54 PM

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
A. Adjourn Meeting	Vote		

Coversheet

Approve Minutes

Section: I. Opening Items
Item: C. Approve Minutes
Purpose: Approve Minutes
Submitted by:

Related Material:
Minutes for The Exploris School Board Regular Monthly Meeting on August 24, 2023

APPROVED



The Exploris School

Minutes

The Exploris School Board Regular Monthly Meeting

Date and Time

Thursday August 24, 2023 at 4:30 PM

Location

The Exploris School: Elementary Campus
17 S Swain St, Raleigh, NC 27601, USA
5th Grade Classroom

Directors Present

A. Rodriguez (remote), D. Deaton, D. Hencher, E. Buchan, E. Grunden, R. Boyce, S. Carothers (remote), S. Darroch, T. Void

Directors Absent

M. Townley

Ex Officio Members Present

C. Greer-Banks (remote), D. Brown, E. Burton, J. Corbat

Non Voting Members Present

C. Greer-Banks (remote), D. Brown, E. Burton, J. Corbat

Guests Present

K. Morgan (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

C. Approve Minutes

R. Boyce made a motion to approve the minutes from The Exploris School Board Regular Monthly Meeting on 07-27-23.

E. Grunden seconded the motion.

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

D. Public Comment

No comments

E. Facilities Project Presentation by Rosewood Strategies

Autumn Tomlin with Rosewood provided presentation covering school development options.

II. Committee Reports

A. Governance

Voted to amend handbook to change the opt-out phrasing.

B. Finance

Accepted report from staff.

C. Educational Excellence

Accepted report from staff.

D. Director Evaluation & Support

Accepted report from staff.

E. Facilities

Accepted report from staff.

F. Kaizen

Accepted report from staff.

III. Meeting Items

A. Directors Report

Discussed enrollment trends and initial week of school performance. Noted no behavior issues.

New hire discussion for Eric Clark. Discussed impacts of new legislation on curriculums, which should not be an issue for Exploris.

R. Boyce made a motion to Accept hire of Eric Clark.

T. Void seconded the motion.

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

B. Board Business

Accepted reports from staff. Suggested moving Board Retreat to June due to calendar conflicts in the Fall.

IV. Closed Session

A. Facilities & Legal Items

Did not move into closed session.

V. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

E. Buchan made a motion to To adjourn.

The board **VOTED** 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 6:07 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

E. Buchan

Coversheet

Finance

Section:	II. Committee Reports
Item:	B. Finance
Purpose:	Vote
Submitted by:	
Related Material:	Bank Account Balances 8-31-23.pdf 05. Income Statement - 2023.08 - Exploris.pdf 06. Balance Sheet - 2023.08 - Exploris.pdf 03. Board Report - 2023.08 - Exploris.pdf

8/31/2023 Account Balances	
Bank Account	Balance
The Exploris School Checking	\$912,334.85
The Exploris School Reserves	\$1,218,794.96
The Exploris School Foundation-Annual Fund	\$70,060.08
The Exploris School Foundation-Capital Campaign	\$542,104.20

09/07/2023
11:31 AM

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THE EXPLORIS SCHOOL**Income Statement****Fiscal Year: 2024 Month: August****Include Fund(s): 1, 2, 3, 5**

Fund	Beg. Balance	MTD Actual	MTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Fund 1					
Revenue Total:	274,484.78	279,831.76	262,949.42	554,316.54	525,898.83
Expense Total:	274,468.52	279,848.02	311,102.75	554,316.54	622,205.56
Change in Fund 1 Balance:	16.26	(16.26)	(48,153.33)	0.00	(96,306.73)
Fund 2					
Revenue Total:	413.85	413.98	121,842.64	827.83	243,685.28
Expense Total:	64,911.29	150,860.59	105,837.94	215,771.88	211,675.73
Change in Fund 2 Balance:	(64,497.44)	(150,446.61)	16,004.70	(214,944.05)	32,009.55
Fund 3					
Revenue Total:	0.00	16,272.30	39,309.29	16,272.30	78,618.58
Expense Total:	21,606.32	24,572.51	1,037.16	46,178.83	2,074.34
Change in Fund 3 Balance:	(21,606.32)	(8,300.21)	38,272.13	(29,906.53)	76,544.24
Fund 5					
Revenue Total:	0.00	0.00	7,666.67	0.00	15,333.33
Expense Total:	(0.84)	0.00	4,958.33	(0.84)	9,916.67
Change in Fund 5 Balance:	0.84	0.00	2,708.34	0.84	5,416.66

9/7/2023
11:32:12 AM

THE EXPLORIS SCHOOL

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Balance Sheet

Fiscal Year: 2024 | Fiscal Month: August
Include Funds: All

Assets

2.1010.000.000.000.000.00	Cash OP FCIT 6528	330,129.03
2.1011.000.000.000.000.00	Cash - Reserve	1,218,794.96
2.1611.000.000.000.000.00	Security Deposit	15,658.00
3.1010.000.000.000.000.00	Cash OP FCIT 6528	(29,906.53)
5.1010.000.000.000.000.00	Cash OP FCIT 6528	427,573.66

TOTAL Assets: **1,962,249.12**

Liabilities

2.2282.000.000.000.000.00	EEs' Flex Spending Deductions	(2,525.23)
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TOTAL Liabilities: **(2,525.23)**

Reserves and Equity

2.2960.000.000.000.000.00	Fund Equity	1,782,051.27
5.2960.000.000.000.000.00	Fund Equity	427,572.82

TOTAL Reserves and Equity: **2,209,624.09**

NET GAIN (LOSS): **(244,849.74)**

TOTAL LIABILITIES / RESERVES / INCOME: **1,962,249.12**



THE EXPLORIS SCHOOL

Budget Analysis Report

Fiscal Year: 2024 | 8/01/2023 - 8/31/2023

Account	Budget	Period Activity	YTD Activity	Remaining Budget	% Used	EOY Projection
Revenues						
STATE REVENUE	3,155,393.00	279,831.76	554,316.54	2,601,076.46	17.57	3,155,393.00
LOCAL REVENUE	1,432,111.69	413.98	827.83	1,431,283.86	0.06	1,432,111.69
NCACCESS GRANT REVENUE	282,493.00	0.00	0.00	282,493.00	0.00	282,493.00
FEDERAL REVENUE	189,218.45	16,272.30	16,272.30	172,946.15	8.60	189,218.45
FOUNDATION REVENUE	30,000.00	0.00	0.00	30,000.00	0.00	32,000.00
B&A CARE REVENUE	92,000.00	0.00	0.00	92,000.00	0.00	92,000.00
Revenues	5,181,216.14	296,518.04	571,416.67	4,609,799.47	11.03	5,183,216.14
Expenses						
Account	Budget	Period Activity	YTD Activity	Remaining Budget	% Used	EOY Projection
SALARIES AND BONUSES	3,065,140.00	238,688.06	445,230.12	2,619,909.88	14.53	3,065,140.00
BENEFITS	643,733.21	45,388.29	93,715.50	550,017.71	14.56	643,733.21
BOOKS AND SUPPLIES	72,853.00	16,724.57	27,646.27	45,206.73	37.95	72,853.00
TECHNOLOGY	78,107.00	10,250.23	12,998.01	65,108.99	16.64	78,107.00
NON-CAP EQUIPMENT & LEASES	16,500.00	1,931.79	2,912.79	13,587.21	17.65	16,500.00
CONTRACTED STUDENT SERVICES	140,000.00	0.00	0.00	140,000.00	0.00	140,000.00
FIELD TRIPS/ACTIVITIES	30,508.69	9,136.40	9,136.40	21,372.29	29.95	39,645.09
ADMIN SERVICES	166,100.00	27,502.86	63,642.22	102,457.78	38.32	168,100.00
INSURANCES	32,400.00	0.00	23,442.00	8,958.00	72.35	36,342.00
FACILITIES	471,800.00	64,886.42	90,400.23	381,399.77	19.16	471,800.00
B&A CARE	59,500.00	0.00	0.37	59,499.63	0.00	59,500.00
CLUBS	3,653.00	0.00	0.00	3,653.00	0.00	3,653.00
CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND EXPENSES	12,446.00	1,473.00	1,473.00	10,973.00	11.84	12,446.00
VARIOUS GRANTS - NCACCESS	282,493.00	38,999.50	45,369.50	237,123.50	16.06	282,493.00
Expenses	5,075,233.90	455,281.12	816,266.41	4,258,967.49	16.08	5,090,312.30
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	105,982.24	(158,763.08)	(244,849.74)			92,903.84

Coversheet

Directors Report

Section: III. Meeting Items
Item: A. Directors Report
Purpose: Discuss
Submitted by:
Related Material:
September 2023 Exploris Leadership Team Board Report - Google Docs.pdf



The Exploris School

Directors Report

To: Board Members
From: Ethan, Josh, & Deb
Re: Monthly Board Report

Date: September 28, 2023

The following information is provided to the Board of Directors:

Enrollment

Grade Level	Active Enrollment	Class Sizes	Withdrawals Since 8/30/23 (10th school day)	Open Seats
Kindergarten	32	16	0	
1 st Grade	36	18	0	
2 nd Grade	38	19	0	
3 rd Grade	38	19	0	
4 th Grade	40	20	0	
5 th Grade	38	19	0	
6 th Grade	75	19x3/ 18x1	0	1
7 th Grade	76	19	0	
8 th Grade	76	19	1	
Total	449		0	1

Student Support Team Report

Month	In School Suspension # students / # days	Out of School Suspension # students / # days	Major referrals that did not result in suspension	Minor Behavior Referrals
August	ES: 0/0 MS: 0/0	ES: 0/0 MS: 0/0	ES: 0/0 MS: 0/0	ES: 0/0 MS: 0/0
September	ES: 0/0 MS: 1/1	ES: 0/0 MS: 3/3	ES: 2/2 MS: 3/3	ES: 5/5 MS: 2/3
October				
November				
Total				

Notes on Student Support and Behaviors: We are using a new behavior reporting tool called Panorama that synchs with Powerschool and are working with the staff on norming what is a “major” and what is a “minor” behavior. We expect to see increased reporting of minor behaviors as staff increase their familiarity with the new platform. .

Updates on Goals/Issues for Discussion

School Improvement Plan (SIP) Progress:

Target Area #1 Student Support Alignment Progress:

- The Student Support Team is holding biweekly meetings with each grade level team and with leadership to review data as it comes from MAP, iXL, Panorama and other sources. They are triangulating data from testing, attendance, behavior reports, and teacher observations to

determine which scholars might need additional support through academic interventions, family connections, or social emotional resources.

- Staff is being trained on the new Panorama platform for tracking student academics, attendance, and behavior data. We are holding work sessions to help norm how to report and code specific behaviors, and how to differentiate between “major” and “minor” incidents
- Staff are completing their annual Policy Assurances, which makes sure that all staff members have up to date training on items ranging from mandatory reporting laws, recognizing signs of abuse and human trafficking, signs of suicide ideation and self harm, and how to administer epi pens, for example.

Target Area #2 Instructional Alignment Progress:

- We have started the formal teacher feedback cycle, which begins with each teacher creating a Professional Growth Plan. Each teacher creates one goal that connects to our universal school goals for professional development, which this year is focused on effective and impactful co-teaching. Then each teacher sets a second more personal goal that can be anything that will increase their impact and effectiveness in the classroom. Each staff member will then meet with the campus administrator to review and discuss the goal, followed by a classroom observation and a post-observation conference. There is a mid year and end of year review as well.
- We have been working to align our Friday programs at both campuses, and on 9/25 we had our first k-8 aligned schedule. Our Friday Explorations and service learning opportunities can now connect in new ways and while community partners and family volunteers are still welcome and encouraged, it is now a much more sustainable teacher-led program.
- Fall benchmark MAP testing has been completed for all grades at the elementary and middle school.
- Staff members in primary grades are continuing their LETRS training
- The leadership team had a meeting with Lauryn Mascarenaz from Rise on the details of conducting an Equity & Diversity audit at Exploris starting this fall.

Target Area #3 Community Engagement Progress:

- Our counseling team is holding monthly “Coffee with Counselors” gatherings at Transfer Food Hall. The next one is October 12th at 8:45 am
- In order to accommodate more families with diverse schedules, our annual Curriculum Night was offered both in person and as a pre-recorded video of the presentation by each teaching team.
- The annual Social-Emotional screener will be offered through Panorama this year. All families have the right to opt out if they wish.
- Middle Schools students will be trained on the *Say Something* national anonymous reporting app. Families can also opt out of this training. *Say Something* is an initiative from the non-profit Sandy Hook Promise, which aims to reduce violence in schools.
- Last spring we partnered with Boosterthon to raise money to support our field experiences, and the leadership team is developing a way to divide and distribute those funds in an equitable way that prioritizes our hallmark programs
- Sept. 18th-22nd was our annual *Start with Hello* week. Its goals are to foster a more welcoming and connected school community.
- On Sept. 15th the local emergency responders visited Exploris Elementary Campus. Scholars had the chance to meet the EMS teams, explore the EMT truck, and learn about safety issues and ways they are protecting the community.
- On September 20th and 21st we welcomed eight visiting teachers from our sister school in Shinonome Japan. These guests were current university professors leading teacher development programs and several of their pre-service teachers. They toured both campuses, participated in a

special community circle, and taught lessons in Japanese art and poetry to students in the Connected World at both campuses.

- 8th grade Humanities teacher Cori Greer-Banks has been named the 2023 North Carolina History Teacher of the Year. She will be presented with this award at a special ceremony and dinner on 9/29. Congratulations Cori!

Human Resource Update

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New Hires for Approval

Name	Position	Notes
Madison Stevens	Coordinator for Before/After Care Program	This is a newly created role

Current Vacancies

None

Fiscal Operations Update

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1. Budget Amendments Requested
2. Unpaid Invoices (Time frame for payment)
3. Identified Potential Short/Long Term Issues

Important Dates (Board Attendance Requested)

- Schedule a visit to drop in and see classes in action! Even a short drop by is welcome!
- October 14th 12:45-2:00 "Ring of Fire" Eclipse event
- Join us on Friday, Oct. 27th for the Exploris Family Fall Festival! Starts at 5:00 pm at Exploris Elementary