

APPROVED



## The Exploris School

# Minutes

## Board Meeting

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**Date and Time**

Tuesday May 28, 2019 at 4:30 PM

**Location**

The Exploris School - Middle Campus

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**Directors Present**

B. Kingery, C. Hutchens, C. Jones, E. Schollmeyer, G. Burnette, J. Frawley, K. Byars-Nichols, K. Furr, K. Harris, K. Johnson, L. Perry-Lawless, M. Mitchell-Neal, T. Kingsberry, T. Miller

**Directors Absent**

K. Von Weihe

**Directors who arrived after the meeting opened**

T. Miller

**Guests Present**

Mr. and Ms. Forehand, S. McKay

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**I. Opening Items****A. Record Attendance and Guests****B. Call the Meeting to Order**

C. Jones called a meeting of the board of directors of The Exploris School to order on Tuesday May 28, 2019 at 4:35 PM.

**C. Approve Minutes**

K. Byars-Nichols made a motion to approve minutes from the Board Meeting on 04-30-19 Board Meeting on 04-30-19.

B. Kingery seconded the motion.

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

**D. Public Comment**

No public comments were made.

**II. Building Update**

**A. New Building Update**

Robbie Farris from SFL&A presented a brief update on the project. The project secured a "term sheet" for the loan for 85% of the total project. He needs 15% more to "fill the gap." Robbie has told investors that we have to close within the next 45 days, and all persons involved understand the urgency for Exploris.

T. Miller arrived.

Robbie explained that the difficulty has been the mixed use nature of the project. There are several investor meetings a week. SFL&A has to date spoken with hundreds of investors, and nothing to date has worked out, but he is hopeful that we can find one very soon. Another funding option is to pursue the use of a "New Market Tax Credit" to fill the 15% gap in funding, he is pursuing this option simultaneously.

Camesha and Bob asked when do we "give up" with this route and try to find another way to imagine the project. SFL&A would lose 4.5 million if they abandoned the project, so they have not even contemplated that option.

**III. ED Ex Collaboratory - Center for Innovation**

**A. ED Ex Collaboratory**

Sonja joined the meeting to present additional information about EDEX Collaboratory. At the last Foundation Board meeting, they approved the EDEX in concept, but did not approve any monetary expenditures. Ellie and Christine noted that while the Foundation Board meeting could approve funding of the project, they wanted to first discuss the details with the Exploris School Board (in June School Board meeting).

K. Byars-Nichols made a motion to approve the pursuit of the EdEx Collaboratory in concept.

B. Kingery seconded the motion.

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

**B.**

## Exploris School Foundation

In June, certain Foundation board members will join the Exploris School Board meeting to discuss roles and responsibilities and fundraising needs.

George explained Development Committee plans to work with the foundation to meet Exploris and EdEx goals over the next three months.

## IV. Executive Director Report

### A. Academics/ Personnel/ Operations

Board Approval is requested for the following positions:

- 6th Grade Teacher – Kathryn Taylor
- K Teacher – Valerie Contreras

Positions to be filled:

- Associate Director (Michelle Parkerson is moving to the PT Instructional Coach position)
- One New EC position (PT) is projected to be added to meet the increase in EC needs

Cori Greer-Banks was selected by the staff as the Board rep for 2019 -2020.

Board approval is requested to approve the following contracts for student support services for 2019-2020:

- Integrated Speech Therapy – Lisa O'Connor
- Jenn Grellner - Speech Therapy Services

K. Byars-Nichols made a motion to approve two new hires.

C. Hutchens seconded the motion.

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

K. Byars-Nichols made a motion to approve contract to speech therapy with the understanding that the language of the contract will be proofread.

T. Miller seconded the motion.

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

In keeping with best practices, and our board's current size and ability to execute through committee work, Tom proposed that we back off the monthly board meetings and instead drive the work through committees and ensure the regular meetings are focused on action (based on committee recommendation) and discussion on the future of the school. Present challenges can be addressed by school management and designated committees. Board approval is requested for the proposed 2019 - 2020 Board meeting calendar:

- July 30, 2019 - New Member Orientation meeting (New members, Executive Director and board officers) (2 hours)
- August 27, 2019 - Regular Meeting
- September 24, 2018 Regular Meeting
- October 29, 2019 Regular Meeting
- November 2019 (Committee Deep Dives)
- December 17, 2019 (Special Meeting if Needed - Holiday Connecting)
- January 28, 2020 (Annual Board Retreat)
- February 25, 2020 (Regular Meeting)
- March 2020 (Committee Deep Dives to prepare)
- April 28, 2020 (Regular Meeting)
- May 26, 2020 (Regular Meeting)
- June 16, 2020 (Celebration of the Year)

K. Byars-Nichols made a motion to approve revised board meeting schedule, as proposed.

K. Harris seconded the motion.

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

Erin Young of Hall Booth Smith has sent us a presentation on "Identifying Retaliation and Avoiding Claims" to meet the OCR resolution requirements. All Board members are required to review the training materials. The presentation was video recorded and will be shared with the Board when available. The Board members are required to sign off that they have been provided this training as part of our OCR resolution agreement (signature page is being distributed during meeting).

## **B. Finance**

### 2018-2019 Budget

The Finance committee met to review the year to date expenditures and project future impacts. Based on YTD activity, we are projecting an end of year surplus of \$86,340.97. The Finance Committee is recommending that the surplus be allocated to the reserve to pay back the fundallocations that covered this year's legal and technology expenditures. The balance sheet and income statement along with the YTD budget report are attached for your review.

The 2019- 2020 Budget second draft is attached for your review, discussion, and approval. The projected surplus is estimated to be \$12,137.53. This will required a \$100,000 annual fund contribution. Since our last meeting insurance rates have been finalized. BC/BS is being retained for hospitalization and I negotiated a reduced renewal rate from 9.7% to 3.7%. The ancillary insurance services (dental, life, STD, LTD) will be switched to Guardian to realize savings and retain the same level of coverage. Other school insurance coverage for Property Package, Educator's Legal, Excess Liability, accident and worker's compensation increased13%. The increase is largely due to a change in student and staff population and payroll. The ADM was also reduced from 456

to 452 to allow for any shortfall from delayed student starts. We currently have the following number of students on our waitlist to fill any openings as they are identified.

B. Kingery made a motion to approve 2019-2020 budget as presented.

C. Hutchens seconded the motion.

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

## **V. Standing Committee Updates**

### **A. Governance Committee**

We are holding new board member interviews tonight and tomorrow, and will have recommendations next meeting.

Tom moved to approve Camesha for Chair, Theo for Vice Chair, Christine for Treasurer, Keely for Secretary. Bob seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Chairs: Katie (EEC), George (Development), Theo (Facilities), Tom (Governance).

### **B. CEO Evaluation Update**

There will be an update on the progress of the CEO evaluation. All board members should have received a copy of the self-evaluation completed by Ellie. A team is working through the data and will present to Ellie in the next 10 days.

## **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 6:22 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
T. Miller