APPROVED

The Exploris School

Minutes

The Exploris School Board Regular Monthly Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday October 26, 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, D. Deaton, E. Buchan, P. President (remote), R. Boyce, S. Darroch, T. Void

Directors Absent
D. Hencher, E. Grunden, M. Townley

Ex Officio Members Present
D. Brown, E. Burton (remote), J. Corbat

Guests Present
K. Morgan

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B.

Call the Meeting to Order

S. Darroch called a meeting of the board of directors of The Exploris School to order on Thursday Oct 26, 2023 at 4:35 PM.

C. Approve Minutes

R. Boyce made a motion to approve the amended minutes from The Exploris School Board Regular Monthly Meeting on 09-28-23.
D. Deaton seconded the motion.

- Steven asked for a motion to:
  - Change where the Vote to Approve minutes sits
  - Remove Board Development (because we tabled it to today)
  - Add Eric Grunden to the Committee for Director Evaluation & Support

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

D. Public Comment

- Laurel Passera, Wake County
  - Talking to a lot of parents. There is a lot of frustration about the building project.
  - Want to question a lot of assumptions that were shared at a prior Board Meeting.
    - It was shared that we have overwhelming support from parents to stay in Downtown Raleigh.
    - I have not received a survey. A survey should be well structured.
    - I have concerns about building a school in a Brownfield area.
      - What does it mean for parents? What are the contaminants?
      - Train tracks: What are the impacts for students?
    - Request a more current parent survey.

E. Board Development: Legislative Updates

- Ryan
  - Implementation dates have been pushed back for a lot of the Parents Bill of Rights pieces.
  - Reporting requirements have been pushed back to September 2024.
- Deb
  - DPI gathered concerns, which led to the implementation dates being pushed back.

II. Committee Reports

A. Governance

Ryan provided the update - there was not a meeting over the past month. Michelle Duncan mentioned some changes that need to occur moving forward. They also discussed a potential new board member. Deborah has been reviewing text in the discipline policy and will consider potential clarifications. No votes needed.

B. Finance

Koren provided the update - $349K will be transferred to reserve. It is our intention to provide retroactive raises for teachers based on NC budget. Last year raises were implemented in November. Working on the draft audited financial statements.

Josh mentioned 2 findings - we hired 2 EC teachers without finalized licensure. Both cases should be resolved shortly. If needed, our policy is to hire unlicensed EC staff as teachers and have them get licensed before receiving a case load. Our current records keeping system will prevent record lapses in the future.

Stephen mentioned we will likely need a line item in the budget for a strategy/vision update committee.

Josh mentioned the School Safety grant has be reopened and we will apply to update our security systems.

No vote needed.

C. Educational Excellence

Ethan provided the update - no meeting last month,, but new benchmark data is in and k-3 showed good progress. New 4-8 data can be used in I-Excel to improve intervention outcomes.

No vote needed.

D. Director Evaluation & Support

Stephen provided the update. No vote needed.

E. Facilities

Josh provided the update. Due diligence continues with Kindly Street included a traffic study as required by COR. The study should take approximately 1 month. If the Kindly St project moves forward, it will likely require a new capital campaign to generate additional revenue. We have reached out to Moss & Ross, LLC to discuss capital campaign management.

We have developed a robust alumni distribution list and will use this network for the capital campaign.

Stephen asked to get a quarterly update from Rosewood.

No vote needed.

F. Kaizen

Tasha provided the update. Have had 4 meetings, next meeting November 15

No vote needed.

III. Meeting Items

A. Directors Report

Deborah - approaching the end of the trimester, many good community engagement experiences. Anti-bullying week is coming up. Tasha provided an update on Spirit Week. Fall Festival is occurring tomorrow (October 27) from 5:00 to 7:00.

Deborah brought up that Tom is returning to Exploris (4th Grade). Board voted to accept his return.

Discussed the possibility of requiring a campus visit for all potential new families.
A. Rodriguez made a motion to Accept new 4th grade teacher.
R. Boyce seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
A. Rodriguez made a motion to Amend agenda to discuss school calendar.
R. Boyce seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
A. Rodriguez made a motion to Start 2024 school year on August 14.
R. Boyce seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Board Business

Stephen provided update about holiday meeting schedule. Ryan offered to flip the November and December meeting schedules. Proposed to next meeting to November 16th at 4:00.

R. Boyce made a motion to Move November meeting to the 16th at 4:00 and all committee meetings moved to December.
D. Deaton seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

A. Rodriguez made a motion to Put together a strategy committee develop a new school vision.
R. Boyce seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

IV. Closed Session

A. Facilities & Legal Items

D. Deaton made a motion to Move into closed session.
R. Boyce seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

V. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

A. Rodriguez made a motion to motion to adjourn.
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 6:08 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
E. Buchan