



## The Exploris School

### Minutes

#### The Exploris School Board Regular Monthly Meeting

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**Date and Time**

Thursday January 22, 2026 at 4:30 PM

**Location**

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

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**Directors Present**

A. Rodriguez, E. Grunden, L. Collins (remote), R. Averitte (remote), S. Darroch, S. Scipione

**Directors Absent**

E. Buchan, M. Nelson, M. Perry, P. President

**Ex Officio Members Present**

D. Brown, E. Burton (remote), J. Corbat

**Non Voting Members Present**

D. Brown, E. Burton (remote), J. Corbat

**Guests Present**

Amanda Habich (remote)

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**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 Jan 22, 2026 at 4:37 PM.

### C. Approve Minutes

A. Rodriguez made a motion to approve the minutes from The Exploris School Board Regular Monthly Meeting on 12-18-25.

E. Grunden seconded the motion.

Board is reviewing why certain items were not included.

The motion unanimously did not carry.

A. Rodriguez made a motion to table approval until corrections can be made.

R. Averitte seconded the motion.

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

### D. Public Comment

One submitted item was read. Items read will be addressed consistent with Board policy.

### E. Board Development

A. Rodriguez made a motion to Read into the minutes a commendation for Steven Darroch, retiring board chair.

S. Scipione seconded the motion.

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

A. Rodriguez made a motion to Nominate slate of board officers.

R. Averitte seconded the motion.

Eric Grunden, Chair (accepted)

Richard Averitte, Vice-Chair (declined)

Lauren Collins, Secretary (accept)

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

### F. Audit Report - Amanda Habich, TJT. Opinions are unmodified and there are no findings. This is the highest rating an institution can receive.

## II. Committee Reports

### A. Finance

E. Grunden made a motion to Accept proposal to retain Target River as a marketing consultant.

S. Scipione seconded the motion.

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

### B.

## **Educational Excellence**

### **C. Governance**

Governance committee did not meet in January as per their practice.

### **D. Director Evaluation & Support**

EG to assume chair of the committee and will be meeting with directors.

### **E. Facilities**

A. Rodriguez made a motion to Approve retention of TerraCon as geotechnical contractor.

R. Averitte seconded the motion.

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

E. Grunden made a motion to Accept 6-month planning and implementation with CapDev.

S. Scipione seconded the motion.

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

### **F. Kaizen**

## **III. Meeting Items**

### **A. Directors Report**

E. Grunden made a motion to Approve conference days as instructional days.

R. Averitte seconded the motion.

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

A. Rodriguez made a motion to approve the draft 26-27 school calendar.

E. Grunden seconded the motion.

Does the calendar align with WCPSS? Yes it does.

Special thanks to Jessie Francese for preparing document!

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

## **IV. Closed Session**

### **A. Facilities & Legal Items**

A. Rodriguez made a motion to enter closed session to discuss employment issues.

S. Scipione seconded the motion.

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

A. Rodriguez made a motion to exit closed session.

R. Averitte seconded the motion.

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

## **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 6:37 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
E. Grunden

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

- S. Darroch Commendation Letter.pdf
- Proposal for The Exploris School (1).pdf
- Bank Account Balances 2025.12 - Exploris.pdf
- 03. Board Report 2025.12 - Exploris.pdf
- 06. Balance Sheet 2025.12 - Exploris.pdf
- 05. Income Statement 2025.12 - Exploris.pdf
- Exploris - CapDev planning-early implementation extension proposal 12.17.2025 (1).pdf
- 2025.12.15\_Terracon Geotech Proposal.pdf
- PROPOSED\_2026-2027 Calendar.pdf
- January 2026 Exploris Leadership Team Board Report.pdf
- January, 2026 The Exploris School TargetMarketing Agreement.pdf