DRAFT

Strong Start Academy

Minutes

STRONG START ACADEMY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AT THE TONY HSIEH EDUCATION CENTER

BOARD MEETING AGENDA 12/12/24

Date and Time
Thursday December 12, 2024 at 5:00 PM

Location
City Hall, 495 S Main St, 5th floor, Las Vegas, NV 89101

Directors Present
A. Angulo, A. Bengochea (remote), A. Moore (remote), D. Harris (remote), J. Gonzalez, L. James-Cervantes, M. Pulido

Directors Absent
T. Smethurst

Guests Present
A. Rose, C. McCarty (remote), M. Benitez, M. Fredriksen

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

L. James-Cervantes called a meeting of the board of directors of Strong Start Academy to order on Thursday Dec 12, 2024 at 5:02 PM.

B.

Record Attendance

C. Public Comment

D. Approve Minutes from September 12, 2024 and November 14, 2024 Board Meeting.

M. Pulido made a motion to approve the minutes from STRONG START ACADEMY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AT THE TONY HSIEH EDUCATION CENTER on 11-14-24.
J. Gonzalez seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call	
D. Harris	Aye
T. Smethurst	Absent
A. Bengochea	Aye
L. James-Cervantes	Aye
M. Pulido	Aye
J. Gonzalez	Aye
A. Angulo	Aye
A. Moore	Aye

II. Finance

A. Report by Kristin Dietz from EdTec on Strong Start Academy budget and financial reports.

Kristin Dietz (EdTec) submitted a recorded presentation:

1. Current forecasted net income: $237,000 (adjusted from $13,000 variance).
2. Strong cash flow: $1.6M in account (~140 days cash on hand).
3. Restricted grants updates (Title I-IV, IDEA): Awaiting amendments from the state.
4. Financial position solid with $1.8M in liquid assets and a 45% reserve.
5. No questions raised; members advised to submit inquiries electronically if needed.

III. Executive Update

A. Report by the Executive Director on the status of on-going marketing efforts, open-enrollment, and recruiting.

A. Marketing and Enrollment Report

1. Presented by Miriam Benitez:
2. Enrollment: 215 students, Adjusted due to one second-grade student withdrawal. (25 seats available.)
3. Open enrollment (December 2 - January 15): 33 kindergarten applications to date.
4. Future advertising planned to ensure enrollment targets

B. Student Achievement Data

Presented by Miriam Benitez:

1. Discussion tabled due to pending feedback from the State Charter Authority.Focus on tracking student outcomes, especially those participating in dual-language programs.

B. Discussion for possible action regarding the rate of improvement for measuring student performance in K-3 reading.

Tabled for future meeting.

IV. Governance

A. Discussion regarding Board committee updates and calendar events.

A. Committee Updates and calendar of events

1. Mid-year evaluation for Executive Director planned for January.
2. Agenda to include financial training, board calendar review, and team-building.
3. New board members to be onboarded and participate.

B. January Retreat Planning

1. Scheduled January 14, 2025, from 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM at City Hall
2. Agenda to include financial training, board calendar review, and team-building.

C. Recognition of Jaime Gonzalez and Meli Pulido

1. Both members thanked for their service as they transition off the board.

B. Discussion for possible action to draft agenda for the half day Board Retreat and financial training schedule in January.

Will meet for retreat on Jan. 14th at 8:30am (start at 9am) in City Hall. January Board Meeting will be added to the schedule.

C. Recognition of Jaime Gonzales and Meli Pulido for their service as Board Members.

V. Facilities

A. Report by the City of Las Vegas regarding status of construction of new building at Strong Start Academy.

- Bid was given to Builders United for construction of new building.
- $650,000 awarded for security enhancements

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 5:39 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
L. James-Cervantes

Documents used during the meeting

- 09.12.24 Board Meeting Transcription.docx
- 11.14.24 Board Meeting Transcription.docx
- 11.14.2024 Board Meeting Minutes.docx
- 9.12.24 Board Meeting Minutes.docx
- SSAES Financial Presentation 241127kd.pdf
- SSAES Oct24 Bank Recon.pdf

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THIS MEETING WAS PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NOTICING STANDARDS AS OUTLINED IN NRS 241.020:
Strong Start Academy Elementary School website www.clvstrongstartes.org
City Hall, 495 S Main St, 1st floor, Las Vegas, NV 89101
The Nevada Public Notice website – notice.nv.gov