



Explore Schools

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Explore Charter Schools of Brooklyn Board Meeting Minutes –September 23, 2020

Explore Charter Schools Board Attendees: Hank Mannix, Jana Reed, Lindsay Matovich, Angie Brice, Lola Adedokun, Shawn Jenkins, Lindsay Danon

Explore Schools Staff Attendees: Carrie Mauer, Christina Froeb, Yasmin Mohsin, Rachel Modica-Russell, Kristin Jefferson, Anwar Abdul-Rahman, Maureen Ferry, LaKiesha George

Meeting called to order at 6:04 pm

ECS Approval of Minutes

Hank Mannix motioned to approve the minutes from the ECS Board Meeting held on June 22nd, 2020

Lola Adedokun seconded the motion

The motion was unanimously approved

Black Excellence & Board DEI Update

Rachel Modica-Russell, Managing Director of Talent provided an update on the 5-Point Plan progress monitoring and previewed November's meeting with Black Excellence. The update included steps taken around each of the points. Board members asked clarifying questions on the anti-white supremacy framework being developed to evaluate network policies and procedures, questions about a Social Studies curriculum called TrueFiktion and the potential for its implementation, and benchmarking efforts with other nonprofits around best practices they can share around DEI work. Additionally, the Board DEI committee provided a short update on its action steps including identifying a consultant to work with the board and evaluating the board practices through an equity lens.

Talent Update

Rachel Modica-Russell provided an update on staffing and recruitment efforts for the 2020-21 school year. Board members asked about how our recruitment, retention and compensation compared with other charter schools across the sector.

ED/Superintendent Update

Carrie Mauer & Christina Froeb shared updates on the launch of the school year remotely as well as progress made to phase in in-person instruction in October. Finally, Christina gave an update on how academic progress monitoring will occur this year to account for virtual and in-person instruction.

2020-21 Board Slate & Other Board Approvals

The ECS board voted on membership renewals, officer slates, and committee assignments for the 2020-21 school year. In addition to Board assignments, ECS Board also approved the network safety plan, PPE/Technology contracts over 50K and our COVID-19 Reopening Plan that was submitted to SUNY on August 14th, 2020. The board chair, Hank Mannix, provided framing on board goals and how the board will continue to focus on improving the function of the board, especially in the remote environment.

Hank Mannix motioned to approve the 2020-2021 ECS Board Members, Officer Slates, and Committee Assignments with the addition that Lindsay Matovich be added to the DEI Committee

Shawn Jenkins seconded the motion

The motion was unanimously approved

Hank Mannix motion to approve the following:

- FY21 PPE Materials Purchasing
- 2020-21 Network Safety Plan
- 2020 SUNY Reopening Plan

Shawn Jenkins seconded the motion
The motion was unanimously approved

Public Comment

This time is to open the floor for public comment (pertains to Explore Schools Board rules of public meeting).

No public comment at 7:33

Executive Session

ECS Executive Session to discuss the medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal of a particular person or corporation.

Hank Mannix motion to go into executive session at 7:34 pm and invited the ESI board to join

Jana Reed seconded the motion

The motion was unanimously approved

Hank Mannix motioned for the ECS board to come out of executive session at 8:02 pm.

Angie Brice Thomas seconded the motion.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm.