



Explore Schools

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Explore Charter Schools Board Meeting Minutes –June 22nd, 2021

Explore Charter Schools Board Attendees: Hank Mannix, Angie Brice Thomas, Shawn Jenkins, Reshma Patel, Lola Adedokun

ESI Board: Jana Reed, Morty Ballen, Lizz Pawlson

Other Attendees: Carrie Mauer, Christina Froeb, Jeremy Thomas, Ashley Dickens, Karen Francois, Tracy Rebe, Rachel Modica-Russell, Kevin Bryant, Tiffany Curtis, Sashana Fuller, Nomie Byndon,

Meeting called to order at 6:03 pm

Approval of Minutes

Hank Mannix motioned to approve the minutes from the ECS Board Meeting held on May 25th, 2021

Shawn Jenkins seconded the motion

The motion was unanimously approved

The ESI Board approve the minutes from the ESI Board Meeting held on May 25th, 2021

Board Membership & DEI Subcommittee

The Membership & DEI subcommittee led a discussion on the progress of the board membership identification process. Two candidates, Kevin R. Bryant & Tiffany A. Curtis, attended the meeting as part of the final stage. After the candidates introduced themselves, Carrie Mauer shared an update on setting board meetings for next year and a board retreat in the Fall.

ED/Superintendent Update

Christina Froeb began with a look at recent academic data from the last round of interim assessments in mathematics. The board discussed how the data compared with peer institutions and looked at trends within specific classrooms.

Following the review, Christina shared summary data on how 8th graders fared with high school acceptances this year. The board discussed trends across the schools with regard to high school placement, noting the stable year-over-year results. The board requested additional information on historic high school placement. Christina noted that high school acceptance data and alumni engagement is something the network is looking to expand in the coming year.

Tracy Rebe, Assistance Superintendent, provided an update on how Explore Schools will measure success against its goals for SY21-22, including the collaborative process the network took in developing the measures with stakeholders. The section concluded with a brief update on planning for the next school year. The board discussed how to assess the less quantifiable metrics such as community partnerships. The board also asked about the network's use of suspension data as a metric. Following the discussion, Christina previewed that in September, the board will review the strategy behind the measures.

Finally, Carrie reviewed the current plan for the 21-22 school year, the assumptions the network is operating with, and what the network will offer students in the fall, including offering in-person instruction, 5 days a week with few to no remote-only students. Christina outlined the contingency planning around the remote-only option. The board discussed the network's summer schedule and how it compared to other charter schools.

Talent Update

Rachel Modica-Russell, Managing Director of Talent, provided an update on the hiring process for SY21-22 and shared new insights on staff satisfaction from the recent staff survey administered in May. Results were overall positive with

improvement on lowest scoring questions. The board discussed strategies the network is using to boost hiring and staff development including signing bonuses and developing internal pipelines.

SY21-22 Formal Budget Preview

Carrie Mauer and Ashley Dickens, Managing Director of Finance, provided the formal budget proposal for SY21-22. The board discussed operationalizing the federal investment, including the proposed expenditures in unfinished teaching and learning, #ReimagineExplore, staff wellness, and student recruitment.

Hank Mannix motioned to approve *FY22 ECSB Budget and 403(b) Employer Match*

Shawn Jenkins seconded the motion

The motion was unanimously approved

Hank Mannix motioned to approve *2021-2022 ESI-ECS Management contract and ECS Contracts over \$50k, including:*

- *AF Navigator*
- *Morningside*
- *PowerSchool*
- *PPE/Tech Materials Purchasing*
- *Student Recruitment Materials*
- *Student Summer Scholarships*

Shawn Jenkins seconded the motion

The motion was unanimously approved

Ashley then followed with the ESI SY 21-22 formal budget proposal. The board then voted on contracts over \$50k and the ESI Service Agreement. The members present voted, but Morty Ballen had to step out. The ESI Board voted in the affirmative over email on Wednesday, July 14th, 2021.

The ESI Board approved *FY22 ESI Budget and 403(b) Employer Match* and the ESI Special Populations Support contract over \$50k.

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 7:30pm

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 motioned to go into executive session at 7:31 pm and invited ESI board members to join

Shawn Jenkins seconded the motion

The motion was unanimously approved

Hank Mannix motioned for the ECS board to come out of executive session at 8:03 pm.

Lindsay Matovich seconded the motion.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm