



Explore Charter Schools Board Meeting Minutes – February 28, 2023

Explore Charter Schools Board Attendees:, Hank Mannix, Sherrard Zamore, Tiffany Curtis, Karen Annette Francois, Angie Brice Thomas

Attended Virtually: Shawn Jenkins, Kevin Bryant, Lindsay Danon

Absent:

ESI Board Attendees: Reshma Patel, Jana Reed

Attended Virtually: Brian Coad

Absent: Lindsay Matovich, Morty Ballen

Other Attendees: Jeremy Thomas, Ebony Staley, Tracy Rebe, Ashley Dickens, Rachel Modica-Russel, Q'tyashia Arrington

Meeting called to order at 6:02

Welcome & Approval of Minutes

Hank Mannix motioned to approve the minutes from the ECSB Board Meeting held on January 24, 2023

Angie Brice Thomas seconded the motion

The motion was unanimously approved

Talent Update

Rachel Modica-Russell, Managing Director of Talent, provided an update on the state of talent across the network. The update included an analysis of recent staff satisfaction data both overall and across racial identities, talent review data as it compares to past years, and the current state of vacancies across the network. The Board asked questions around satisfaction data and how much the network has influenced it versus more broad trends in the state of education coming out of the pandemic. The Board also raised questions related to the DEI-specific questions in the satisfaction survey and how responses mirrored sector-wide trends. Finally, the Board discussed salary benchmarking for jobs in operations. Rachel also provided an update on our partnership with Brooklyn College.

Enrollment Deep Dive

Q'tyashia Arrington, Senior Director of Family Engagement and Community Partnerships, shared an overview of the network's approach to student enrollment, and the changes made in response to the decline in enrollment recorded across the city. The Board asked questions around student retention and looked at trends around families choosing to leave. The Board also discussed the network's recruitment strategy and how to brand the network in a competitive market. Q'tyashia concluded the segment with previewing an upcoming TV ad promoting what makes the network unique that will be airing soon.

CEO Update

Karen Annette Francois, Chief Executive Officer, updated the board on Term 2 academic data aligned to the end of year measures. The Board discussed the chronic absenteeism and suspension data, citing the year over year improvement and asking about the impact this has had on academics and satisfaction. The Board discussed the academic data, asking questions around campus variations. Karen Annette then shared reflections on the two internal site visits conducted earlier this month at Explore and Excel to help prepare both schools for the SUNY visits.

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 7:22

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 7:22 pm and invited ESI board members and Ashley Dickens to join

Angie Brice Thomas seconded the motion

The motion was unanimously approved

Hank Mannix motioned for the ECS board to come out of executive session at 8:05 pm.

Angie Brice Thomas seconded the motion.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm