



Explore Schools

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Explore Charter Schools Board Meeting Minutes–November 14, 2023

Explore Charter Schools Board Attendees: Angie Brice Thomas, Kevin Bryant, Karen Annette Francois, Shawn Jenkins, Anna Johnson, Hank Mannix

Attended Virtually: Lindsay Danon, Lisa Lurie

ESI Board Attendees: Reshma Patel, Morty Ballen, Shawn Jenkins

Attended Virtually: Brian Coad, Lindsay Matovich, Jana Reed

Absent:

Other Attendees: Efrat Kussell, Greg Foster, Tracy Rebe, Jeremy Thomas

Meeting called to order at 6:03.

Welcome & Approval of Minutes

Angie Brice Thomas motioned to approve the minutes from the ECSB Board Meeting held on October 17, 2023

Hank Mannix seconded the motion.

The motion was unanimously approved.

ESI Board approved the minutes from the ESI Board Meeting held on September 19, 2023.

Membership Committee Updates

Shawn Jenkins shared an update on the Board member selection process. There is one candidate for Board member and two candidates for parent representative to the Board that will join the December meeting. All three candidates have participated in the selection process and have met with Board members and Explore Schools CEO, Karen Annette Francois. The two parent representative candidates also met with members of the Inclusion committee and the candidate for Board membership visited one of the schools for a tour and meeting with a principal.

Finance Update

Greg Foster, Chief Operating and Financial Officer, provided an update on both the ECSB and ESI Board financials as well as reviewed the ECSB Audit Report. The Board asked questions about enrollment numbers and how the network was approaching backfilling seats versus preparing for next year's admissions process.

CEO Update

Karen Annette Francois, CEO, began the update with highlights from recent events, including the fall festival, breast cancer awareness walk, and the all-staff in-service day on Election Day. She then reviewed recent interim assessment data for both ELA and math. The Board dug into the ELA data specifically and reviewed the strategy in response to the data, including how the network was planning to differentiate support for students with disabilities and multi-lingual learners.

Public Comment

This time is to open the floor for public comment (pertains to Explore Schools Board rules of public meeting). The public was invited to share feedback on how the network is prioritizing spending CARES Act funding – ESSER II and ARP.

No public comment at 6:33.

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.

Angie Brice Thomas motioned to go into executive session at 6:33 pm and invited ESI board members, Efrat Kussell, Greg Foster, and Tracy Rebe were invited to join.
Shawn Jenkins seconded the motion.
The motion was unanimously approved.

Angie Brice Thomas motioned for the ECS board to come out of executive session at 7:20 pm.
Shawn Jenkins seconded the motion.
The motion was unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm