

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE EL PASO LEADERSHIP ACADEMY**

July 14, 2020

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors (the "**Board**") of the El Paso Leadership Academy, a Texas non-profit corporation (the "**Company**"), was held on July 14, 2020 at 12:00 pm via Zoom Video Teleconference. Toni Mizdahl, Board Member, acted as chairperson and presided over the meeting in the absence of Matt Kerr, President of the Board. Allan Lindstrom, Secretary, recorded the minutes of the meeting.

First Item of Business: Call to Order and Quorum. The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 12:11 pm, and it was determined that a quorum, consisting of the majority of directors of the Company was present and ready for the transaction of business. The following directors were present via videoconference: Soledad Bascoco, Erik Pavia, Manny Jemente, Allan Lindstrom, and Toni Mizdahl.

Staff in Attendance: Omar Yanar, Emily Levario,

Second Item of Business: Approval of Board Minutes. Board minutes from the May 12, 2020 and June 9, 2020 Board Meetings were considered for approval. Eric Pavia moved approval of the minutes and Manny Jemente seconded the motion. Board members voted approval of the motion as follows: Jemente – Yes, Lindstrom – Yes, Mizdahl – Yes, Pavia – Yes, and Bascoco – Yes.

Third Item of Business: Open Forum – No persons were present.

Fourth Item of Business: CEO Update

Recruitment. Omar Yanar, CEO, reported that 144 students had registered as of this date. Recruitment and student registration is continuing toward meeting the goal of 220 students for the 2020-2021 school year.

2020-2021 Academic Plan. Mr. Yanar reported that administration and staff has been working on the development of the academic plan for the 2020-2021 school year. TEA guidelines and local health recommendations are being considered in the planning. EPLA is adjusting its original year-round calendar plan to accommodate recent TEA rules which stipulate funding will be allocated for no more than three weeks of exclusive virtual learning, and El Paso health authority recommendations of no onsite learning for the first three weeks of school. EPLA will open on August 17 rather than the planned August 3. To prepare for distance learning components within the EPLA academic plan, chrome books will be provided students and home wifi connectivity issues will be addressed. Paper lessons will be provided for students with no home wifi connectivity.

Expansion. Ms. Levario and Mr. Yanar, CEO reported on EPLA's progress in expanding its educational model with the development of a second campus that will accommodate a middle throughnd wh high school student population. Response from its application to the Texas Education Agency to proceed with planning a second campus indicated that the TEA will approve an expansion proposal for a projected student population of 1250 rather than the EPLA proposal for a school with an 1800 student enrollment. EPLA administration indicated that the lower enrollment ceiling would equate to adequate funding for a startup enrollment of grades six through nine.

Board Vice-President Scott Atkins joined the teleconference at 11:40 pm and as Board Vice-President assumed the role of chairperson of the meeting.

Two funding offers for the expansion project have been received. Additional proposals are being solicited by EPLA administration with a deadline of July 17, 2020 for administration to make a funding recommendation necessary to move ahead with the project. Ms. Levario indicated that a market study addressing the need for the planned charter school is in its final stages of development by the Consilium School Finance Group and will be available by the next board meeting..

The Board considered approval of the 2020-2021 School Calendar including changes related to coping with the COVID-19 epidemic as explained by Mr. Yanar. Toni Mizdahl moved approval of the calendar with Allan Lindstrom seconding the motion. Board members voted approval of the motion as follows: Jemente – Yes, Lindstrom – Yes, Mizdahl – Yes, Pavia – Yes, Bascoco – Yes, and Adkins – Yes.

Fifth Item of Business: Finance

Consent Agenda. The consent agenda was considered with Allan Lindstrom moving approval and Manny Jemente seconding the approval. Board members voted approval on the motion as follows: Jemente – Yes, Lindstrom – Yes, Mizdahl – Yes, Pavia – Yes, Bascoco – Yes, and Adkins – Yes.

Payroll Protection Program Loan (PPP). Ms. Levario reported that EPLA received a PPP Loan of \$300,570. It is anticipated that the loan will be forgiven based on a Loan Forgiveness Application that will be submitted in November. Soledad Bascoco moved to approve acceptance of the loan and Manny Jemente seconded the motion. Board members voted approval on the motion as follows: Jemente – Yes, Lindstrom – Yes, Mizdahl – Yes, Pavia – Yes, Bascoco – Yes, and Adkins – Yes.

2020-2021 EPLA Salary Schedule. The 2020-2021 salary schedule was presented for approval. The schedule remained the same as the 2019-2020 schedule with the exception of moving two positions from hourly to salary and the addition of an incentive for non-certified staff to earn certification. Toni Mizdahl moved approval of the 2020-2021 salary schedule and Manny Jemente seconded the motion. Board members voted approval of the motion as follows: Jemente – Yes, Lindstrom – Yes, Mizdahl – Yes, Pavia – Yes, Bascoco – Yes, and Adkins – Yes.

FY20 Foundation School Program (FSP) and Approval of FSP True Up Budget Amendment. Emily Levario reported on the TEA's guidelines for the Foundation School Program as it relates to the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) program, a part of the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

EPLA will receive from TEA an allocation of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) including face masks, hand sanitizers, etc.

Under the Elementary and Secondary Emergency Relief Program (ESSER) section of the CARES Act, school districts are guaranteed that school financial aid allocations will not be reduced due to the Coronavirus epidemic and possible economic consequences. To administer this, EPLA is required to subtract \$82,000 from its 2019-2020 budget. The amount reduced will be returned to the district in its 2020-2021 state funding allocations. Allan Lindstrom moved approval of the Budget Amendment which subtracts \$82,000 from the 2019-2020 budget and Toni Mizdahl seconded the motion. Board members voted approval of the motion as follows: Jemente – Yes, Lindstrom – Yes, Mizdahl – Yes, Pavia – Yes, Bascoco – Yes, and Adkins – Yes.

Adjournment. Manny Jemente moved adjournment of the Board. Eric Pavia seconded the motion. Board members approved adjournment as follows: : Jemente – Yes, Lindstrom – Yes, Mizdahl – Yes, Pavia – Yes, Bascoco – Yes, and Adkins – Yes. The Board adjourned at 1:20 pm.

The next board meeting is scheduled for August 11, 2020 at 12:00 pm via Zoom teleconference.



Allan Lindstrom, Secretary