

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

March 10, 2020

The 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 March 10, 2020 at the El Paso Leadership Academy, 1918 Texas Avenue, El Paso, Texas 79901 at 12:00 pm. Matt Kerr, President of the Board, acted as its chairman and presided over the meeting, and Allan Lindstrom, Secretary, recorded the minutes of the meeting.

First Item of Business - Call to Order and Quorum.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 12:10 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: Scott Adkins, Rida Asfahani, Carolyn Blanco, Matt Kerr, Manny Jemente, and Alexandria Serra.

Staff in Attendance: Omar Yanar, Emily Levario,

Second Item of Business – Approval of Minutes.

Scott Adkins moved approval of the Board Minutes from the February 13, 2020 Regular Meeting. Rida Asfahani seconded the motion. Upon a vote by the Board, the Minutes from the aforementioned meeting were approved unanimously.

Third Item of Business - EPLA Open Forum

No persons were present.

Allan Lindstrom arrived at 12:16

Fourth Item of Business. CEO Report.

Omar Yanar, CEO, announced that EPLA did not receive the Blending Learning Grant. However, EPLA was approved to have access to the entire curriculum used with the Blending Learning Model.

Mr. Yanar led a discussion focusing on potential expansion of the EPLA Charter School model. It was decided that the Board will return to monthly Board meetings with meetings alternating between General Business and Charter Expansion discussion and planning.

Fifth Item of Business. Finance Report.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS - The Financial Report including the January 2020 and February 2020 Check Registers, Grants and Donations Bi-Monthly Financial Report and Travel Report were presented for review by the Board.

CONSENT AGENDA – Allan Lindstrom moved approval of the Consent Agenda with Manny Jemente seconding the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. Items included in the consent agenda: Approval of the West Texas Public Schools Employee Benefits Cooperative Interlocal Agreement and Resolution; Budget Amendment 280039; and the 2019-2020 Salary Schedule Revision 1.

Toni Mizdahl arrived at 12:40 pm.

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS.

Approval of the Vendor for the installation of Phase I of the EPLA Surveillance System. EPLA administration canvassed potential vendors and received five bids that met the requirements for the installation project. from the Safety & Security committee evaluated all bids and by majority vote is recommending Pyrocom Systems, Inc. Alexandria Serra moved to accept the bid from PyroCom for the installation of Phase 1 of the Security Surveillance System. Manny Jimenez seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by the Board.

Prior to the vote it was disclosed that Scott Adkins is the President of Pyrocom Systems. He left the meeting during the time devoted to the Vendor discussion and abstained from voting on the motion.

EPLA Expansion Business Plan. Emily Levario, CFO, presented an five year Business Plan for potential expansion of EPLA, including foundational steps that have been taken, and preparation steps for submitting the plan to the Texas Education Association for preliminary approval. Choice Partners will advise EPLA administration and Board in the further development and implementation of the Business Plan. Two Board Committees, Finance and Marketing/ Recruiting, will review and provide information and recommendations to the Board as progress is made in the implementation of the plan. Scott Adkins indicated that the forecasted 10.5% of debt service expense might be too low. Rida Asfahani made the motion to approve the EPLA Expansion Business Plan as presented, but with an increase of debt service expense from 10.5% of revenues to 15% of revenues. Alexandria Serra seconding the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by the Board.

Resolution. The Board considered a resolution for financing expenditures to be incurred in

acquiring, constructing and equipping facilities and other matters as expansion plans are implemented.

Carol Blanco moved that EPLA adopt a resolution expressing Intent to finance expenditures to be incurred with respect to the acquisition, construction and/or equipping of educational facilities and containing other matters related therein. Manny Jimenez seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously by the Board.

Sixth Item of Business. Other.

The Board considered and acted upon the following six motions addressing the expansion of the El Paso Leadership Academy:

- (1) Board resolution in support of amending the charter for expansion – Approval moved by Manny Jimenez and seconded by Alexandria Serra. Approved unanimously by the Board.
- (2) Written Performance Agreement for additional high quality middle school – Approval moved by Allan Lindstrom and seconded by Rida Asfahani. Approved unanimously by the Board.
- (3) Board resolution in support of High Quality Campus Designation – Approval moved by Allan Lindstrom and seconded by Alexandria Serra. Approved unanimously by the Board.
- (4) Written Performance Agreement for High School. Approval moved by Manny Jimenez and seconded by Toby Mizdahl. Approved unanimously by the Board.
- (5) Board resolution in support of New School Designation. Approval moved by Allan Lindstrom and seconded by Rida Asfahani. Approved unanimously by the Board.
- (6) Board resolution in support of amending Article IV, Section 1 of the Charter By-Laws to increase the number of Board members from 9 to 11, as approved by the Board of Directors on May 22, 2019. Approval moved by Alexandria Serra and seconded by Rida Asfahani. Approved unanimously by the Board.
- (7) Resolution in support of amending Article XI, Section 1 of the Charter By-Laws to update the fiscal year end. Approval moved by Allan Lindstrom and seconded by Alexandria Serra. Approved unanimously by the Board.

Adjournment and Next Meeting. Allan Lindstrom moved and Rida Asfahani seconded the motion for adjournment which was passed unanimously by the Board. The Board adjourned at 1:34 pm.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company will be on April 21, 2020 at 12:00 pm at the El Paso Leadership Academy, 918 Texas Avenue, El Paso, Texas.


Allan Lindstrom, Secretary