

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

August 27, 2024

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 at the EPLA Flagship Campus 1918 Texas Avenue, El Paso, TX 79901, on August 27, 2024 at 12:30pm. Toni Mizdal, President of the Board, served as chairman and presided over the meeting, and Arielle Bejar recorded the minutes.

Discussion

Quorum was not reached at the start of the meeting so Mr. Borjas discussed recruitment. Mr. Borjas communicated the increased presence of EPLA on social media and how enrollment continues to "trickle in" . Campuses are utilizing social media to continue brand build and facilitate enrollment. The board provided feedback about how urgency can be built so views are capitalized on and to build in a QR code to create ease for parents to enroll. The board was notified that Manny Jemente tendered his resignation from the Board of Directors effective immediately. This allowed the board to attain quorum so the meeting could officially be called to order.

First Item of Business: Call to Order

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 12:59. 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: Toni Mizdal, Board President, Soledad Basoco, Vice President, Matt Kerr Treasurer, Justine Miranda, Board Member. Ymelda Y'Herrera, YYY consultant and David McCracken Board Member participated via Zoom.

Staff in Attendance: Omar Yanar, Arielle Bejar, Rita Monsivais and Lorenzo Borjas.

Second Item of Business: Open Forum

There were no items for discussion in the open forum.

Third Item of Business: Approval of Board Minutes

The minutes of May 10, 2024 were presented for approval. Matt Kerr motioned to approve the minutes for the May 10, 2024 board meeting and Justine Miranda seconded the motion Ms. Arielle Bejar asked that the approval be tabled for June 18 and July 22 for the next meeting. The board agreed to table the minutes

Fourth Item of Business: Recruitment

The discussion around recruitment continued and the board expressed ideas for social media campaigns built around reasonable class sizes compared to what is being seen in the larger schools in the big districts.

Fifth Item of Business: Finance and HR Updates

Ymelda Y'Herrera presented financial updates and budget considerations, including: Budget Amendments for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and addressed financial projections and shortfalls in student nutritional programs and their impacts on the budget. Matt Kerr moved to approve the 420 budget for the 2024-2025 school year. The motion was seconded by Justine Miranda and was unanimously approved by the board. Matt Kerr also moved to approve the 240 budget for 2024-2025. The motion was seconded by Soledad Basoco and the board unanimously approved the 240 budget. Matt Kerr also moved to approve the all funds budget for 2024-2025. The motion was seconded by Justine Miranda. The board unanimously approved the motion.

Charter First was also discussed and where EPLA can project to be graded based on the financials.

Ymelda Y'Herrera presented a resolution to the board in regards to reimbursement to help cope the expenses should any be incurred during the expansion to EPLA East campus and refinancing existing loans. The board clarified that this is not a request to borrow, it is a resolution to allow any preliminary costs tied to expansion to be reimbursed. Matt Kerr moved to approve the motion and Justine Miranda seconded. The motion passed.

The process for finalizing the external audit engagement was discussed. Matt Kerr motioned to approve the audit engagement letter. Justine Miranda seconded the motion and the board unanimously approved the motion.

Ymelda Y'Herrera also presented an updated version of the salary schedule to reflect current positions at EPLA across the district.

Sixth Item of Business: Operations and Academics

Arielle Bejar presented an updated version of the salary schedule to reflect current positions at EPLA across the district. Soledad Basoco motioned to approve and Justine seconded. The updated salary schedule was approved by the board.

Seventh Item of Business: CEO Updates

Omar Yanar provided updates on organizational changes in the form of a detailed organizational chart that was delineated to staff and teachers during SOAR and followed up with a round table after the workshop. Ms. Monsivais went into detail about the run of the workshop complete with interactive discussion and exit tickets.

Mr. Yanar clarified that there is still growing to do in the central office with particular emphasis on teacher recruitment due to a suggestion from our partners in Teaching Lab.

Final thoughts were given to continue recruitment efforts with concentration in the Chamizal area and the students leaving schools in the districts in surrounding areas.

Matt Kerr also voiced his intention to withdraw from the Board of Directors at the close of the 24-25 school year and that he would be bringing a candidate for the board to consider, Jose Gallardo to the next board meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2pm on a motion by Matt Kerr and a second by Soledad Basoco. The next regular meeting of the Board will be held on October 1, 2024

Arielle Bejar, EPLA Board Liaison