# The Exploris School/ Board of Directors

**Meeting:** 2015 May 26, 4:30PM-6PM at Exploris Middle School

## Mission:
Exploris is a learning community that engages students in a rigorous, relevant, relationship-based education. This is done through experiential, project-based learning that empowers students to build a connected, just and sustainable world.

## Attendees:
**Voting Members:**
- Sean Gargan (Chairperson)
- Anne Franklin
- Bob Kingery
- James Gerdts
- Cal Cunningham
- Mike Fields

**Non-Voting Members:**
- Candice Robinson
- Laura Laut (Faculty Representative)
- Brooke Somers (Incoming PTO President)
- Summer Clayton (Executive Director)

## Absent:
**Voting Members:**
- Alfred Mays
- Kendall Hageman

**Non-Voting Members:**

## Proceedings

### Call to order
Sean called the meeting to order at 4:40 pm

### Approval of Agenda
1st Motion: Anne Franklin
2nd Motion: Cal Cunningham
All in favor of approving Agenda. No opposed.

### Public Comment
Shannon Hardy addressed the Board from a Teacher and Parent perspective. She was uncomfortable with the Board response to the video that showcased Exploris in an equitable funding for Charter Schools in NC promotion. She feels that there is disconnect from the Board and the School. Shannon referenced the annual fund decrease from previous year and Board did not call families that did not contribute to the annual fund. She is concerned with funding for Charter Schools.

### From the Classroom
Laura presented 2/3 Team expedition of exploring the 3 human body systems. Students analyzed the skin, muscles, and bones. The students collaborated to present first aid kits to each classroom and made a pamphlet on health and safety. Laura updated Board that 8th grade returned from Outward Bound and 7th grade returned from Philadelphia.
| Consent Agenda | 1st Motion to approve April 2015 Financials: Anne Franklin  
2nd Motion to approve April 2015 Financials: Bob Kingery  
All in favor. No opposed. |
|-----------------------------------------------|
| Old Business | 1st Motion to approve revised November 2014 minutes: Bob Kingery  
2nd Motion to approve revised November 2014 minutes: Anne Franklin  
All in favor. No opposed.  
1st Motion to approve revised April 2015 minutes: Anne Franklin  
2nd Motion to approve revised April 2015 minutes: James Gerds  
All in favor. No opposed. |
|-----------------------------------------------|
| New Business | Summer shared that school will begin the EOG tests starting tomorrow. Summer explained that there was an increase in students needing testing accommodations like small group or one-on-one. Parents are volunteering as Proctors. Also, she shared that 8th grade Passage Portfolios were currently underway. Summer asked that the Board sign up for at least 1.  
Summer noted discussion about politics in the April Board meeting and feels that the non—political stance runs counter to the school’s Strategic Plan, Goal 6, which was approved by the Board. Summer referenced the Core Values that are Board approved, Social Empowerment. She also referenced her Evaluation where her goal from the Board was to advocate and network in the political arena. She shared the Legislative Update that impacts Charter Schools in regards to Funding and Curriculum.  
Sean asked the Board how they want to address this concern that Summer has brought to the attention of the Board. Anne Franklin noted that there is a need to clarify what the school will be used in Politics vs. the school taking a stance on an issue without utilizing school students, staff, and facility. Cal Cunningham noted that the Board should support anytime that Exploris is referenced vs. staff endorsing what they feel passionate about without the use of the Exploris name. Cal Cunningham asked about the image release using students in pics/ad to support legislation and also asked about Exploris |
Knowing all parts of legislation prior to taking a stance. Anne asked how we represent the school effectively. Bob Kingery asked about conflict of interest in regards to Board position and professional job. Mike Fields asked about non-partisan vs. bi-partisan and asked for clarification of where the Board stands. He also asked for clarification on where the Board stands in regards to legislation. Cal Cunningham clarified that the Board should support the use of Exploris name and images and approve the use in regards to legislation.

Anne Franklin clarified advocacy vs. political stance. She mentioned that social and global issues such as clean water are an example that Exploris is advocating for an issue.

Laura Laut asked for clarification on how faculty needs to move forward with community organizations. Cal Cunningham asked whether Exploris is being asked to endorse a policy to the community organizations.

Sean asked for Board to continue this discussion with summer and faculty to develop clarification and policy around Advocacy and the use of Exploris name.

Sean Gargan made a recommendation to approve the proposed budget for 15-16 for the purpose of federal grant application. Board is approving based on the items that are required for application for federal funds to the Board.

1st Motion to approve 15-16 budget as proposed: Anne Franklin
2nd Motion: Mike Fields
All in favor. No opposed.

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<th>Committee Reports</th>
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<td>Governance Committee (Kendall Hageman)</td>
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<td>Governance – New Board applicants and lottery policy/preference policy</td>
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<td>3 applicants for 2 current vacant spot on the Board. Cal Cunningham nominated Tom Miller for a Board position.</td>
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<td>2nd Motion: Mike Fields</td>
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<td>All approved. No opposed.</td>
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<td>Anne Franklin nominated Keely Byars-Nichols for a Board position.</td>
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<td>2nd Motion: Cal Cunningham</td>
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<td>All approved. No opposed.</td>
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<td>2 new Board members will be offered a position</td>
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<td>Committee</td>
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<td>Educational Excellence (Anne Franklin)</td>
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<td>Communication, Advocacy, &amp; Marketing (CAM) (Alfred Mays)</td>
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