

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS – THE EXPLORIS SCHOOL

Tuesday, January 26, 2016 at 4:30 PM

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

Meeting Minutes

(Items in bold require Board action)

Voting Members:

1. James Gerds (Chairperson) – present
2. Kendall Hageman (Vice Chairperson) – present via phone
3. Tom Miller (Secretary) – present
4. Mike Fields (Treasurer) – present
5. Bob Kingery – present
6. Anne Franklin – present
7. Keely Byars-Nichols – present
8. Brooke Somers (PTO President) – present via phone
9. Alfred Mays – present
10. Cal Cunningham – present

Non-Voting Members:

11. Summer Clayton (Executive Director) – present
12. Ann-Marie Taranto (Faculty Representative) – present
13. Candice Robinson (Amanuensis) – present

- I. Call to Order & Welcome
 - a. Board Chair James Gerds called the meeting to order at 4:32pm
- II. **Approval of Meeting Agenda**
 - a. **Motion:** Approve Agenda as distributed
 - b. **Vote:** Unanimous, Motion: Approved
- III. **Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting**
 - a. **Motion:** Approve the minutes from the January 5, 2016 as distributed.
 - i. **Vote:** Unanimous, Motion: Approved
- IV. Financial Audit Review with TJT
 - a. Hardcopy of Audit provided at January 5, 2016 meeting
 - b. No significant material findings were found in the 2015 Audit
 - c. Pg. 11 – Statement of Net Position
 - d. School name change was noted in Audit from Exploris Middle School to The Exploris School due to adding an elementary school in 2014-2015 school year
 - e. Staffing liability will be removed due to Board passing new policy on pay-out of leave accrual
 - f. Two findings were found that need to be addressed by the school (pg. 40)

- i. Significant Deficiency: Procurement and Suspension and Debarment – legal language under NC G.S. 115C-238.29H(a)(a1) not included in all contracts school entered into in 2014-2015 school year
 - ii. Noncompliance: Tuition and Fees policy – No formal Board policy with this stated but school does not charge any student fees
- V. Reports – 15 minutes excluding Committee Reports
 - a. President’s Report
 - i. Request for feedback on how meetings are going
 - b. Vice-President’s Report
 - i. Nothing to Report
 - c. Treasurer’s Report
 - i. December financials were reviewed and no issues noted
 - d. Secretary’s Report
 - i. Information was sent in advance and sent to Board in advance of meeting
 - e. Executive Director’s Report
 - i. Staffing Updates
 - 1. Resignation of 7th grade teacher and Job has been posted and interviews has begun
 - 2. Expressed need for a Director of Curriculum Instruction to serve on Administrative team. Clarify role as Supervisor role in curriculum, Professional Development coordinator vs. Curriculum Coach that supports teachers in curriculum
 - 3. Expressed need for Interventionist to work with struggling students at both schools
 - ii. Outward Bound Experience – offer to Board to attend April 25-29, 2016 and asked to know by end of day tomorrow, 1/27/2016
 - iii. Review of data for renewal of Charter School and comparison was to Wake County (LEA)
 - f. Faculty Representative’s Report
 - i. Reiterate need for curriculum assistance and working on mapping the curriculum
 - g. PTO President’s Report
 - i. Nothing to report
 - h. Committee Reports
 - i. Executive (James Gerdts)
 - 1. Proposed Board Retreat (Tom Miller)**
 - a. Motion:** Board retreat to include lunch on February 20, 2016 from 9am – 1pm at Exploris Middle School
 - b. Vote:** Unanimous; Motion: Approved
 - 2. Bylaw Review**
 - a. James Gerdts asked about liability of connecting PTO to School if a voting member
 - i. Motion:** Table the discussion to Board retreat on February 20, 2016

ii. Vote: Unanimous; Motion: Approved

b. Section 14 (pg.6) – review at Board retreat on February 20, 2016

ii. Facilities Development (Bob Kingery)

1. Elementary School Campus Lease – Extension Complete

2. Renewal of Contract with SquareHat Real Estate

a. 1 year extension of contract to continue with SquareHat Real Estate has been signed

3. Property Update – Meet with SFLA (Roberta Fox) to review funding on the general concept

iii. Governance (Tom Miller)

1. **Political Activity Policy**

a. Motion: Adopt the Political Endorsement Policy (5301) as presented to Board

b. Vote: 1 abstain (James G.), 4 no (Bob, Tom, Brooke, Mike), 5 yes (Cal C., Keely, Anne, Kendall, Alfred); Motion: Not passed

2. **Policy (draft) for Receiving Gifts**

a. Review and bring to action at February Board meeting

iv. Educational Excellence (Anne Franklin)

1. Reading circle to review literature on serving economically disadvantage schools as well as site visits to other schools

2. Rubric to create the evidence and language needed to sync the curriculum

3. Request to remove Executive Director evaluation from this committee in order to allow feedback from multiple sources (parents, teachers, etc)

v. Communications, Advocacy, and Marketing (Alfred Mays)

1. Discussion of role and responsibilities of the committee and seeking clarification at the Board retreat

2. Meet every 1st Wednesday of each month with alternate between face-face at middle school and teleconference

3. Kendall will be taking over the CAM as the Board lead on behalf of Alfred temporary

vi. Finance (Mike Fields)

1. Budget Review

VI. Unfinished Business

a. None

VII. New Business

VIII. Public Comment

a. None

IX. Upcoming Agenda

a. Items for Board Retreat

i. Political Endorsement Policy

ii. Bylaw review

b. Items for February Board Meeting

i. Gift Acceptance Policy

- ii. 2015-2016 Revised Budget
- iii. 2016-2017 Budget
- iv.

X. Adjourn

- a. James Gerds adjourned the meeting at 6:15 pm