



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING



Date: August 18, 2021

Type of Meeting: General

Board Members in Attendance:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brian Dillard | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marques Mitchell |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kanwal Sumnani Lopez | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Henrietta Muñoz |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jackie Gorman | <input type="checkbox"/> Mary Gradney |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> George Pedraza | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kim Abernethy |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mike Frisbie | |

Staff in Attendance:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Akeem Brown, CEO & Superintendent | <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Daphene Carson, Director of Operations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jennipha Ricks, Chief Learning Officer | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alicia Sebastian, Executive Assistant | |

MINUTES

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Brian Dillard at 3:37 pm.
2. It was moved by Mike Frisbie and seconded by Kim Abernethy to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed.
3. Akeem Brown gave the Superintendent's report. Highlights are provided below; the full report is attached.
 - a. Mission Moment – Back to School Event on 8/7 at the Doseum. This activity met 2 of the focus areas: literacy and partnerships.
 - b. Framework for the report – moving forward the report will be presented using the following framework:
 - i. Organizational Health
 - ii. Financial Management
 - iii. Academic Programming
 - c. Organizational Health
 - i. Discussion about TEA contingencies and the plan to meet the 60-day response deadline. The contingencies must be addressed before our actual operating contract can be addressed
 - ii. We currently have intent to enroll from 279 students in K-2

MINUTES

- iii. There are 962 currently on the listserv
- d. Financial Management
 - i. Brown and George Pedraza discussed our back-office provider, Charter School Success (CSS), and their services. They will begin work immediately.
 - ii. Brown reviewed the Fund Development Report (attached)
4. There was a discussion of the fiscal policy recommendations for Section 5.4 – Cash Management. **It was moved by Pedraza and seconded by Abernethy to approve fiscal policies section 5.4. The motion passed.**
5. There was a discussion of entering into an agreement with BES for follow-on support. **It was moved by Abernethy and seconded by Marques Mitchell that we enter into the contract with BES as presented. The motion passed.**
6. Pedraza provided an overview of the proposed bond financing for information only.
7. Pedraza provided an overview of the development of the Superintendent contract. **It was moved by Pedraza and seconded by Mike Frisbie that we approve the Superintendent Contract naming Akeem Brown Superintendent with the terms as presented. The motion passed.**
8. Frisbie presented the Facilities Sub-Committee report.
 - a. The board had a robust discussion about the need for a strong owner's representative/construction manager to represent Essence Prep.
 - b. There was also a discussion of the role of "construction monitor" that has been requested by the investor.
9. Brown led an in-depth discussion about the proposed SB 1882 partnership with Edgewood ISD. Essence Prep will be submitting a proposal.
10. The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 pm by Chairman Dillard.

Prepared and Submitted by:


Jackie L. Gorman
Board Secretary