

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

May 30, 2018

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 May 30, 2018 at the El Paso Leadership Academy, 1918 Texas Avenue, El Paso, Texas 79901 at 5:30 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 5:35 pm. 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: Rida Asfahani, Jackie Butler, Allan Lindstrom, Erik Pavia, and Joe Sanchez. Scott Atkins and Alexandria Serra participated via teleconference.

Staff in Attendance: Emily Levario and Omar Yamar

Second Item of Business – Approval of Minutes. Approval of the Board's Minutes from the May 2, 2018 Regular Meeting was considered. A correction to the Minutes was needed since Policies 400.142 through 400.162 were not approved at the May 2, 2018 Meeting. These policies have been placed on the May 30, 2018 agenda for approval. Rida Asfahani made a motion to approve the Minutes as corrected and Allan Lindstrom seconded the motion. Following a vote by the Board, the Minutes from the aforementioned meeting, as corrected, were approved unanimously.

Third Item of Business – EPLA Parent Forum. No parents were in attendance. Board members requested that parents and/or a parent representative be encouraged to attend board meetings in the future.

Fourth Item of Business – Financial Report. Emily Levario, Chief Financial officer presented the April 2018 Financials for Board review. Included were an updated *2017-2018 Cash Flow Projection*, the *Student Enrollment Dashboard*, *YTD Check Register*, and the *Month End Report on Finance, Federal, and Human Resources*. In response to a Board inquiry, Ms. Levario explained that EPLA's Administrative Cost Ratio, an indicator on the Charter Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas (FIRST), exceeds the threshold identified in the Charter FIRST assessment. This will result in EPLA not receiving points on this indicator in the 2017 assessment due to the limited student enrollment and EPLA's single campus structure which disallows spreading administrative costs over multiple campuses as is the case in most school districts.

Fifth Item of Business – Other General.

Approval of Proposed Board Policies 400.142 – 400.162. The following Student Series 400 Board Policies were presented for approval:

- 400.142 – School Visitors
- 400.145 – Protective Orders
- 400.146 – Weapons and Concealed Handgun Prohibition
- 400.147 – Protective Eye Devices
- 400.148 – Internet Use
- 400.149 – Prohibition Against Harassment, Intimidation & Bullying
- 400.160 – Prohibition Against Religious Discrimination
- 400.161 – Homeless Children
- 400.162 – Parent Involvement

Rida Asfahani moved approval of Board Policies 400.142 through 400.162 including changes as recommended by administration. Allan Lindstrom seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by the Board.

Approval of Revised 2017-2018 Calendar. Administration requested approval to modify the 2017-2018 Calendar which involved changing June 1, 2018, the final day of school from a full attendance day to an Early Release day. Such change would facilitate student, parent and staff readiness for the End-of-Year Ceremony to be held later in the day. Joe Sanchez moved approval of the Revised Calendar and Jackie Butler seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by the Board.

Approval of Freeport-McMoran STEM Innovation Grant. EPLA has received a \$5,000 grant from the Freeport-McMoran Copper and Gold Foundation to support its Robotics program. Rida Asfahani moved and Scott Atkins seconded a motion to accept the grant. The motion was approved unanimously by the Board.

Sixth Item of Business – CEO Report. Omar Yanar, CEO, reported that:

Academic Updates. Eighth grade STAAR scores have been received and EPLA student results showed strong growth. STAAR scores for sixth and seventh grade will be available in late summer since retakes will be integrated with the initial score results for all grade levels. A full report will be presented to the Board in late summer.

Student Recruitment Update. Mr. Yanar reported that there has been an uptick in student interest with the potential for adding additional enrollees for the 2018-2019 school year.

Board member Alexandria Serra provided the results of her research on cost and broadcast options for the development and presentation of EPLA commercials in the El Paso television market. The Board indicated full support for moving ahead with the planning necessary for creating and delivering commercials and requested that a budget be prepared to indicate funding necessary to support the commercials.

Summer Camps. In addition to EPLA's hosting of a Latinas Summer Camp, EPLA staff have organized seven half-day two-week enrichment sessions for 5th through 7th grade students. The camps are open to all El Paso area students with anticipation that participation will assist in recruiting new EPLA students.

Jackie Butler left the meeting at 6:48 pm.

Summer Board Meeting Dates. Three Board meeting dates were set for the summer. The Board agreed on the following meeting dates: (1) the regular June Board meeting will be held on June 20, 2018, (2) the Board will meet on July 28, 2018 for its annual professional development training session and (3) the regular August Board meeting will be held on August 16, 2018 at which time the 2018-2019 Budget will be presented for review and approval.

Other Updates. The budget impact of a necessary assessment and upgrading of the EPLA IT Network was considered. The Board discussed using the Education Service Center – Region 19 Purchasing Cooperative to engage a vendor to perform the IT review and update. The upgrading will be completed during the summer recess.

Next Meeting and Adjournment. Joe Sanchez moved and Reda Asfahani seconded the motion for adjournment which was passed unanimously by the Board. The Board adjourned at 7:16 pm.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company will be on June 20, 2018 at 5:30 pm at the El Paso Leadership Academy, 918 Texas Avenue, El Paso, Texas.


Allan Lindstrom, Secretary

