



Essence Preparatory Public School
Board of Directors Meeting
October 19, 2022
Minutes

The following board members were in attendance:

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Mike Frisbee	Jackie Gorman
Kanwal Sumnani Lopez	Henrietta Muñoz
George Pedraza	

Board members not in attendance:

Kim Abernethy	Brian Dillard
Mary Gradney	Marques Mitchell

Others in attendance:

Akeem Brown, CEO & Superintendent	Damika Burton, Director of Family Engagement & Enrollment
Dameon Lutz, Director of Operations	Stephanie Rodriguez, CSS

- The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman, Kanwal Lopez at 5:43 pm.
- The agenda was modified to begin with the Mission Moment. Danika Burton, Director of Family Engagement & Enrollment. Burton reports contained the following highlights:
 - a. Current enrollment is 137 (87% of goal)
 - b. The PTSA has been established and has held their first meeting
 - c. Essence Prep is starting a baseball team as its first sports extracurricular
- Akeem Brown gave the Superintendent's report. The full report is provided in the board package. Brown also reviewed the Executive Summary of the report from the recent TEA visit.
- No items were pulled from the consent agenda. **It was moved by Jackie Gorman and seconded by George Pedraza to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed.**
- There was a discussion of revising the board resolution requesting the waiver from TEA. **It was moved by Pedraza and seconded by Henrietta Muñoz that the resolution be revised as presented. The motion passed.**
- Stephanie Rodriguez from Charter School Success presented the financial report. A full copy of the report is available in the board package
- The Facilities Report was presented with the following highlights:
 - a. Highmark report with renderings provided for information can be found in the board package.
 - b. Interest rate on the bond issue has increased to 7.8%, The plan is to refinance at the 3-5 year point in a public sale once we have a commercial rating to improve our interest rate. The goal is to get a high enough investment grade rating to

access the Texas Permanent School Fund guarantee program. We have to be at least BBB to access the fund. BBB is investment grade.

- c. MikeFrisbee reports that we have passed all platting and the required TXDOT work has been included in the budget
- The board went into Closed Session at 6:37 pm
 - The board reconvened after closed session at 6:49 pm. Vice Chair Lopez read the following statement: No decisions were made or votes taken during closed session.
 - The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm by Vice Chair Lopez.

Prepared and Submitted by:



Jackie L. Gorman
Board Secretary