



Essence Preparatory Public School  
Board of Directors Meeting  
October 21, 2024  
Minutes

The following board members were in attendance:		
Brian Dillard	Lucinda Vigil	Henrietta Munoz*
Kanwal Lopez	Jackie Gorman	
Cynthia Warrick*	Mike Frisbie	
Board members not in attendance:		
		Marques Mitchell
<b>Staff:</b>	Akeem Brown	Jae Ricks
Angel Ladd	Ikeida Manning	Kizzie Thomas
<b>Guests:</b>	Kaitlin Svatek	Joe Joyce

The meeting was called to order at 5:36 PM by Chairman Brian Dillard.

1. **Mission Minute:** Introduction of Jalen Moore, outgoing Vice President of the Student Council, who shared her experiences with the VISTA Park project, highlighting student leadership and advocacy.

2. **Superintendent's Report:** Akeem Brown

- Report highlights included in the board packet.
- Introduction of new leadership team members.

**Consent Agenda:**

Moved – Mike Frisbie, seconded – Dr. Cynthia Warrick: Consent Agenda Approved.

**Fiscal Management/Finance Report:**

1. Kaitlin Svatek provided financial status updates, highlighting improvements in cash flow and financial indicators due to increased enrollment and state funding.
2. Discussion on Charter FIRST rating improvements and challenges.
3. Scholar Transportation Services issues were discussed, and a motion to send a breach of contract letter to Star Shuttle due to ongoing performance issues was made.

**Staffing Update:**

1. Current staffing numbers and retention rates were discussed by Superintendent, Brown.
2. Updates on the organizational structure and staffing changes.

**Charter First Rating:**

1. Current ratings and strategies for improvement were discussed.
2. Efforts to address indicators affecting the rating were outlined.

**Academic Excellence Report:**

1. Presentation of MAP data and analysis by Marisa Renteria, highlighting areas for academic improvement and intervention strategies.
2. Six-goal instructional plan discussed for improving teaching and learning outcomes.

**Marketing and Family Engagement:**

1. Updates on engagement and enrollment numbers were provided.

**A-F Ratings Update:**

1. Updates on the current status of A-F ratings and related strategies were provided.

**VISTA Park Project Update:**

A discussion on the outcome of the VISTA Park zoning issue and future collaboration opportunities with OCI.

**Technology Partnership Proposal:**

Connor O'Neill from Technology Lab presented a proposal for IT services, followed by board approval of the contract. Motioned by Mike Frisbie and Seconded by Kanwal Lopez.

**Child Nutrition Program Audit:**

An update was provided on the audit findings and corrective actions being taken to address issues.

**Closed Session:**

The board entered a closed session to discuss the settlement agreement with Mobile Modular.

**Open Session:**

The board returned to open session and approved the settlement agreement with Mobile Modular as discussed in the closed session.

The meeting adjourned at **7:13 PM** by Brian Dillard Chairman, Essence Preparatory Board of Directors



**Jackie Gorman**  
**Board Secretary**