

## **Essence Prep Board Meeting Minutes**

Date: March 19, 2025

Time: 5:30 PM

### **Attendees:**

- Brian Dillard
- Jackie Gorman
- Kanwal Lopez
- Dr. Henri Munoz
- Lucinda Vigil
- Mike Frisbie
- Dr. Cynthia Warrick
- Denise (Attorney)
- Deanna (Finance Director)

### **1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:36 PM by Superintendent Brown. He confirmed that the meeting was being recorded.

### **2. Agenda Overview**

Superintendent Brown indicated that the meeting would include a lengthy discussion and that Denise, the attorney, would join shortly. The agenda also included a public hearing and the TAPR report, which Superintendent Brown and Ms. Ricks, the Chief Learning Officer, would present. He noted that a press release regarding the TAPR report was distributed to local news outlets in compliance with state law.

### **3. Public Hearing and TAPR Report**

Superintendent Brown proposed to skip the mission moment, superintendent's report, and consent agenda to proceed directly to the public hearing regarding the TAPER report. It was noted that no community members or parents signed up to speak at the public comment section.

Superintendent Brown acknowledged that the TAPER report was already published and available, and the guidelines for the annual report were included in the board packet. The focus was on the Texas academic performance of the district and compliance with special education requirements, which had received a clean audit.

#### **4. Academic Performance Data Review**

Superintendent Brown presented data on academic performance, noting that the district fell below state and regional standards in third-grade reading. The report highlighted various performance levels (approaches, meets, and masters) and discussed the implications for future academic challenges.

Ms. Ricks contributed insights into the data, emphasizing the need for discussions around specific grade levels and subpopulations.

#### **5. Executive Session**

The board went into executive session at 6:28 PM for consultation with the school's legal counsel as permitted under Texas Government Code Section 551.071 regarding matters in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with an open meeting

#### **6. Action Items**

The board identified several action items, including the approval of the grant agreement, the non-disclosure agreement, and the facility rental policy. Votes were taken on these items, and all were approved without opposition. Superintendent Brown concluded by emphasizing the urgency of fundraising efforts and the importance of board support in

#### **7. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 PM, with the Chair thanking all attendees for their time and contributions.