



The mission of Einstein Charter Schools is to nurture students to be academically strong as well as socially and emotionally resilient.

EGI Public Board Meeting Minutes

THE EINSTEIN GROUP, INC.
4801 Maid Marion Drive
New Orleans, Louisiana 70128

The Board of Trustees of The Einstein Group will hold its **EGI Public Board Meeting at 6:00 PM on Thursday, February 22, 2024**. The meeting will be held in person in the library at **Sarah T. Reed High School (5316 Michoud Blvd, New Orleans, LA. 70129)**

Topic: **EGI Public Board Meeting - February**
 Time: 06:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Board Meeting Agenda

- 1) Call to Order @ 6:08pm
- 2) Roll Call
 - Raymond Delaney (P)
 - Clarice Kirkland (P)
 - Durrell Laurent (P)
 - Robbie Robertson (P)
 - Maya Edwards (P)
 - Drew Thompson (NP)
 - Angela Vance (NP)
 - Joe Rochelle (NP)
 - Edwin Escobar (NP)

- 3) Adoption of January 2024 Public Meeting Minutes

Clarice Kirkland motioned to approve; Durrell Laurent seconded the motion

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- 1) Academic Report - District Academics Updates
 - a) Instruction and PD
 - b) Curriculum and Culture
 - c) Achievement Data
 - d) Report Cards
 - e) VDLE Updates
 - i) ELPT Testing dates
 - ii) Interim Data # 3 dates
 - iii) Culture
 - (1) Black History Program, Family Literacy and math Night, Report Card Conferences Dates
 - iv) Review of Fall & Spring iReady Data
 - f) Sherwood Forest
 - i) Culture
 - (1) Fantastic Vietnamese New Year Celebration, Girls on the Run Organization starting this spring, Boys and Girls Basketball teams competed across the parish
 - ii) Discussed Data-Driven Decision Making
 - (1) Changes in instructional model/4th and 5th Grade teacher reassignments

- (2) A heavy focus on SPS and moving from a “D” to a “B” required a radical approach (restructuring the master schedule and strategically placing teacher aids; 1 hour reading intervention block daily)
- (3) Shifting to student led and student centered problem solving and classroom discourse with less guidance
- (4) Diverse learners’ needs and the changes that were made to positively impact instruction

Board Member questioned: Are the students who are participating in afterschool programming demonstrating growth?

Response: All of the students, based on the BOY data, who were identified as needing additional support and these are the students who are actively attending after school tutoring. Middle of year data will be presented at the March board meeting

- g) Einstein Middle School
 - i) Culture
 - (1) Family Literacy and Math Night and Black History Program Dates
 - ii) Leap and ELPT Testing Dates
 - iii) Interim #3 - Dates
 - iv) Discuss Fall and Spring iReady Data
 - (1) Ancillary teachers are using the first 30 minutes of class for intervention

Board Member questioned: What is happening differently now than what was happening in the 90’s

Response: Schools are implementing student-led and student centered Problem solving techniques

- h) Sarah T. Reed
 - i) Upcoming Assessments
 - (1) ELPT testing Dates ((2nd period teachers are doing bootcamps with ELL students)
 - (2) Interim #1 Spring Semester Dates
 - (3) WorkKeys Administration #4 Dates
 - (4) Statewide 11th Grade ACT Dates
 - ii) Culture and Upcoming Events
 - (1) Girls Basketball game made it to the playoffs; unfortunately they did not advance past the 1st Round
 - (2) Boys Basketball game made it to the playoffs; first time in the history of STR basketball earned the home court advantage at STR high School
 - (3) TET program and Black History Program

CEO explains the data dives that are in progress and the structures that have placed a heavy focus on academics

2) Finance Report - Monthly Financial Statements as of December 31, 2023

- a) Balance Sheet = \$17,634,899
- b) Cash Flow Projections =
 - i) Start with 8.3 million cash on hand, currently has an estimated 12 million; surplus is due to grant funding from the previous year. The plan is to maintain this cash flow until the end of the schol year
- c) Profit & Loss Budget VS. Actual = net surplus of \$2,537,148
 - i) SF = \$939, 744
 - ii) VDLE = \$983,953
 - iii) Reed = \$335,638
 - iv) EMS = \$277,813
- d) Yearly Comparison SY 24 vs SY 23
 - i) Slight increase of revenues and expenses compared to last year due to receiving additional funding from NOLA-PS, which was not originally estimated.
 - ii) Compared to SY 23 (revenue in February was 49%; Feb. 2024, revenue is at 46%. Expenses were at 55% for SY 23; Currently at 54% for February 2024 our revenue remaining in February .
 - iii) Fundraising = \$6,820
- e) Student Activity = \$127,149
 - i) VDLE = \$25,189.63
 - ii) STR = \$40,021.82
 - iii) EMS = \$29,853.73
 - iv) SF = \$34,092.82

Board Question: Are school leaders are actively participating in the budgeting process?

Response: Yes

CEO has communicated the need for financial forecast and trajectory for the years to come to ensure sustainability

Actions:

- Next meeting CEO will present to the board the options for determining how to keep the middle school active
- Einstein Will be posting a full time grant writer position
 - Board recommends adding in-depth fundraising experience to the preferred qualifications
- Board recommends providing the percentage of enrolled students who reside in the immediate area of all schools in the network
 - This data will be provided at the March Board meeting

3) Operations Report - Facilities and Operational Updates

- a) Capital Projects
 - i) Reed (HVAC)
 - ii) VDLE (Roof)
- b) Facilities Compliance walkthroughs at Sherwood Forest
- c) Future Chef Culinary Competition and Showcase by Sedexo (Sherwood and VDLE participants)

Action:

Board as specifics regarding Capital Improvement Grant. Board Member will support the COO with moving the capital project forward.

- 4) CEO Report - CEO Network Updates
 - a) Compliance
 - i) Audits - NOLA PS
 - ii) RTI/SpEd/High School Cum Folders - Quality Assurance Audits
 - iii) EMS Audit - March 5th
 - b) Boots on the Ground Initiative
 - i) Community Outreach
 - (1) Sovereign Hope partnership underway
 - (2) Einstein plans to host monthly activities and include monthly student involvement
 - (3) Workshop Way
 - (a) Implementing Leading With Love starting Monday, February 26th
 - (b) Couple Workshop Way with SEL curriculum that is currently being implemented
 - ii) Accountability, meeting the standard
 - (1) Questionable background checks
 - (2) Policy implementation is mandated (policy will be shared with the board of directors)
 - (a) Leadership Team Member will continue working with the ED of HR to ensure background checks are in compliance with State and Federal regulations
 - (3) Einstein Charter Schools will not operate in any other manner that is not in decency and in order
 - (4) The tuition reimbursement process has been changed to ensure equitable practices and policy implementation
- 5) Board of Directors Report- Board Communications
 - a) Acknowledge colleagues who have been involved in school activities (i.e. band chaperone, game attendance)
 - b) Organizational Survey will be shared via ED of HR in the next coming weeks

Clarice Kirkland motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:13p; Durrell Laurent seconded the motion.

Public comments can be submitted in-person via public comment card. Public comments submitted prior to the start of a particular meeting will be addressed. Public comments can only be made on action items listed in the meeting agenda and will be limited to a maximum of 2 minutes per individual.