



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, September 19, 2024**. The meeting will be held in person in the library at **Sherwood Forest Elementary (4801 Maid Marion Drive, New Orleans, LA. 70128)**

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

BOARD MEETING AGENDA:

- 1) Call to Order**
 - a) Time: 6:13 PM

- 2) Roll Call**
 - a) Clarice Kirkland
 - b) Angela Vance
 - c) Chavez Cammon
 - d) Maya Edwards
 - e) Raymond Delaney
 - f) Robbie Robertson
 - g) Durell Laurent (Absent)
 - h) Edwin Escobar (Absent)
 - i) Joe Rochelle (Absent)

- 3) Approval of Public Board Meeting Minutes (August, 15, 2024)**
 - a) Clarice Kirkland moved to approve the minutes.
 - b) Angela Vance seconded the motion.
 - c) The minutes were approved unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- 1) Board Committee Report - Academic Committee
- 2) Academic Report - District Academics Updates
 - a) *Academic Report Given*
 - i) Literacy Action Plan Items



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- ii) Adoption of Tier 1 Intervention (SIPPS)
- iii) Daily Intervention Block for all students, separated by focus skill
- iv) Hire an additional Reading interventionist.
- b) *Numeracy Action Plan*
 - i) Fact fluency drills
 - ii) Daily spiral reviews (DO NOWs)
 - iii) Individualized support (iREADY)
 - iv) Read, Draw, Write Strategy
 - v) Increased use of manipulatives, both tangible and virtual
- c) *College & Career Readiness Action Plan:*
 - i) Daily LEAP or ACT preparation blocks for students not in intervention
 - ii) Integrated Language Acquisition objectives in core content areas
 - iii) Expanded Workkeys testing opportunities
 - iv) Expanded pathways for obtaining IBCs
 - v) JAG Program
- d) **Board Question:** Is the JAG Program a paid program by us?
 - i) Response: We are actually being paid by the program to implement JAG.
- e) **Board Question:** Can you let the board know which schools we are working with for dual enrollment?
- f) **Board Question:** What is the process like when it relates to which courses are being offered [for dual enrollment]? Do the schools tell y'all what they are offering or do the students pick what they want?
 - i) Response: The students pick what they want and they have flexibility about which school they would like to work with as well. We look at a variety of different factors like readiness, interest and what is their ability to access that school (entry requirements) and we look at what fits into that student's schedule.
- g) **Board Question:** How do the students know [or get information] about Nunez or Delgado? Is there some type of coaching?
 - i) Response: Yes. Students meet with the academic counselor. He will post in their google classroom or give them tangible information. He will meet with students to find out their interest to steer them in the right direction.
- h) **Board Question:** Who developed this partnership as it relates to the courses? Cybersecurity, Nursing...etc.
 - i) Response: that falls under our Industry Based Credentials...We also work very closely with NOCC.
- i) **Board Acknowledgement:** 9-19-24-01 - Special Presentation - Student Acknowledgement
 - i) Student acknowledged for his hard work academically and athletically by the Einstein Charter School Board.
- 3) Finance Report - Monthly Financial Statements
 - a) Balance Sheet
 - i) Total Assets: \$19,398,107
 - ii) Total Liabilities: \$948,729



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- iii) Total Equity: \$18,449,378
 - iv) Total Liabilities & Equity: \$19,398,107
- b) Profit & Loss
 - i) Total Revenue: \$30,087,979
 - ii) Total Expenses: \$-25,603,714
 - iii) Net Operating Surplus/(Deficit) \$4,484,265
- c) Reed High School
 - i) Total Revenue: \$6,177,060
 - ii) Total Expenses: \$-5,019,636
 - iii) Net Operating Surplus/(Deficit) \$1,157,424
- d) Reed Middle School
 - i) Total Revenue: \$5,719,332
 - ii) Total Expenses: \$-5,344,750
 - iii) Net Operating Surplus/(Deficit) \$374,581
- e) Village deL'Est
 - i) Total Revenue: \$7,862,865
 - ii) Total Expenses: \$-6,799,341
 - iii) Net Operating Surplus/(Deficit) \$1,063,524
- f) Sherwood Forest
 - i) Total Revenue: \$7,592,703
 - ii) Total Expenses: \$-6,964,431
 - iii) Net Operating Surplus/(Deficit) \$628,272
- g) Student Activity Funds
 - i) Fundraising Balance: \$6,032.43
 - ii) VDLE
 - iii) EMS
 - iv) VDLE
 - v) SF
- h) **Board Question:** Why is the SF surplus the lowest amount versus all the schools?
 - i) That was based on the revenue versus expenses and also based upon the enrollment?
- i) **Board Question:** Would it have any effect because we moved the students from SF back to STR Middle School?
 - i) SF has a lower enrollment than VDLE. SF may have had a little bit less ESSER funding. It could also be that they also had more vacancies on staff.
- j) **Board Question:** Can we look into the reason as to why the surplus is lower for SF than it is for VDLE?
 - i) Yes.
- k) **Board Question:** What is our enrollment count for SF?
 - i) Response: 344 SF and enrollment 427 for VDLE.
- l) **Board Question:** What did we project for SF when we did the original budget?
 - i) Response: 364 was the projection.
- m) **Board Question:** Any rationale behind why we didn't reach the original projection?
 - i) Response: It fluctuates because students continue to register. A Lot of movement from the area



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has an effect. The lower enrollment is what drives it.

- n) Finance Updates:
 - i) ECS Annual Fiscal Audit is scheduled to start the week of October 7th.
 - (1) Reports are due December 31st
 - ii) The Annual Financial Report (AFR) Report is due September 30th.
 - (1) ECS is expected to have this completed on time.
- o) **Board Comment:** In fairness of equity and ensuring that we treat all employees fairly, the board recognized that the CEO had not received a cost of living increase. Once recognized, the board took immediate action and gave a cost of living adjustment.

4) Operations Report - Facilities and Operational Updates

- a) Current Projects:
 - i) VDLE Roof Replacement: NOLA-PS Project - Currently in their bidding process. Project will start in summer 2025. Item Number 518 on its final request for approval.
 - ii) Critical Inspection: Completed and Passed
 - iii) SF Campus Chiller #2: Project will start in 2 weeks.
 - iv) STR/EMS Door Replacement: NOLA-PS Project - Currently in their bidding process. We are looking at October 2024.
 - (1) The contractor who won the bid for the door replacement project was not approved.
 - (2) A new contractor company is currently being vetted for approval.
 - (3) Project estimated to begin in October 2024 (confirmed by NOLA-PS).
- b) STR/EMS AC Upgrades:
 - i) Currently in the final control stage.
 - ii) We should be in an inspection stage by next week.
 - iii) Estimated time of 100% operational October 2024.

5) CEO Report - CEO Network Updates

- a) Thunderstorm [Hurricane Francine]
- b) ECS completed asynchronous learning so those hurricane days were not counted against us.
- c) Reset, Redirection, Rigor
- d) Filling Vacancies:
 - i) Successfully filling key staff positions, which is critical for stability.
- e) Adherence to the Sarah T. Reed vs. Abe Game Plan:
 - i) Demonstrating commitment to the plan has led to smoother operations.
- f) Communication with the Team:
 - i) Noteworthy teamwork, flexibility, and collaboration across departments.
- g) Building Camaraderie (Teamwork):
 - i) Positive team spirit; everyone is engaged and contributing with honest, constructive feedback.



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- h) 4 H Club Launch at STR High School:
 - i) Successful establishment of the 4H Club, offering new opportunities for students.
- i) Compliance Letters: In full compliance (EMS & SF).
 - i) We have not had any areas of noncompliance in several years.
- j) Audits:
 - i) SF and VDLE Audits upcoming.
 - ii) EMS and STR Audits upcoming.
- k) Homecoming is happening soon.
- l) **Board Question:** Will you email the board to confirm the change in the PARADE route?
 - i) Answer: Yes, we will confirm and we will email the extended route
- m) **Board Question:** Do we know the timeline for the completion of the SF RENEWAL?
 - i) Answer: Generally by late December. Once we finish, NOLA-PS will give us a timeline.
- n) **Board Admonishment:** Continue to manish your discomfort. The board admonishes us to act as everyday, all day we are being recorded. Continue to think before you respond. Sometimes no action or no response is the best response with the situations we are faced with.

6) Board of Directors Report- Board Communications

- a) Board Member Chavez Update:
 - i) Efforts are underway to establish the Alumni Nation Association with the goal of growing and sustaining its impact. We had our initial meeting three weeks ago, and today we saw a promising turnout with a diverse group of alumni from various graduating classes joining to help plan. The association is being developed with a focus on alumni working together to give back to the school and providing valuable resources to support future initiatives. Our primary focus moving forward will be to strengthen connections by building on our past, engaging in the present, and shaping the future of the school.
- b) **Board Comment:**
 - (1) Make sure we reach back out to the groups who just recently left in the last 5 years.
 - (2) Highlight certain classes during respective years.

ACTION ITEM

- 1. 9-19-24-01 - Special Presentation - Student Acknowledgement

7) Adjournment -

- a) Clarice Kirklnad motioned to adjourn the meeting.
- b) Maya Edwards seconded the motion.
- c) Time: 7:10 PM Kirklain, ajoin at 7:08

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.