



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

PublicMeeting Minutes

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

The board of Trustees of The Einstein Group held its monthly board meeting at 6:00 PM on Thursday, August 18, 2022. The meeting was held in the library at Sherwood Forest Elementary, 4801 Maid Marion Drive.

AGENDA:

- 1) Call to Order
Board Chair, Raymond Delaney, called the meeting to order at 6:21 PM

- 2) Roll Call
(P-Present; P-Present but late; NP-Not Present)*
Raymond Delaney - P
Clarice Kirkland - P
Maya Edwards - P
Durrell Laurent - P*
Joe Rochelle - P*
Angela Vance - P

Note: We have a quorum.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1) ACADEMICS REPORT

- a. Instruction and PD
 - i. Beginning of year PD success; 86.4% of staff responding to the survey rated PD in the 4-5 range on a scale of 1-5
- b. Achievement Data
 - i. Demonstration of comparison data across schools in NO East, grades 3-12, and schools with similar demographics
- c. Curriculum and Culture
 - i. Teachers have digital access to all curriculum; hard copies have been ordered and are in route through shipping
- d. Testing
 - i. Diagnostic testing is in progress at all schools

2) FINANCE REPORT

- a. Balance sheet as of June 30, 2022
 - i. Total liabilities & Equities = \$10,730,946
- b. Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual as of June 30, 2022
 - i. Total Revenue = \$27,215,764
 - ii. Total Expenses = \$22,692,473
- c. Fundraising & Student Activity Accounts as of June 30, 2022
 - i. Total Fundraising Balance = \$9,499.02
 - ii. Total Student Activity Account Balances
 1. Village de l'Est = \$27,278.77
 2. S. T. Reed High = \$30,843.61

3. Einstein Middle = \$22,399.05
 4. Sherwood Forest = \$37,592.25
- d. Finance Report Updates
- i. FY 2022 Audit work will begin in Late September
 - ii. Major Budget Changes
 1. 21st CCLC Grant was not awarded (the decision is being protested)
 - a. ESSER Funding will help supplement costs
 - b. Total budget affects = \$857,500
 2. Other grants on Pursuit
 - a. FSCS (Full Service Community Schools)
 - i. If awarded, the grant will = \$500K per year for up to 5 years
 3. 6th grade Placement
 - a. Reallocating 6th grade MFP funding to Elementary Schools
 - b. Budget will show an increase to the school school operational budget

Questions from the board:

1. How will the 21st Century Grant affect after school programming for students?
 - a. The total budget affects were provided (\$857,500)
 - b. ESSER funding has been allocated to after school programs
2. Do we know why the grant wasn't awarded?
 - a. Finance Director will email the board members and provide the RFA scoring feedback
3. The Board would like to be active in reviewing large grants prior to submission
 - a. CEO responds and gives an explanation of change in key roles and key responsibilities of the Director of Development and Strategic Projects. She believes this will be huge in acquiring and sustaining large dollar federal and local grants
4. Explain the changes in transitioning middle school to elementary.
 - a. The CEO discusses sustainability with finance and how it will be best (financially) if middle school remains at the high school campus. The CEO will meet with NOPS to get guidance and support with reversing the decision.

3) OPERATIONS REPORT

- a. Staffing Updates
 - i. School Operations
 - ii. Facilities Maintenance
 - iii. Technology
- b. Transportation Updates
 - i. Elementary Campuses are currently operating with 3 buses
 - ii. Secondary Campuses are currently operating with 4 buses
- c. Return to School Safety Protocols
 - i. Masks are optional for students, staff, and visitors
 - ii. Masks are optional for bus riders
 - iii. Breakfast and lunch is being served in the cafeteria
 - iv. Buses are allowed to operate at 100% capacity
 - v. COVID-19 tests are offered every Wednesday at all campuses

4) CEO REPORT

- a. State of Einstein
 - i. Assuming Full Responsibility
 1. Detail the letters of non-compliance
 - ii. Implementing Correction/Direction with Fidelity
 1. VDLE will be out of Corrective action for SpEd in November 2022
 2. SPLC found no issues of non-compliance at the Middle School
 3. The Second Letter of non-compliance at the HS campus has been resolved (NOLA-PS has provided a letter of resolution to ECS)
- b. Logistics of All Schools
 - i. Presentation of all School Leaders
 1. All administrators are fully certified
 - ii. Staff Demographics per school/CMO

- c. Vision of Excellence
 - i. Traditional Practices coupled with Charter Expectations
 - 1. Accountability
 - 2. Professionalism

Public Comments

- 1. A Community Member (C. Fajaro) would like to know when the board will allow new board members to join the board. She is asking for accountability with the Board of Directors
- 2. A Parent/Grandparent commented on her thoughts of the curriculum being low. She stated she would like to join the Academic Committee

Board Comments

- 1. Joe Rochelle motioned to table the Executive Session and Resolution 8-18-22-2. Durrell Laurent seconded the motion
 - a. In favor: Raymond Delaney (in favor); Clarice Kirkland (in favor); Durrell Laurent (in favor); Joe Rochelle (in favor); Angela Vance (in favor); Maya Edwards (in favor)
- 2. Joe Rochelle communicates the current state of the CEO search.
 - a. The board has received over 60 applicants and will need additional time to review all resumes/applications for eligibility
 - b. Next steps will be discussed at the next board meeting
 - c. There will be an opportunity for public comment
 - d. Faculty and staff will have input
- 3. Durrell Laurent communicates that the board has received resumes and from stakeholders who are interested in being an ECS Board Member. The board is looking forward to adding 3 new members after review and selection. The board welcomes more applicants. Interested Stakeholders can send letters of interests and or resumes to help@einsteincharterschools.org

5) RESOLUTIONS

- 1. 8-18-22-1: Student Family Handbook
- 2. 8-18-22-2: Next Steps on the CEO Search

Clarise Kirkland motioned to approve Resolution 8-18-22-1; Durrell Laurent seconded the motion
No public comments

Dr. Raymond Delaney motioned to adjourn at 7:56 pm; Durrell Laurent seconded the motion

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