



EL COLEGIO

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

April 19th, 2023

- I. Call to order**
 - A. The meeting was called to order at 17:16 by Tony Aarts (Chair)
- II. Welcome and Roll Call**
 - A. Board members present: Tony Aarts (Chair), Kent Fordyce (Treasurer), Tamara Ramirez-Torres (Teacher), Ann Zukoski (Vice Chair), Dr. Elizabeth Sumida Huaman (Treasurer) and Madelaine Cahuas (Community)
 - B. Staff and guests in attendance: Katie Aviña (Ex-Officio), Landon Nelson (Dean of Operations), and Kevin Fitton (DFL)
- III. Approval of Agenda**
 - A. Tamara makes a motion to approve the agenda for April 19th, 2023. Dr. Elizabeth seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.
- IV. Approval of Minutes**
 - A. Dr. Elizabeth moves to approve the minutes from the March 15, 2023, board meeting. Tamara seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.
- V. Finance Committee**
 - A. Kevin Fitton from Designs for Learning updates the board that the FY23 budget is being worked on and is expected to be presented during the May/ meeting.
 - B. Kevin Fitton updated the board that as of March 31st, 2023 El Colegio has received in Fund 01 (general budget) 61% of its current budgeted amount and has expended in Fund 01 67% of its current budgeted expense. El Colegio ended March 2023 with a negative balance of \$95,727. As of March 31, 2023 El Colegio has received in Fund 02 (Food Service) 28% of its current budgeted amount and expended in Fund 02 80% of its current budgeted amount. El Colegio's total cash balance at the end of March 2023 was a total of \$374,706. Kent reminded the board that on paper it shows negative because of the need to move more funds, the books aren't accurate for projected end of year fiscal fund balance.

- C. Kent made a motion to accept the March Financials. Tamara seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.
- D. Kent reminded the board about needing to have a resolution for the \$300K Propel Loan. Kent motioned for a resolution stating: *The \$300,00 Propel Loan is restricted according to the terms and conditions in the loan agreement from Propel.* Ann seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.
- E. Kevin presented the FY23 Revised budget explaining it is revised based on the current ADM of 87 students and current staffing budget. The proposed revised FY23 budget shows a project fund balance of a positive \$72K. Kent made the motion to accept the Revised FY23 Budget. Dr. Elizabeth seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

VI. Executive Director Update

- A. Katie updated that current student enrollment was at 90. She updated that interim was a fun success and hoped board members made time to check out the great classes offered on social media. This interim in partnership with MN Humanities Center and Teatro del Pueblo there was an artist residency with SEE MORE PERSPECTIVE who led a hip hop and spoken word class.
- B. Katie provided an update to the Board about the school visited in Nogales and their partnership with a high school as well as a community college. She along with two other staff members will be returning at the end of June for the XITO conference and look to further continue to build the partnership.
- C. Katie provided the Fundraising Committee update as well that there have been a total of \$10,710 raised and that El Colegio received a \$10K grant from UnidosUS for a summer program called Lideres STEM Entrepreneurship.

VII. Strategic Planning Committee

- A. Ann provided a summary update for the board of the work the last few months of meetings has led to. The committee had been looking and researching on best ways for El Colegio to grow to thrive and through meetings with MDE and Academia Cesar Chavez Board members had concluded that a merger would bring stability to El Colegio. As far as next steps, this would need both boards beginning to meet with one another and getting to know one another and building a new board for both campuses.
- B. Katie provided a very draft timeline that shows all of the steps that would need to be taken. A deep discussion among board members concluded that both schools have the same values and similar missions; we do not want either campus to lose their identities. Dr. Elizabeth stressed the importance of creating a conflict/resolution process that could be adopted by all (both

ACC and El Colegio) as we navigate through becoming one. She described a process that would have shared language between our boards as a way to process, question and resolve possible conflicts. She stressed that conflict is not inherently bad and that it should even be expected in a venture this large with so many moving parts. Other points raised during the discussion emphasized the need to include community input as the timeline proceeded forward; this was also iterated by Carlos in the ACC meeting. Meeting with staff to provide information/details and open discussion was also mentioned by Mr. Landon. Ms Tamara highlighted the need to make EC's culture primary as we guide discussion, which is agreed upon with all parties. A point all agreed upon: communication with staff and preserving culture/teaching on the EC campus. As well, approaching the staff via a meeting to further unpack details of the merge would be beneficial for gathering ideas. Dr. Elizabeth stressed the importance that neither school is changing its valued culture/mission/commitments to the community. Rather, both campuses are growing together and strengthening those very things by sharing valuable resources, expertise and knowledge. Dr. Elizabeth raised a point that the reality is schools like El Colegio and ACC are in a vulnerable position in the current political and education climate. The negative impacts of certain charter schools can be blanketed on both schools and this misconception of all charters can be unwarranted scrutiny and opposition. This comes out in lack of funding, the challenges in securing streams of revenue, and the difficulties of such expansion. We know schools are already pursuing this very model, and she stressed it as a natural progression for sustainability and growth for our students and community. One other point raised was the work between both schools bridges the gentrification studies being outlined by Madelaine. By working across Minneapolis and St. Paul campuses, we can have a much larger look at where our community is, where they are going and how to better reach them.

- C. Madelaine informed the board that there is a grant that she and Dr. Jessica Lopez Lyman (ACC Board Chair) received to do geographical research to see where the Latinx demographics are and they will be using a mixed methods approach which will include meeting with current students and their families. This will also help inform a new Board if the merger indeed passes to decide where we should recruit from, or do we replicate our model elsewhere.

VIII. Governance Committee

- A. Ann updated the board that the committee discussed the Board doing the Self-Assessment during the May meeting and that she and Tony are working on the Executive Director Review.
- IX. **Announcements**
 - 1. Thursday, May 4th, 2023 4:30pm-7pm Family Teacher Conferences
 - 2. Friday, May 5th, 2023 9am - 12pm Family Teacher Conferences
- X. **Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at 5:00 PM**
- XI. **Public Comment**
- XII. **Meeting Adjourned at 6:52pm**

Board Secretary *Elizabeth Sumida Huaman* Date: May 22, 2023
[Elizabeth Sumida Huaman \(May 22, 2023 20:50 CDT\)](#)



EL COLEGIO

Board of Directors Meeting

May 17th, 2023 5:00 PM

4137 Bloomington Ave, Minneapolis MN 55407

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|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tony Aarts, <i>Chair, community</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Madelaine Cahuas, <i>community</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ann Zukoski, <i>community</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>vacant community seat</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kent Fordyce, <i>Treasurer, community</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>vacant community seat</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tamara Ramirez-Torres, <i>teacher</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>vacant community seat</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elizabeth Sumida Huaman, <i>community</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>vacant parent seat</i> |

Ex-Officio Members: Katie Groh de Aviña, *Executive Director***Staff/Special Guest(s):** Landon Nelson, *Dean of Operations*; Kevin Fitton

Board Packet includes: Agenda, Minutes, Financial Statement, Draft 2023-2024 School Calendar, Edvisions Contract

*****AGENDA*****

<i>Item</i>	<i>Presenter</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Time</i>
I. Call to order	Board Chair		1min
II. Welcome Guests	Board Chair		
III. Agenda for May 17th, 2023 Board Meeting	Board Chair	Vote	1min
IV. Minutes from the April 19th, 2023 Board Meeting	Board Chair	Vote	5min
V. Finance Committee	Kent Fordyce		
a. April Financials	Kevin Fitton	Vote	10min
b. FY24 Budget Update	Kent Fordyce		5min
VI. Executive Director Update	Katie Aviña		5min
VII. Governance Committee			
a. Board Self Review	Tony Aarts		15min
b. Edvisions Contract	Katie Aviña		5min
c. Executive Director Review Update	Tony Aarts		5min
VIII. Announcements:	Tony Aarts		
a. Wednesday, May 25th, Senior Project at 5pm			
b. Monday, May 29th, 2023 School Closed - Memorial Day Holiday			
c. Friday, June 2nd, Last Day for Seniors			
d. Thursday, June 8th Last Day of School			
e. Friday, June 9th Graduation Ceremony at 2pm			
f. Tuesday, June 13th: Last Day of School for Staff			
g. Monday, June 19th: School Closed - Juneteenth Holiday			
h. Tuesday, June 20th: First Day of Summer School			
IX. Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, June 21, 2023 at 5:00 PM			
X. Public Comment			
XI. Meeting Adjournment	Board Chair		5min

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Approved by the Board and Signed by Board Secretary Elizabeth Sumida Huaman May 22, 2023 Date _____
Elizabeth Sumida Huaman (May 22, 2023 20:50 CDT)

This meeting was conducted in accordance with MN Statute 13D Open Meeting Law







EC Board Minutes 2023-04-19 (1)

Final Audit Report

2023-05-23

Created:	2023-05-22
By:	Katie Groh de Avina (avina@el-colegio.org)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAbREX3tOVC0QJPBlwG8hEbmpvgEsra4v

"EC Board Minutes 2023-04-19 (1)" History

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2023-05-22 - 5:10:52 PM GMT- IP address: 209.85.238.192
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