



EL COLEGIO

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

May 17th, 2023

- I. Call to order**
 - A. The meeting was called to order at 5:25pm by Tony Aarts (Chair)
- II. Welcome and Roll Call**
 - A. Board members present: Tony Aarts (Chair), Kent Fordyce (Treasurer), Dr. Elizabeth Sumida Huaman (Treasurer), and Madelaine Cahuas (Community)
 - B. Board members absent: Tamara Ramirez-Torres (Teacher), Ann Zukoski (Vice Chair),
 - C. Staff and guests in attendance: Katie Aviña (Ex-Officio), Landon Nelson (Dean of Operations), Raquel Arismendez (Project Manager), and Kevin Fitton (DFL),
- III. Approval of Agenda**
 - A. Kent makes a motion to approve the agenda for May 17, 2023. Dr Elizabeth seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.
- IV. Approval of Minutes**
 - A. Dr Elizabeth moves to approve the minutes from the April 19, 2023, board meeting. Kent seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.
- V. Finance Committee**
 - A. April Financial Statement
 1. Kevin shares that unrestricted funds now reflect the shift of \$300k moving to restricted funds based on the board's previous resolution at the April board meeting. The projected fund balance is now \$67,338.22. State revenues are at 74%, however lease aid is at 1% currently. Federal is at 59%. Total revenue is at 72%, and total expenditures are at 74%.
 - a) The deficit is built into the budget. The Employer Tax Credit is also not reflected in the statement as of yet, as the final numbers are not known at this time.

2. Kent shares that the negative balance for April of \$17k does not reflect the \$104k from lease aid as of yet, so these numbers should be updated in the May statement.
3. Kent made a motion to accept the April 2023 Financial Statement. Dr Elizabeth seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

B. FY24 Budget Update

1. Kevin shares the budget is in progress, taking the usual precautions being mindful of enrollment. The budget will be presented at the June board meeting.

VI. Executive Director Update

- A. Ms Katie shares that employee benefits will remain 100% employer-covered for single adult plans. Edvisions shared that not a lot of employers do that, however EC is in the position to continue to do so. She has been sharing any updates with Designs for Learning so that the budget reflects the updated amounts.
- B. Ms Katie shared some recent exciting events:
 1. Education Evolving SCL4E: EC brought six students to the student-centered conference. Over 300 attendees total, it was very exciting! The students did a lot of pre-work in class in preparation for the presentation. The students represented El Colegio very well, and practiced their public speaking skills!
 2. The Intro to Urban Ed class went to ACC to conduct classroom observations as part of the course, they had a clipboard and checked off look-fors, it was a great experience!
 3. Student field trip to University of Saint Thomas, the students really enjoyed the dining hall--in addition to all of the other parts of campus!
 4. Field trip to the MN Twins game, the coolest part for the students was watching Mr Gary cheer and commentate!
 5. Graduation - six students who will be walking at the celebration on June 9 at 2pm. The graduates will be going to Fogo de Chao on June 2 to celebrate!
 6. Senior presentation night will be next week on May 25!
- C. Ms Katie and Tony had the annual authorizer site visit with PUC, it went very well! The rubric score came back today: academic = 77.7%, non-academic = 77.8%! We exceeded their expectations of the measures they were looking for when visiting EC.

1. Some of PUC's concerns were about the FY22 audit. However, they understood the nature of the situation and were relieved that the audit was completed.
 2. Tony and Ms Katie informed PUC about the merger discussion with ACC. In short, they were really happy about the bigger vision of the two schools. PUC understood the logistics of going with UST as an authorizer due to ACC being authorized for PK-12. PUC said EC would of course be welcome to return to PUC in the future.
 3. PUC will have EC complete the charter renewal process as a contingency.
 4. Tony adds that he and Ms Katie were appreciative of the deliberate and intentional process that PUC emphasized. PUC wants the school to do well no matter what. Having that discussion felt good, with everything on the table, thinking of the best plan of how to take care of EC however the future shakes out. It was bittersweet, but the humanization of PUC when compared to how ending contracts with other entities may have occurred in the past is notable and reaffirming.
- D. Summer school will be from June 20 to July 13, coordinated by Mr Steve, who is also coordinating the UnidosUS *Lideres* program.
- E. Ms Katie shares a video of the SCL4E closing plenary. A student played a piece on the piano to close the convening and it was beautiful. He had attended a conservatory in Ecuador previously.
- F. Fundraising Committee Update
1. Ms Katie shares that we have raised \$12,110 to date! \$2475 was raised for graduation, to cover the cost of caps and gowns.
 2. The committee has been discussing the June resiliency breakfast, this year as a thank you breakfast for our donors.
 3. EC was invited by UnidosUS to apply for the next round of *Escalera* grants for next year, about \$17k.
 4. Other ideas discussed: doing a happy hour fundraiser offsite; creating an annual award of some sort to give to a member of the community (like Spirits of Our Community in 2019).
- G. Kent shares that when we were talking about the merger last board meeting, when Dr Elizabeth brought up a conflict resolution statement.
1. Dr Elizabeth shares that in the spirit of moving forward in a way that is conscientious, respectful, and loving, we should co-establish community principles of collaboration to draft what it looks like to

work together. The next time the two boards meet, this could be an exercise completed together.

2. Ms Katie shares that Education Evolving may facilitate the next meeting so that both boards can fully participate in the conversation.
3. The board thanks Dr Elizabeth for this great idea!

VII. Governance Committee

A. Board Self Review

1. Tony shares that everyone has a copy in their packet, everyone can complete it and return it with the next board meeting.

B. Edvisions Contract

1. Ms Katie reminds the board that Edvisions is a co-op, and technically the employer of all El Colegio staff. Edvisions manages payroll and employee benefits, and ensures we are in compliance with all HR regulations. The fee is 2% of all payroll.
2. Kent moves to approve the Edvisions Cooperative contract for 2023-2024. Dr Elizabeth seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously.

C. Executive Director Review Update

1. Tony shares that he and Ann are coordinating the review process, in talks with Dr Jessica Lopez Lyman at ACC to compare the processes.
2. Based on the summary info and what we're seeing, certain questions have the main focus in the review and how it aligns with other reviews happening. We are looking to align the process and see how to elevate the most representative components, retaining the same core elements as previous review processes.

VIII. Announcements

- 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 Adjourned at 6:24pm.

Approved 06.21.2023

Board Secretary Elizabeth Sumida Huaman Date: Jun 26, 2023
Elizabeth Sumida Huaman (Jun 26, 2023 11:35 CDT)