



EL COLEGIO

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

August 16th, 2023

- I. **Call to order**
 - A. The meeting was called to order at 5:08pm by Ann Zukoski (Vice Chair)
- II. **Welcome and Roll Call**
 - A. Board members present: Tony Aarts (Chair), Ann Zukoski (Vice Chair), Kent Fordyce (Treasurer), Tamara Ramirez-Torres (Teacher),
 - B. Board members absent: Dr. Elizabeth Sumida Huaman (Treasurer), and Madelaine Cahuas (Community),
 - 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. Ms Tamara makes a motion to approve the agenda for August 16, 2023. Kent seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes**
 - A. Kent moves to approve the minutes from the June 21st, 2023, board meeting. Ms Tamara seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.
- V. **Finance Committee**
 - A. July Financial Statement
 1. Kevin shares that the audit is in progress, and UFARS updates. As that process is completed, that will update some of these values as we go. Still progress with FY23 in the auditing process. In July, it's typical to see things a little bit off, because certain July expenses are actually for FY23. Some areas were over budget and mostly was negated by coming in under budget in other areas. Some expenditure increases were unavoidable, such as transportation. Unrestricted fund balance is still a preliminary number at this time.
 - a) On the income statement on page 6, there's a new column for anticipated receivables due to the school in FY24, which shows how much the school would receive if MDE disbursed the funds evenly without holdback.
 - b) \$12k for ECF received in July. The Finance Committee made note that the funds should be reflected in the FY23 financials, which has now occurred yet is not currently reflected in the July statement, it will however be reflected in next month's statement.
 - c) Additional lease payment was made in error, Raza Development Fund will credit that back and that will be reflected in next month's statement.

2. Kent made a motion to accept the July 2023 Financial Statement. Tamara seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

VI. Executive Director Update

- A. Ms Katie shares there were a lot of exciting updates!
- B. Summer School & Lideres Program
 1. Summer school had 26 students completed.
 2. Lideres Inc program via UnidosUS, the student participants worked really hard over the summer. They had to identify a problem in the community and come up with a solution for it, and then present the solution. EC's group identified health care access for undocumented communities, as well as public transportation access. The group presented in Chicago at the UnidosUS national conference along with three other schools. It was a beautiful experience.
- C. XITO Institute, Tucson & Nogales Trip
 1. Ms Katie, Mr Landon, and Mr Steve attended the XITO Institute in Arizona along with a team from ACC. They visited a school on the border in Nogales for refugees and families waiting to hear if they can come into the United States. The kids were amazing and the energy was beautiful!
 2. Mr Landon shares how grateful he was to have the opportunity to participate in the trip. The following day, Ashanti Branch facilitated a retreat for the staff. Then the main portion of the trip was the XITO Institute, which was celebrating its 10th anniversary of its founding, which started after Arizona banned Mexican-American Studies being taught in public schools. Dr Curtis Acosta presented on In Lak'ech Pedagogy. There are tentative plans to bring XITO to Minnesota later in the fall this year.
- D. Hiring Update
 1. 2 science teachers! An EP from last year is now a Tier 1 teacher. A new EP started this year as well. We also have a joint EL Coordinator position with ACC per the consortium agreement we have. We are still looking for a school counselor, an academic coach or dean, and another EL teacher.
 2. Mr Landon shares that Ms Katie single-handedly created the schedules this year, and we really need a school counselor.
- E. PD Update
 1. Ms Katie shares that she went to the MSBA training last week and has up-to-date information to share for compliance.
 2. Ms Katie, Ms Tamara, and Mr Mike attended the Educator Academy to Understand Native Minnesota, which was a super competitive training to get into to attend. It was a really powerful workshop and they gifted the attendees with books!
 3. Ms Katie and Mr Landon went to the UMN LEAD Conference this summer as well.
- F. Enrollment
 1. Currently at 97 students, with some fluctuations.
- G. Fundraising Committee Update
 1. Ms Katie shares that the Escalara grant was submitted for SY24.

2. Padres Comprometidos opened at UnidosUS, which is a parent curriculum program coinciding with Escalera.
3. The BARR Grant is also open right now, which is a program for a strengths-based school model. They only work with 18 schools each cohort.
4. We were approved with 21st Century CLC funding for afterschool and summer school programming. Ms Katie will meet with CDF tomorrow for more details and planning.

VII. Governance Committee

A. Employee/Staff Handbook 2023-2024, Student/Family Handbook 2023-2024

1. Tamara moves to approve the handbooks. Kent seconds the motion. The motion carries unanimously.

VIII. Academic Committee

A. Ms Katie shares that the committee discussed the consortium agreement with ACC.

IX. ACC/EC Partnership Committee

A. Ms Katie, Kent, and Tony gave an update on the committee. The committee will meet twice a month with the goal of creating a resolution to present to each board at the December board meetings.

X. Announcements

- A. August 16, 2023 Staff Return
- B. August 28th, 2023 First Day of School

XI. Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, September 20th, 2023 at 5:00 PM

XII. Public Comment

XIII. Meeting Adjourned at 6:37pm.

Board Secretary *Elizabeth Sumida Huaman* Elizabeth Sumida Huaman (Nov 29, 2023 11:54 CST) Date: Nov 29, 2023








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Final Audit Report

2023-11-29

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