



EL COLEGIO

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

October 25th, 2023

- I. **Call to order**
 - A. The meeting was called to order at 5:08pm by Tony Aarts (Chair)
- II. **Welcome and Roll Call**
 - A. Board members present: Tony Aarts (Chair), Kent Fordyce (Treasurer), Tamara Ramirez-Torres (Teacher), and Madelaine Cahuas (Community),
 - B. Board members absent: Ann Zukoski (Vice Chair), Dr. Elizabeth Sumida Huaman (Community)
 - C. Staff and guests in attendance: Katie Aviña (Ex-Officio), Landon Nelson (Dean of Operations), Raquel Arismendez (Project Manager), Kevin Fitton (DFL),
- III. **Approval of Agenda**
 - A. Madeline moved to approve the agenda for the October 25, 2023 board meeting. Tamara seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes**
 - A. Madeline moves to approve the minutes from the September 20, 2023 board meeting. Kent seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.
- V. **Finance Committee**
 - A. September Financial Statement
 1. Kevin shares that some numbers may shift until the audit process is complete. Fieldwork has started and MMKR has begun their work. The business filings with the state are complete. Draws on SPED and Title funds might be a bit slow this year as there is a new system at MDE with navigating those draws: moving away from SERVS and transitioning to MEGS. Budget revision work will begin once the audit work is complete. Mockup budgets were requested and that is in progress as well.
 2. Fund 01 shows negative, which is because the draws for federal funds have not occurred as of September 30. With cashflow projection we're still expecting a fairly flat year overall.
 3. Looking at prior month's financials, the difference between fixed assets is due to depreciation and disposals. There was a bit of a catch-up that needed to happen with that.
 4. The audit upload is due to MDE on November 30, and MDE can respond from there.
 5. Kent states that the revenues on the financial statement is understated due to the school accruing the funds yet not receiving all of said funds upon accrual. For

example, the school has accrued three months of Lease Aid revenue, yet has not received those funds as of September 30. Kevin adds that MDE tends to disburse funds unevenly throughout the fiscal year.

6. Tamara moves to accept the September 2023 Financial Statement. Madeline seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

VI. Executive Director Update

A. Ms Katie shares:

1. Enrollment is currently at 99 students, with some fluctuations.
2. Attendance is 86.24% so far this school year.

B. Fundraising Committee Update

1. Grants - shoutout to Mr Landon and Ms Alexis: we have a recycling grant through Hennepin County to buy the appropriate bins! There will also be some savings in the waste collection area.
2. Mr Landon shares how the school will be performing the grant activities.
3. Hennepin County is requesting a resolution from the board for authorization to receive the funds.
4. Kent moves to approve the grant agreement with Hennepin County to receive funding for the El Colegio Charter School Recycling Project. Ms Tamara seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

C. Dia de los Muertos is November 1, in collaboration with Kalpulli Ketzal and Academia Cesar Chavez!

1. Shoutout to La Tortilla Catering for being an amazing community partner!

D. Ms Katie shares that in SY23, we exceeded expectations in our annual growth goal for math. Ms Katie wanted to take a moment to celebrate!

E. The Annual Meeting is November 9 this year, which will also include Loteria and great food!

F. School Spirit Week was the last week of September, and students had a lot of fun with a basketball tournament and taking initiative to start the year out in a positive way.

G. Ms Katie went to visit Amethod School in San Francisco, California. The schools were pushed out of different neighborhoods due to gentrification, but the families followed the schools into the Bay Area. It was nice to go and visit and see gold ribbon and blue ribbon schools.

H. Ms Katie attended the New School Venture Fund Annual Summit in California. Once the grant process opens for some different opportunities, Ms Katie will share more information.

I. Ms Katie and Mr Richard went to the LatinoLEAD LiderCon event, which was an exciting opportunity for leadership development amongst younger staff.

J. Padres Comprometidos will be beginning in Quarter 2! Ms Ale will be facilitating those sessions on Friday evenings.

VII. Academic Committee

- A. Tony and Ms Katie share that the committee met and discussed the authorizer renewal process and the contract goals.

VIII. ACC/EC Partnership Committee

- A. Tony shares that the committee checked in about the work being done and the various pieces are coming together. There were follow-ups on how to approach the merger compliance piece. The committee discussed the shared vision and communicating with stakeholders and community partners.
- B. Ms Katie shared that there will be a joint board retreat between El Colegio and Academia Cesar Chavez in December.
- C. Kent shares that the partnership is the first step in a much bigger vision.
- D. The board discusses hosting a listening session at an upcoming staff meeting, and communication with families.

IX. Announcements

X. Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at 5:00 PM

XI. Public Comment

- A. No public comment submitted.

XII. Meeting Adjourned at 6:49pm.

Board Secretary *Dr. Elizabeth Sumida Huaman* Date: 01/09/202
[Dr. Elizabeth Sumida Huaman \(Jan 9, 2024 21:28 CST\)](#)