



**\*These meeting minutes were amended on January 7, 2021**

## **Minnesota Excellence in Learning Academy October 24, 2019 Board Meeting**

1. Record Attendance and Guests:
  - Board Members: Joe Scherer, Julie Eduputa, Emily Johnson, David Sundstrom (Phone) Tomika Jackson-Davis, Paula Barros, Malai Turnbull
  - Guests: Antonio Zambrano, Danielle Fields, Mick Dudero(CLA) Matt Mayer from BerganKDV
2. Call the Meeting to Order: Joe called the meeting to order @ 5:02 pm
3. Approval of the Agenda:
  - David moved. Emily seconded. Unanimously accepted.
4. Public Forum:
  - None
5. Operations report
  - Financial report
    - Audit Results- Matt Mayer
      - Holdback during the year resulted in a few late payments to vendors but they have been paid
      - Financial Analysis
      - School Board made appropriate budget decisions to benefit the budget
      - Trying to increase a few percentage points for a positive fund balance goal of 10%. Average for Charters in MN is 25%
      - Motion to accept the Audited Financial Statement of FY 2019 David moved. Tomika seconded. Unanimously accepted.
6. Motion to amend the agenda of Approving the September financial statement to table until next meeting David motioned. Paula seconded. Unanimously accepted.
  - HR Updates
    - New Dean of Students
      - Trevor Abel
  - Director of Operations Report
    - NA
  - Jodi Markworth Memorial Fund

- Free little library- To put outside of our school
- Make a few libraries with staff assistance
- Use Jodi's fund to purchase books for guided reading for upper grades- Stamp inside each book with Jody's memorial
  - Danielle reach out to vendors for prices on books and purchase
  - Antonio to get stamp

#### 7. Distinctive Schools Update

- Network updates
  - Everything is going smoothly
  - New growth in MI

#### 8. Board of Directors Update

- Waiting for online courses for school board training from Nichole.

#### 9. MELA Executive Director

- Academic Updates
  - Focus is Literacy
  - Groves Academy for Phonemic awareness
  - Data meetings bi-monthly with teachers
  - Gwen Anderson- Regional Center for Excellence-
  - Literacy goals in each classroom- skills based
  - Whole staff is reading a book at night
- New partnerships
  - MN Opera- Person coming to 2nd grade to assist with opera in writing
  - U of M Orchestra- 1-6th grade free concert with MN Orchestra and free busses
  - TrueStone- Paula's husband
  - Jr. Achievement- field trip for 4-6th graders
  - U of M Biological Sciences- InSciEd out training- expanding partnership- STEAM Day for 1-2 grade- Writing a science curriculum with us-
- Strategic plan update
  - Revise mission and vision- table until next time- elicit feedback from students, family and staff.

#### 10. Board Governance/ Compliance Requirements

- Required board training and documentation for new members
  - Nichole is looking for updates on trainings

11. Adjourned at 6:03 pm by Joe. Next meeting will be in December 12, 2019

12. Motion to move into a closed session. David moved. Tomika seconded. Unanimously accepted. Moved into closed session **to discuss employee resignation**- recorded.