



# MINNESOTA EXCELLENCE IN LEARNING ACADEMY

## Minnesota Excellence in Learning Academy February 11, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes Amended April 15, 2021

### 1. Record Attendance and Guests:

- a. Board Members: Joseph Scherer, Julie Eduputa, Emily Johnson, Tomika Jackson-Davis, Paula Barros, Malai Turnbull
- b. Guests: Antonio Zambrano, Danielle Fields, Nichole Schmidt, Paul Kinsley(IQS)

### 2. Call the Meeting to Order:

- a. Joseph Scherer called the meeting to order at 5: 02

### 3. Public Forum

- a. NA

### 4. Amendment of the Agenda:

- a. Add in approval of Minutes from special session on January 7, 2021. Add a closed session at the end of the meeting. **Maiai not David** moved. Emily seconded. Unanimously accepted.

### 5. Approval of the Agenda: **Maiai not David** moved. Emily seconded. Unanimously accepted.

### 6. Approval of the Prior Board Meeting minutes (December 10 , 2020) Julie moved. Tomika seconded. Unanimously accepted.

### 7. Approval of the Prior Board Meeting minutes (January 7 , 2021) Emily moved. Paula seconded. Unanimously accepted.

### 8. Operations Report

#### a. Financial Report

##### i. January financials

1. ADM is low but we have assumed that
2. Working off another budget based on lower ADM
3. State owes us \$304,000 and \$6,000 from last year
4. Motion to accept the December Checks FY 2020./ January Financial Packet FY 2021. Emily moved. Malai seconded. Unanimously accepted

### 9. Board of Directors Update

- a. David Sundstrom has resigned from the MELA School Board. **Motion to approve David Sundstrum's resignation from the school board. Emily**



Moved. Julie seconded. Unanimously accepted.

## **10. Executive Director Report**

- a. Executive Director Academic Update
  - i. Bridges math
  - ii. Instructional coach
  - iii. Reading growth
    - 1. Great growth 150-200% growth
      - a. Accolades to teachers and leadership
- b. COVID Attendance Guidance for Families
  - i. 50% wanted back at 2nd Trimester
  - ii. 67% want back in 3rd Trimester
    - 1. Some families are choosing when to attend DL
  - iii. COVID 19 Statement:
    - 1. The families/students of MELA have the option to opt into whichever learning model MDE and MDH deem acceptable for the duration of the trimester. Parents have the option to select a learning model that will be enforced for the duration of trimester. In conjunction with our Covid 19 plans.
    - 2. The school board agrees with the above statement.
- c. Review of Approved School Assessments
  - i. MELA uses alternative assessments to measure growth. MELA will work on a list of assessments to show to the board at a future meeting.
- d. Employee Recruitment Strategies
  - i. SPED teacher, Para, and a resident teacher are needed
  - ii. Recruitment bonus will be proposed at a later date
- e. Strategic Plan Working Doc
  - i. Suggested to change scholars to students
  - ii. Diverse learners- possible change wording
  - iii. P4-Specific Result #1- Push in model instead of pull out if at all possible
  - iv. P2-Specific Result #1-ENVoY is called Catalyst now. Now sure if that needs to be changed?
  - v. P6- Specific Result #3- Do we need to include phonics in this? Or is that included in reading?
  - vi. P8-Math should we mention Bridges?
  - vii. Under Vision- “will cultivate” To “Cultivates”



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- f. Health Standards
    - i. Think about health standards and sex education for next meeting
    - ii. Needs to be board approved, parent input, parents can opt out
  
  - g. Human Resources
    - i. Resignations:
      - 1. Marielle Talatala, SPED
      - 2. Andrea Baker, SPED
    - ii. Hires:
      - 1. Natalie Sandstrum, Resident Teacher
- 11. Board Governance / Compliance Requirements**
- a. Update the training matrix

**12. Meeting Adjourned** at 6:25 pm by Joseph Scherer. Next meeting will be Thursday April 9 at 5:00 in the school gym or Virtually due to Covid 19. We enter into an executive session to talk about personnel matters.