

Minnesota Early Learning Academy, Inc.
Minutes of Wednesday, July 6, 2015

Meeting of the Board of Directors

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Minnesota Early Learning Academy, Inc. (the **Board**) was held on Monday, July 6, 2015 from 9:14 to 9:45 a.m. (CST) at the Minneapolis Central Library, 300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55401.

Directors Present:

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| Dr. Joseph Scherer | CHAIRPERSON (phone) |
| Jackie Gaare | TREASURER |
| Deb deVries | VICE CHAIR (phone) |
| Donna Sweden | MEMBER (phone) |

Also Present:

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| Mary Stafford | President and COO, Distinctive Schools |
| Mariela Spejh | Director, Distinctive Schools |
| Dean Kephart | Minnesota Executive Director, Distinctive Schools |

I. Call to order

Board Chairperson Dr. Joseph Scherer called the meeting to order at 9:14 AM CST on July 6, 2015; a quorum of directors was present, and the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with business.

II. Approval of the agenda

Board Chairperson Dr. Joseph Scherer asked Board members to review the Agenda for accuracy and content and the Agenda was unanimously approved with no modifications.

III. Review and Approval of Previous Board Meeting Minutes.

Board Chairperson Dr. Joseph Scherer asked Board members to review Minutes of the Board's previous meeting and the previous Board meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

IV. Board Chair Report

Mary Stafford walked the board through the recommendation to have Joe Scherer identified as the official with the authority to authorized access by users to the MDE

secure website. Deb deVries moved with a second from Jackie Gaare that Joe be identified. It was a unanimous vote.

V. Finance

Board Member Jackie Gaare asked Mary Stafford to provide an update on the meeting that she had with Western Bank. Mary and Nicole had attended and were told that Western typically does not offer a line of credit to startups but they were impressed with the budget and documentation and will consider it. Jackie Gaare asked for approval to open an account with Western Bank if they offer a line of credit. Joe Scherer moved and Deb deVries seconded and it was a unanimous vote to approve.

VI. Recruitment and staffing

Ms. Stafford brought us up-to-date on recruitment efforts. We currently have 125 students and feel positive about meeting our 150 goal. All necessary documents have been signed and submitted to the state. The recruitment team will be returning to Minnesota to actively recruited at the Whiz Bang Days in Robbinsdate and the Duck Duck Days in New Hope. Our work at Tatter Days in Brooklyn Park produced 18 new families, so these efforts are effective.

Mary had a slate of new hires for board approval. They are; Daniella McGill, Latisha Eaddy, Kadija Osman and Maria Weyhrauch. Based on the resumes shared prior to the meeting, Joe Scherer inquired about Maria's graduation from college. Mary confirmed that she had graduated and will get an updated resume. Jackie Gaare move to hire all four, Deb deVries seconded and there was a unanimous vote to approve the entire slate. Mary indicated that all salaries are within the budget if not under budget. Professional development for the team will take place the first three weeks of August. Mary will provide the schedule at the next board meeting. Jackie Gaare suggested that the board plan something social for the school team and Mary will look into options for the next meeting. The core team will attend NWEA in Chicago this week as part of professional development as well.

Mary indicated that all furniture and technology has been ordered and will be in place for school start. She also indicated that regular communication to the families has

started with Whitney crafting a regular newsletter as well as monthly family meetings at the school.

VII. New Business

Dr. Scherer asked whether there was any new business that the Board should be considering at this meeting. He indicated that the 125 recruited students was a tremendous feat and acknowledged the work of the Chicago team. He reminded the board about October 9 at 9:00 a.m. and it should be added to everyone's calendar as the official opening for the school. He also added that the NWEA Fusion meeting in Chicago should be very good for the team.

Scherer suggested that the next board meeting be during the professional development and we might consider an evening meeting. Mary Stafford will look over the schedule and make a recommendation that would include a social time with the staff.

It was moved and seconded that the Board adjourn. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

XIX. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on Wednesday July 6, 2015 at 9:45 a.m. (CST).

Respectfully submitted,

Designated Recording Secretary

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that I served as the duly designated temporary recording secretary for the Minnesota Early Learning Academy Inc., non-profit Minnesota corporation, and that the foregoing Minutes reflect the events of the July 6, 2015 Board of Directors meeting of Minnesota Early Learning Academy Inc.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereto set my hand this 6th day of July, 2015.

Temporary Recording Secretary