



Board Meeting notes

Escuela Éxitos

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

Meeting Date: November 21, 2022

Meeting Time: 4:30 p.m.

Meeting Location: 4741 Zealand Ave. N – New Hope

<https://meet.google.com/rqu-zuub-sem?hs=122&authuser=1>

Board Members Present: Sam, Angie, Nate, Andrea and Ingris

Board Members Absent:

School Officials Present: Luis

Others Present: Bridget Merrill-Myhre (Bergan), Tu Nguyen (NEO)

1. Call to Order Sam: 4:40?

2. Approve Agenda Sam – Board Action

motioned by Angie, seconded by Ingris. Motion carried

3. Approve Previous Meeting Minutes Sam – Board Action

Motion to approve the previous meetings notes by Angie, seconded by Ingris. Motion carried

4. Financial Update Bridgette – Bergan

- September and October notes included, however Bridget shared about October, November's budget will be shared at the next meeting.

- As of the end of the month 33% of the year is complete, cash ~250k, revised working budget will be adjusted to the 10% MDE withholds and recalculates
- Revenues at 23% and expenses 16% and will be fine-tuned with a working budget line next month
- Graph shows year to date comparisons
- Lease aid has been accepted however revenue has not yet processed- we are in good shape there
- Still working through the CSP grant and we will receive 100% reimbursement
- Food service- no revenue yet, however Sr. Luis is working with MDE, more to follow in November budget
- Luis question: email regarding MDE funds for GE budget reimbursements for the month of September and half the meals from October. \$14,480 is an expected payment from MDE which when received can be added to the current year according to Bridget. Luis will forward the email so we Bridget can include it with the audit. Luis-board will need to approve the transfer. Luis would like the money to be in the general fund rather than in the food fund. Bridget- will discuss with auditors ASAP (tomorrow) to book a receivable for 2022 to move the amount of the loss so the general fund would not have to cover. Luis- MDE has had the reimbursement request for more than 30 days. (breakfast, lunch and snacks so a \$\$ calculation can be calculated for an ASAP process)
- Action step: Luis send the calculation to Bridget so she can work with the auditors tomorrow if possible
- Bridget- recommends approving the transfer just in case
- Other report includes the revenue and expenditures, and final report was journal which does not have any translations listed

5. Financial Company Luis - Update

- Luis attached the working budget that Bridget and Luis updated working on forecasting in the next four years with a more realistic growth- slower to be more conservative and to account for unexpected changes. With this budget requiring us to pay, the secondary budget shows bigger negatives with lease differences.
- Luis sees a light at the end of the tunnel- at last meeting the 165k deficit, Luis worked with staff in understanding the deficit and staff worked to recruit a few more students.
- 141 students as of today- with 138 students we would end the year with a negative 67K.
- Our goal is to enroll up to 150 by the end of the year or in January. Luis thinks by Wednesday two more may enroll. Luis will be picking up and dropping off the student until bussing is available and has provided transportation for mom as well. Drastic measures!
- With two weapons on campus situations in the RPS along with communication conflicts, more families are interested in Exitos as a change and alternative.
- See the projections for more specifics regarding enrollment and revenue.
- Luis will continue to administer funds with a great attention to stewardship and frugally. He is confident we can balance the budget again.
- Angie question: does this include an eighth grade next year? Luis- yes and a 2 first grades and 2 kindergartens next year.
- Motion to approve a transfer of general funds to cover the food services deficit of \$14, 480.01 by Angie, Second by Andrea. Motion carried.
- There may be a need to work with a new financial provider. Luis wants the board to be aware of a possible change.
- Sam has had a good relationship with Designs for Learning and can provide information as needed.

6. UPDATES: Enrollment, Building, Board Training, Audit, Lease, Budget/Audit, New Hires Luis - Update

- Enrollment increase 132-141 currently, Luis is confident we can hit the goal of 150
- 2 weeks ago we had flooding in the bathroom but because we invested with a plumbing company they would reclean the main. They have come out 2 times and have been able to repair pipelines. The main lines that lead outside are corroded and depending on use and what is flushed we could go a year without problems or even as soon as 6 weeks. They recommend a descaling of the pipes. Luis is working on pricing.
- Still working on trying to get one of the side doors repaired.
- Playground 2nd phase installed and the mulch was delivered. Luis learned to drive a bobcat and hauled the wood chips! Kids love it and are very happy!
- Board training: Andrea and Ingris please let Sam know via email to update
- Audit: one document remaining and Luis will send over his signed document. Everything else has been submitted. November 30th is the deadline for the recognition of audit submission.
- Lease aid is approved, however the amount is different than forecasted. Adjustments have been made.
- New hires: still looking for 1 special ed assistant and have an application. It is a position that was added as an IEP was finalized.
- We just enrolled a student who is setting 3 special needs, which will require hiring an additional special ed teacher who may not need to be special ed- licensed. Luis believes that the student can be served at Exitos.

7. New Business Sam

- Luis: nominated and selected for 2022 best of New Hope awards in the category of schools! HUGE! He received the email over the weekend and does not know who nominated us, however it is called the New Hope Award Program. Provided a press release. Action item: post in other newspapers as PR as well.
- We now qualify for Give to the Max day and can campaign for this next year as potential revenue. We are a 501c3 and it will be a taxable donation eligible for a match. It happens again next March.

Action item Andrea in January- sent to large companies and Latino Clubs like CLUES and SHEP

- We can also start our own gofundme campaigns.

8. Public Comments- Limit to 3 minutes per person Sam

Tu Nguyen: thank you for your leadership, governance and hard work. Thank you Luis, you are an amazing hero who wears too many hats! Luis, we are so appreciative for all you do! Wonderful to hear about the amazing things happening! One negative can be a positive for another community. Reminders: if there are any board resignations or new members, please update the website. Ingris is a board member but needs to be added to the website. Nate is willing to stay on the board through the end of this year, however nominations will take place at the end of this year. MDE requirement: make sure the calendar and assessment calendar has the rationale for the assessment and whether it is local or state.

Luis: I value having board members who are educators and administrators who can help envision and hold Luis accountable to create the school we are creating. This also means our dedicated group of teachers have many demands on their plates. Luis' hope is that at the end of the year it would be wonderful if Nate can remain, if he needs to resign we would hate to see him go however honor his commitments as an educator. Call text or email if any support is needed.

Action item:

- Ingris' bio added to the website
- Assessment calendar has the rationale for the assessment and whether it is local or state. See email from Tu. Luis has updated and has sent. Each assessment is linked. Tu will follow up with Luis.

9. Close of Meeting Nate:

Ingris motions to adjourn the meeting and Angie seconds. Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned at 5:26 pm.