

Meeting Minutes
Meeting of the Board of Directors – Envision Education
Thursday, September 9, 2021

The California Governor's Executive Order Number N-29-20 has suspended some provisions in the Brown Act and allows meetings during the COVID-19 pandemic to occur entirely telephonically.

I. Preliminary

1. Call to Order

- Board Chair Mark Daoust called the meeting to order at 4:01pm.

2. Roll Call

- Attendees: Mark Daoust, Kaleb Lawson, Akil Hollis, Susan Portugal, Gia Truong, Shruti Sehra, Keysha Bailey, Tara Thomas, Rhonnel Sotelo, Michelle Seijas (joined at 4:06pm), Larry Hancock (joined briefly at 4:30p)
- Not present: Bob Lenz, Rob Vassel
- Others Present: Sele Nadel-Hayes, Justin Wells, Javier Cabra Walteros, Jeff Sloan, Gay Hoagland, and Kathi Burke

3. Adopt the Agenda

- Motion: Rhonnel Sotelo
- Second: Shruti Sehra
- Approved by voice vote: 9 Yes 0 No

II. Comments – Chair & CEO:

- Board Chair Mark Daoust thanked the senior leadership team and staff for all they are doing to support the opening of schools.
- CEO Gia Truong shared that it's been a challenging start of the school year with teacher vacancies and COVID contact tracing at some of the sites, but she continues to be inspired by how the community is showing up for students and each other.

III. Public Comments and Announcements:

- There were no public comments.

IV. Consent Agenda

- Ratification of EE Special Board Meeting Minutes: June 29, 2021
 - Approval of Board Resolution and FY2021 Education Protection Account (EPA) Expenditures
 - Approval of Board Resolution concerning FY2021 Maintenance of Effort Calculation
 - Confirmation of receipt of Report to the Envision Education Board of Directors Regarding Fingerprinting and Background Clearance Compliance 2021-22
 - Approval of Envision Education's Updated Independent Study Board Policy
 - Approval of Envision Education's Updated Attendance Policy
- Motion: Tara Thomas
- Second: Mark Daoust

- Approved by voice vote: 10 Yes 0 No

V. Governance Update

- Mark Daoust extended appreciation to Keysha Bailey for her leadership on the Executive Committee.
- Susan Portugal shared profiles of two candidates for Board service - Miyesha Perry and Jean Driscoll. She shared that both candidates will be engaged in the regular process of Board member selection and invited Board members to look forward to learning more about the candidates.
- Gia Truong shared brief bios about the two candidates and their previous relationships with Envision, as well as the assets they would bring to the board if selected. Miyesha Perry is a parent of two Envision students and Jean Driscoll is the founder and former board chair of Vincent Academy.

VI. Action Items

- Approval of Tara Thomas, Kaleb Lawson, and Rob Vassel as Audit Committee members.
 - Motion: Rhonnel Sotelo
 - Second: Shruti Sehra
 - Approved by voice vote: Yes 8 No 0 Abstain 2

VII. Deep Dive: Envision's Talent Goal and the Board's Role

- Gia Truong shared the network wide goals and the focus of the deep dive is on the goal of teacher retention.
- Shruti Sehra reviewed the three modes of governance: fiduciary, strategic, and generative.
- The board worked in small breakout groups to evaluate how they spend most of their time and how they should spend more of their time based on the three modes of governance.
- The board then discussed fiduciary, strategic and generative questions they can use in support of the teacher retention goal.

VIII. Schools Update

- Chief Academic Officer Javier Cabra Walteros asked the board if they are seeing staffing challenges in other industries outside of education.
- Board members confirmed that this is the great "resignation" period.
- Javier Cabra Walteros then shared the innovative strategies to manage vacancies including working collaboratively with teachers, leaders, and support office staff to redesign master schedules.

IX. Envision Learning Partners Update

- Executive Director Justin Wells added some detail and context for the "Strategic Questions of the Fall," as delineated in the Board Packet.
 - An exciting development in the assessment movement is the emergence of AERDF (Advanced Education Research & Development Fund), backed by Gates

and New Schools. Among its initiatives is Assessment for Good, which is accepting proposals for research projects in innovative assessment. ELP has applied for a grant from this funder, proposing a project that studies 8th grade defenses at Envision middle schools and their effect on social-emotional learning.

- Shruti recommended that Gia tap her connections to New Schools to put in a good word for ELP's proposal.
- Questions from the Board, and answers from Justin Wells:
 - What is the background of ELP's new VP of Program, Alcine Mumby?
 - Alcine was the founding principal of Envision Academy. Also a leader in a number of progressive ed organizations on the East Coast. Visionary equity leader as a 3-year member of ELP's team.
 - What is the ELP market feeling like during these uncertain times?
 - Plenty of interest in performance assessment and plenty of district money for professional development. The constraint is bandwidth for receiving ELP service while school systems are under such stress this fall. ELP is still closing deals with districts, and has a number of new district partners this year.
 - What are ELP team members up to while client service has slowed?
 - Delivering virtual coaching to leaders, developing online workshops that we will be marketing and delivering to the general public in the fall and beyond, planning for our teammate transitions.

X. Finance Update

- Chief Operating Officer Sele Nadel-Hayes shared headlines from the FY2021 end of year financial statements.
 - Revenues exceeded expenses for Q4 and the year, mostly due to additional one-time state and federal revenue for COVID-19 relief.
 - Effectively managed cash to mitigate impacts of state deferrals.
 - Our unaudited income statement shows a projected surplus of \$2.9M, which allows us to feed our reserves and manage future financial uncertainties.
 - We are deferring philanthropic revenue that will support our teacher residency, ELP, and general operating expenses in FY2022.
 - We are deferring some unspent federal COVID-19 relief revenues to support our school reopening and support for students and staff to learn and work safely in-person through FY2024.
- Sele Nadel-Hayes asked the board for any questions related to Envision's FY2021 financial statements.
- Susan Portugal asked for clarification about meals, entertainment and travel costs.

XI. Updated Local Control Accountability Plans

- Approval to open the public hearing for the updated LCAPs:
 1. Motion: Gia Truong
 2. Second: Shruti Sehra

3. Approved by voice vote: Yes 10 No 0

- Public Hearing for review of and feedback on the Updated 2021-2024 Local Control Accountability Plans (LCAPs) for Envision Academy of Arts & Technology; Impact Academy of Arts & Technology; and City Arts & Technology High School

XII. Closed Session: Personnel (G.C. 54957)

- The board moved into closed session to discuss the CEO's evaluation at 6:20pm

XIII. Return back from Closed Session:

- Board Chair Mark Daoust reported that there is nothing to report.

XIV. Adjournment:

- Meeting was adjourned at 7:05pm.