Meeting Minutes
Meeting of the Board of Directors – Envision Education
Thursday, April 8, 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 4:06pm noting that we had technical difficulties getting on zoom and therefore board members were directed to use another link. CEO Gia Truong informed the board that we posted the new link on our website, so the public would have access. There is also a phone number on the board agenda that the public can call if they need assistance.

2. Roll Call
   ● Attendees: Mark Daoust, Kaleb Lawson, Susan Portugal, Rhonnel Sotelo, Tara Thomas, Gia Truong, Kathi Burke, Shruti Sehra, Keysha Bailey, Rob Vassel, Michelle Seijas (joined at 4:14pm)
   ● Not present: Bob Lenz, Larry Hancock, Akil Hollis
   ● Others Present: Sarah Chostner, Sele Nadel-Hayes, Justin Wells, Javier Cabra Walteros, Jeff Sloan

3. Adopt the Agenda
   ● Motion: Shruti Sehra
   ● Second: Kathi Burke
   ● Approved by voice vote: 10 Yes 0 No

II. Comments – Chair & CEO:
   ● Board chair Mark Daoust started by recognizing students, in particular Derek Talbott and Shawn Chapman-Robinson who spoke at the College Success Celebration, and Juan Lopez who spoke at the December College Success Panel and was recently admitted into the University of Pennsylvania. Mark encouraged the Board to continue to keep students at the center.
   ● CEO Gia Truong reminded the Board that all board members and Senior Leadership Team members must complete and submit Form 700 and any applicable disclosures for January 1st through December 31, 2020. The purpose of the Form 700 is to provide transparency and accountability of elected and appointed officials and employees responsible for making decisions with public funds. Directions:
     ○ Review Section 4 - Schedule Summary
       ■ a. If you have something to disclose, complete the required schedule.
       ■ b. If you have nothing to disclose, check “None” box in section 4
     ○ Sign and date in section 5 (page 6 of the packet) - Verification
     ○ Return completed Form 700 and any disclosure schedules to Sele by April 30th. A digital signature if sufficient.

III. Public Comments and Announcements:
   ● There were no public comments.

IV. Consent Agenda
   ● Ratification of Envision Education Board Meeting Minutes: February 4, 2021
   ● Ratification of Charter SELPA Local Plan Section B & Participation Agreement
   ● Ratification of E-rate Contracts for Discounted Internet Services and Networking Hardware for All Envision Schools
Ratification of Grant Agreement for Charter School Facilities Incentive Grant Award for Envision Academy Middle Grades and City Arts & Tech High School

Motion: Rhonnel Sotelo
Second: Kathi Burke
Approved by voice vote: 11 Yes 0 No

V. Schools Update

- CAO Javier Cabra Walteros shared his excitement to open for hybrid in-person learning in one grade level pilot at each school on April 26, 2021. He shared details on which grade level will open at each school and the details of the instructional model. He shared that it will be voluntary for both teachers and students. The Board asked questions about the level of student and teacher interest, the quality of education that we are delivering in Distance, and the implications of the counties opening up more. Javier and the Board discussed how we will cull the best of in-person and distance learning for Fall 2021 and how we will set teachers up for success with the instructional model in Fall 2021. Javier shared opportunities from our Distance Learning model that could be leveraged for future In-Person learning, including our Tiered Support System, our modular structure, the use of technology, techniques to make student thinking public, etc.

VI. Other Updates

- Envision Learning Partners
  - Executive Director Justin Wells shared the opportunities ELP is facing in FY22 for its budget, program and brand coming out of COVID
  - Justin and the Board discussed how COVID has impacted the public discussion and perspective on assessment, and the opportunity created for performance assessment

- Finance Update
  - Chief Operating Officer Sele Nadel-Hayes updated the Board about our financial road ahead. Next year’s projections do not anticipate cuts. FY22 headline is that we are anticipating adopting a budget with a healthy surplus in June. FY21 headline is that there will likely be a healthy surplus, but a large portion of it will be restricted funds that will be rolled over for expenses in FY22. Our cash balance is better than expected because the state didn’t defer as much as expected.
  - Sele and the Board discussed how much federal and state money is expected for COVID relief, and our progress towards building our reserves towards our policy.

- Community Engagement with City Arts and Tech and Leadership High School
  - CEO Gia Truong shared that we are exploring joining forces with Leadership High School in San Francisco. She shared the principles that are guiding our community engagement, the timeline, and an update on the perspectives and questions that have come up from the communities. She shared the generally broad support from the community.

- Reimagining Parent Engagement
  - CEO Gia Truong shared that we are really proud of how we’ve engaged parents, especially in the academic domain. At the same time, we know we can be in more authentic partnership around decision-making with parents - giving parents a stronger voice in what their students’ educational experience looks like. So we formed a Design Team of parents and staff to develop a Reimagined Parent Engagement plan over the course of four working sessions this spring, aligned to our anti-racist stance and to get even better student outcomes in partnership with parents. We are excited to see what the Design Team of parents and staff across our schools come up with. It will also inform our board about how to elevate parent voice at the board level.

- Governance
  - Susan Portugal shared that we will be circulating the Board and CEO evaluations in May. She also shared an update on Board recruitment and timelines.
  - Susan shared the challenge of identifying future Executive Committee members, and Rhonnel Sotelo shared a plan to build a bench of Board members to take on leadership roles.

- Development
  - Chief People Officer Sarah Chostner shared successes and reflections from our College Success Campaign, highlighting ways that the Board stepped up to garner resources for our students and
programs. Sarah and the Board reflected on ways to leverage the best of this year’s virtual campaign for future years. Gia shared her perspective on how fundraising helps address inequities built into our society.

VII. Closed Session: Conference with Real Property Negotiators (G. C. 54956.8.)

VIII. Report Out from Closed Session
- Board Chair Mark Daoust shared that there’s nothing to report from Closed Session.

IX. Adjournment
- Meeting was adjourned at 6:39pm.