

The Einstein Charter Group, Inc.
4801 Maid Marion Drive
New Orleans, LA 70128

Minutes

Board Meeting and Retreat November 4, 2017

Board Members Present: J. Chris Bowman, Sarah Dawkins, Lauren Narcisse, Clarice Kirkland, Durrell Laurent, and Angela Vance

Staff Present: Martha McKnight, Daniel Davis, Doug Guidry, Phong Tran, Anna Caminita

Staff Excused: Shawn Toranto

Board and staff members ate breakfast and shared their personal bios and stories about how they became involved with Einstein. The meeting was formally called to order at 9:40. Bowen asked for a motion to accept the November minutes as submitted. Kirkland made the motion. Narcisse seconded and the minutes were unanimously approved.

McKnight presented information on fund raising norms in the US and EGI's revenue sources. She discussed board and staff roles in development and commented on particular board member skills as revealed in their bios.

Tran reported on the state of Einstein Schools, noting that the School Performance Scores would be announced the week of November 6th. He discussed the continuing changes around the way the state awards points to schools, including issues around the VAM calculation. EGI is also expecting the official student count and stats from LDOE in November and will be able to confirm our student retention rates at that time.. Tran announced that Ms. Caminita is now acting Principal of the middle school. The search for a replacement is underway and interviews will be thorough and multifaceted. Bowen asked if the board might see the resumes of the finalists when that point is reached. Tran also reported that EGI is working to partner with Special Olympics in support of our SPED students, whose numbers are increasing. Tran noted that we continue to serve over half of the ELL population in OPSB schools. He also explained his role in EGI and that of his team. Finally Tran reported that EGI had withdrawn from both Shreveport and Las Vegas despite our strong applications because of the political climates. We continue to negotiate with the Walton Foundation in Arkansas around resources for the Garland School site.

Caminita reported in her capacity as CAO regarding student trends at each EGI school. Kim Williams in supporting her in this role since Caminita is also the acting Middle School Principal.

Caminita shared the follow November 1 data in context:

LEAP 360

ELA Mastery	VDLE	STATE	
	35%	37%	Read Lit.
	35%	35%	Read/Int. Text
	40%	45%	Vocabulary
ELA Master	SF	STATE	
	37%	37%	Read Lit.
	35%	35%	Read/Int. Text
	41%	45%	Vocabulary
Math Mastery	VDLE	STATE	
	37%	41%	Operations
	45%	60%	Number relations
	40%	50%	Fractions
Math Mastery	SF	STATE	
	37%	41%	Operations
	45%	60%	Number relations
	39%	45%	Fractions

Achieve3000

Schools	Activities	Comp. Average	% Scores 75%+
ECM	2.68	70%	74.6
SF	4.59	62.1	63.3

VDLE	2.3	83.6	89.7
HS	1.6	68.8	66.7

Lexia

VDLE	5%-22%	Above grade level
SF	0-12%	Above grade level
ECM usage	6th. grade	42%
	7th. grade	36%
	8th. grade	89%
ECH usage	9th. grade	33%
	10th. grade	52%

Teachers meet weekly to strategize around these results. The high school is piloting LEAP2025.

Davis reported on Career and Technical Education pathways being developed in EHS and the federal grant in support of Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) for our students. EHS is currently offering Skilled Crafts/Engineering, Digital/Creative Tech, and Culinary Arts. They plan to add Health Sciences next year. Each pathway includes awareness, exploration, training, a practicum, and career/post secondary education. These are funded by YouthForce and Project Lead the Way. Mr. Harris is working to establish partnerships with Nunez, Delgado, New Orleans East Hospital, and others for dual enrollment and additional internships. The Lagasse Foundation will be visiting in late November/Early December.

PBIS is now part of the larger MTSS system of prevention, early intervention, and tiered support designed to ensure that all students, including both struggling and advanced learners, are achieving at high academic and behavioral standards. Students receive research based interventions in a multi-tiered system. Federal grant funds are supporting social workers, interns, PBIS rewards, teacher training, and a study of the system at EGI.

Guidry submitted a summary report on EGI's finances, noting that the OPSB had finally paid the large amount of funding we have been expecting. Bowen noted that he found the 2 page

summary much more useful than the longer report and requested that Guidry provide that for board meetings in the future.

While the group ate lunch, McKnight asked them to name the 5 most impressive things they had gleaned from the staff's reports in preparation for devising their individual elevator speeches. Each board member shared his or her ideas. Cultural diversity and experienced leadership were mentioned frequently. McKnight also asked that each board member make a personal gift to Einstein in support of our students. To become more effective, the board needs to expand by at least 3 people who can bring new perspectives (a parent) and resources to the team. She challenged members to think about who and what else would be need to pursue different types of income? McKnight will follow up with board members individually.

There being no further business, Kirkland made a motion to adjourn. Laurent seconded and the board voted unanimously to adjourn.