

## In Attendance

BOARD MEMBERS		
NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT
Ann B. Barnet	X	
Michael D. Barnet	X	
Shawn Chakrabarti	X	
Jacqueline Lopez Ponce		X
Maria Mejia		X
Sarah Friedman		X
Marcia Harrington	X	
Natalia Isaza Brando		X
Oralia Puente		X
Elaine Weiss	X	
Gail Arnall	X	

**Others Present:** Haley Wiggins, Christine Montgomery, Marianella Morales, Fernando Saldana, Tom Selishev, Yinzu Nairouz, Kendall Dorman, and Raj Thomas, Molly Melloh, & Jane Mattson from EdOps.

## Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the last meeting, November 19<sup>th</sup>, were unanimously approved with discussed corrections.

## Motions

Motion to adjourn was passed unanimously.

## Description of Matters Discussed

1. Welcome & Board Business, *Haley & Michael*
  - a. Michael welcomed all and thanked everyone for their support of our community, and Ann and Shawn expressed support as well. Shawn would like to be involved to help in any way possible.

2. Finance Update, *Raj Thomas*
  - a. Raj Thomas from EdOps presented financial reports (2nd Quarter) showing a positive financial outlook.
  - b. The attendees expressed their appreciation for Raj's contributions and wished him well in his future endeavors.
3. Executive Session (*Board members voted and agreed unanimously to go into executive session to discuss the following matters*)
  - a. Loan Facility Negotiations: EdOps representatives, Molly and Jane, updated the Board on the status of negotiations with CIVIC regarding a potential loan facility.
  - b. Facility Bidding and Permits: Marianella provided an overview of the status of the facility's bidding process and the progress of obtaining necessary permits.
4. Academic Report, (*Laurel's report but shared by Haley*)
  - a. Haley mentioned that they are using a new version of the English acquisition test, CASAS, which showed a 42% gain mid-year, slightly lower than the previous year's 54%. However, Haley noted that this could be due to the new test and fewer students testing at a higher English level. She also mentioned that they are working through glitches with the new test. Shawn asked if they would be penalized for these changes, to which Haley confirmed that they wouldn't.
  - b. Haley also shared pictures of various school activities and mentioned that they are working on obtaining one-on-one devices and internet hotspots for students to enable remote learning if needed.
5. Middle States
  - a. They discussed the Middle States accreditation process, where they decided to change the term from "profile of a graduate" to "profile of a student" and added a statement about the goals of a TFP student. Ann suggested a possible change to the statement to emphasize the importance of family and community. Ultimately the board approved the suggested change to "profile of a student."
  - b. The meeting also discussed the need for additional board members to join the Governance Committee for the Middle States process. Several board members volunteered to join the committee, including Gail, Marcia, and Christine.
6. Executive Directors' Report, *Haley*
  - a. Haley discussed the new Aspire framework, a performance evaluation system for charter schools, and the process of identifying school-specific performance measures.
  - b. She mentioned that the framework is a revamp of the previous Performance Management Framework and includes a new acronym, Annual School Performance, Index, Report, and Evaluation. Haley mentioned that Laurel and Fernando have been working on the Aspire framework with an expert from DCPCSB.

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## Next Meeting

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### Date | time, Location

Next meeting is planned for March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025.



# MINUTES

March 18, 2025 | 6:00pm - 7:00pm | Virtual Meeting, Zoom

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Shawn Chakrabarti	X	
Jacqueline Lopez Ponce	X	
Maria Mejia		X
Sarah Friedman		X
Marcia Harrington	X	
Natalia Isaza Brando	X	
Oralia Puente		X
Elaine Weiss	X	
Gail Arnall		X

**DRAFT**

**Others Present:** Haley Wiggins, Marianella Morales, Fernando Saldana, Molly Melloh, Jane Mattson, Laurel Kircher, Christine Montgomery, Yinzu Nairouz, Thomas Selishev, Demetria Brown, Victor Rivera, Lawrence Garr, Misbah Ahdab.

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## Approval of Minutes

Minutes from last meeting, January 21, were unanimously approved.

## Motions

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Meeting unanimously adjourned.

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## Description of Matters Discussed

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- **Welcome & Board Business, *Michael***
- Haley introduces Demetria Brown, a new school finance manager from EdOps. The board reviews and approves the minutes from the previous meeting, with Haley noting some required updates to comply with the Open Meetings Act. They briefly discuss the proposed board schedule for the next school year and upcoming budget planning.
- Haley mentions she will be out of the country for 3.5 weeks but will continue working remotely.

- **Executive Session (Board members voted and agreed unanimously to go into executive session to discuss the following matters)**
- Loan updates with Victor Rivera from Civic Builders, their lender of choice;
- Financial aspects of the Loan presented by EdOps.
- **Facilities Update**
- Loan Committee Approval Discussion, *Haley*
- Haley: will send out the Civic Builders commitment letter for board member email votes within the next few days. Board Members: Review and vote on the commitment letter via email when received.
- Marianella: Work with Stoiber to resolve remaining building permit comments and resubmit this week. Continue working with Corbett Construction to include solar in the contract pricing.
- Marianella provided an update on the real state property tax and building permits, stating that they are working on resolving some issues and that the construction is expected to start in mid-May.
- **Finance Report (Demetria, EdOps)**
- Demetria to continue monitoring and invoicing federal grants to ensure receipt of remaining 57% of grant funding.
- Demetria/Haley: Continue working on next year's Charter School Budget with different contingency models.
- Demetria presented the financial report, highlighting a positive variance of \$537,000 in net income forecasting and a cash balance of \$4.4 million.
- **Middle States Accreditation & ASPIRE Updates, Laurel & Fernando**
- The Middle States self-study is progressing, with some sections completed and others underway. The school visit is tentatively scheduled for October, but not yet confirmed.
- For ASPIRE (the new DCPCSB Aspire accountability framework), the school has negotiated a new school-specific performance measure related to Foundations of Literacy (*Plaza Comunitaria*). This measure replaces the previous charter goal and will be more challenging to meet due to new scoring criteria. The school is currently performing well under other ASPIRE metrics, achieving a "Strong Performance" rating.

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## Next Meeting

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### Date | time, Location

Next meeting planned for May 20, 2025.