



Endeavor Board Meeting Agenda: May 5, 2020

7:00 PM Zoom Conference

Log-in Info:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71125496278?pwd=cld2Zlg3a04yK0Z3anB3enZaOVBSQT09>

Meeting ID: 711 2549 6278 Password: 5wai5q

Present:

Board Member	Position	Term Start	Term Ending	Present
Amy Tharrington Start: July 1, 2016	Member	July 1, 2019	June 30, 2022	Yes
Jaclyn Parks Start: April 8, 2019	Member	July 1, 2019	June 30, 2022	Yes
Bill Kroll Start: May 19, 2016	Chair	July 1, 2019	June 30, 2022	Yes
Tracy DeMarco Start: June 15, 2017	Secretary	July 1, 2017	June 30, 2020	Yes
Ashley Hicks Start: June 15, 2017	Member	July 1, 2017	June 30, 2020	No
Kim Keith Start: May 25, 2017	Vice-Chair	July 1, 2017	June 30, 2020	Yes
Nick Cerullo Start: March 19, 2018	Member	July 1, 2018	June 30, 2021	Yes
Israa Kanfoud Start: July 12, 2018	Treasurer	July 1, 2018	June 30, 2021	Yes
Jon Fowler Start: July 12, 2018	Member	July 1, 2018	June 30, 2021	Yes

Call to Order:

Bill Kroll

- Bill Kroll called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.
- Mission Statement: Endeavor Charter School’s mission is to engage K-8 students by integrating a challenging, hands-on academic program with multi-faceted fine arts courses in a familial environment.
- Vision 2018: Endeavor Charter School’s vision is a community of educators and families working together to graduate students who are motivated and curious, capable and confident, and prepared to make a positive impact on the world around them.

Approval of Agenda:

Tracy DeMarco

- Tracy DeMarco moved to approve the May 5, 2020 Agenda. Jon Fowler seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes:

Tracy DeMarco

- Tracy DeMarco moved to approve the April 14, 2020 Minutes. Amy Tharrington seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Foundation Board Update:

Bill Kroll

- Bill Kroll circulated an April 22, 2020 report from BC Construction Group regarding Project Development Progress Review. In short, the expansion project remains on track as the group works to refine a final design plan, obtain approvals from the town, and finalize a financing strategy. The report is attached to these Minutes as Exhibit A.

Committee Updates:

• **Finance Committee**

Israa Kanfoud

- Israa Kanfoud stated that the Finance Committee has been evaluating staff salaries for the 2020-2021 school year, and has confirmed that the budget will support an across the board increase from 94% to 95% of the Wake County pay scale. This increase furthers the Board's long-term goal of bringing ECS salaries into alignment with the WCPSS pay scale, while still maintaining a conservative budget given the current relative uncertainty of the State's 2020-2021 budget.
 - **Israa Kanfoud moved to approve the 2020-2021 pay scale, which will amount to 95% of WCPSS pay scale. Bill Kroll seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.**
- The Board next discussed the overall budget. Israa Kanfoud explained that ECS's surplus will largely remain flat year over year. This will be beneficial as the School begins to seek financing options for the expansion project. Bill Kroll explained that the current budget includes funding for one additional curriculum coordinator to begin in January. In the event that the State reduces funding to schools in light of the pandemic, ECS could opt to cut that position from the 2020-2021 budget to recovery any lost costs.
 - **Israa Kanfoud moved to approve the 2020-2021 budget. Bill Kroll seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.**
- Finally, Israa Kanfoud raised two expense items that require a Board vote. First, the School must pay \$25,225.20 for iPads that were recently purchased. This expense was accounted for in the 2019-2020 budget, but requires a Board vote due to its large amount.
 - Israa Kanfoud moved to approve payment of \$25,225.20 for iPad purchasing. Bill Kroll seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- Second, the Foundation received its second invoice from BCCG in the amount of \$66,494.50 for work related to the School expansion. This amount is consistent with the projected costs set forth in the Letter of Intent signed by the parties and will ultimately be reimbursed and rolled into a loan when the School obtains initial financing.
 - Israa Kanfoud moved to transfer \$66,494.50 from the ECS account to the Foundation to pay BCCG's invoice. Jon Fowler seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

- **Governance Committee**

Tracy DeMarco

- Tracy DeMarco reported that the Governance Committee has been working to draft a background check policy for the Board's approval.

- **Resource Development Committee**

Nick Cerullo

- Lauren Manfreda reported that Annual Fund donations have reached approximately \$115,000. Since the School was unable to host Stride for the Pride this year due to the Governor's stay-at-home order, the School is not likely to meet its \$150,000 fundraising goal this year. Nevertheless, Lauren reported that the School will send a gentle, final reminder that School would welcome further donations from families that are in a financial position to do so, recognizing that this fundraising year has been impacted by special circumstances. Lauren is also continuing to pursue ways to thank our donors.

Director's Update:

Christi Whiteside

- There is a reopening committee working for DPI that is researching recommendations for reopening schools with potential requirements for cleaning, nurse support, contract tracing, extracurriculars and sports, and safety. They are looking at schools opening with social distancing including blended learning between virtual and in-person, parts of the population coming on certain days/times, etc.
- We are looking into options for celebrating our graduating 8th graders. We are looking at things other schools are doing and the most special ECS traditions which need to be modified. We hope to have a final plan ready next week.
- We are modifying our plans for transition meetings to help our new families and families of rising 3rd and 6th graders get information about those transitions.
- We are looking at options to help our students end the year on a positive note including continuing our Moving Up tradition virtually.
- The Istation reading assessment contract was canceled and a new program is being sought, again. Which will mean a summer transition again.
- Senate Bill 704 was adopted and includes:
 - Regular public schools can't start before Aug 17. This does not apply to charters. As the virus continues to progress, we will need to monitor the safety of opening in July as scheduled.
 - All schools must modify their calendars to add 5 remote learning days to the current 185 school days. They can be teacher workdays so staff isn't working

extra days. We would need to choose the best days and submit a lengthy remote learning plan to DPI by the end of June.

- All testing requirements have been waived for this year.
- Read to Achieve legislation has been waived for this year.
- School report cards have been waived for this year and will be limited for next year.
- The School is continuing to work on plans to hold a socially distant graduation for our 8th graders. Plans will be announced soon.

Additional Items

- Christi Whiteside praised the work of ECS staff, students, and families for the successful transition to remote learning. Despite the success, however, teachers will need to begin next year ready to adjust their instructional plans after this time of remote learning. To best position the School for academic success when ECS returns to the classroom for the 2020-2021 school year, Christi Whiteside proposed that student instruction for the 2019-2020 year end on May 29, 2020. This change would allow teachers 10 workdays in June to finalize this school year and begin to plan new ways to assess student readiness and review content from the spring as students transition back to traditional classroom expectations. The Board agreed with this proposal, noting in particular that the N.C. legislature has waived attendance requirements for the
 - **Bill Kroll moved to approve May 29, 2020 as the last instructional day for the 2019-2020 school year. Kim Keith seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.**

Adjournment:

Bill Kroll

- Bill Kroll moved to adjourn at 7:59. Amy Tharrington seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.