



**Endeavor Board Meeting Minutes: April 18, 2023**  
**7:00 PM in the Auditorium and via Zoom:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85926333534?pwd=UIYwTzRFdDYrb0dJK28zZkoxQzgvUT09>

**Present:**

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Term Start</b>	<b>Term Ending</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Connie Atkinson</b> Start: 3/15/2022	Member	Governance	7/1/2022	6/30/2025	No
<b>Jaclyn Parks</b> Start: 4/8/2019	Member	CDC (Chair)	7/1/2022	6/30/2025	Yes
<b>Katrina Caseldine</b> Start: 3/2/2023	Member	Finance	7/1/2022	6/30/2025	Yes
<b>Chris DeRienzo</b> Start: 2/23/2021	Member	Governance	7/1/2022	6/30/2025	Yes (Zoom)
<b>Tracy DeMarco</b> Start: 6/15/2017	Secretary	Governance (Chair)	7/1/2020	6/30/2023	No
<b>Kristen Walsh</b> Start: 3/1/2021	Member	CDC	7/1/2020	6/30/2023	Yes
<b>Michael Gottlieb</b> Start: 7/01/2022	Member	CDC	7/1/2020	6/30/2023	Yes
<b>David Roy</b> Start: 2/23/2021	Member	Finance	7/1/2020	6/30/2023	Yes (Zoom)
<b>Alyssa Ruth</b> Start: 3/15/2022	Member	CDC	7/1/2021	6/30/2024	Yes
<b>Israa Kanfoud</b> Start: 6/12/2018	Treasurer	Finance (Chair)	7/1/2021	6/30/2024	Yes
<b>Dustin Embrey</b> Start: 2/23/2021	Chair	--	7/1/2021	6/30/2024	Yes
<b>Heather Flynt</b> Start: 3/1/2023	Member	Finance	7/1/2021	6/30/2024	Yes

**Call to Order:**

**Dustin Embrey**

- **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:**

**Dustin Embrey**

- Dustin Embrey moved to approve the April 18, 2023 Agenda. Alyssa Ruth seconded, and the Motion passed unanimously.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

**Dustin Embrey**

- Dustin Embrey moved to approve the March 21, 2023 Minutes. Israa Kanfoud seconded, and the Motion passed unanimously.

### **Foundation Board Update:**

**Paul DeMarco**

- Paul DeMarco introduced himself and stated that he was convinced by Bill Kroll to take over as Chair of the Foundation, and it's been an exciting new challenge.
- Paul is working with Marina and looking at long term facility management contracts, as well as getting deliverables from BCCG that have been promised to the School.
- Grading improvements are needed in the courtyard near the playground, drainage seems to be improved, they are keeping an eye on it.
- Drainage of soccer field: BCCG is late on circulating a proposed solution, Paul will follow up with him. Paul mentioned that when you drive through carpool, you see it in the corner of the soccer field. Paul's solution is the plan they are moving forward with, and won't carry any cost, which Paul noted is a positive for the budget.
- The most recent fire inspection went well. Paul met with Jaclyn and Becky to talk about ways the Foundation can support fundraising efforts. They are setting a Foundation meeting for ~2 weeks from now. The Foundation wants to help bring money into the school and support fundraising efforts. The ESSR Grant is an item of significant interest for Paul, as he knows ECS wants to improve the playground. The federal ESSR grant program has already awarded an incredible amount of money that can be used for playgrounds and outdoor classrooms. Paul has all of the requirements to get the grant in hand, but shared that he does not know how to interface with it. Heather Flynt has a background in grants and will be connecting with Paul to review. Christi is emailing to connect them together for that project.
- Dustin Embrey raised the topic of the Board needing to fill a seat on the Foundation board; more to come on that open role.

### **PAWS Update:**

None submitted

### **Committee Updates:**

- Finance Committee **Israa Kanfoud**
  - Israa Kanfoud shared that the Finance Committee updated the latest estimate and still have line of sight to hit the budget forecast for this year. Israa also noted that the Committee is working on next year's budget and will share with the Board for review before next month's meeting. Will include salary changes etc.
- Governance Committee **Katrina Caseldine**
  - Katrina Caseldine reminded the Board that Tracy DeMarco circulated the revised Admissions Policy discussed at last month's meeting. The revisions will grant admission to siblings of students admitted as part of the expansion year who have been on the ECS waitlist for more than two years. Katrina noted that the change to

the Admissions Policy will be triggered in the future only in the event of a 30% or more expansion of the School's population.

- **Katrina moved to approve the Admissions Policy as circulated. Dustin Embrey seconded, and the Motion passed unanimously.**

- Katrina next explained that implementation of the new policy will increase the number of students in 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grades. In an effort to avoid disadvantage other currently waitlisted students, the Governance Committee recommended the Board affirmatively increase the class sizes in those grades as follows:

- 82 for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade
- 85 for 4<sup>th</sup> grade
- 81 for 5<sup>th</sup> grade

Katrina explained that these will be one-time increases, for the 2023-24 school year only, intended to preserve the waitlist priority for students who do not qualify for admission under the policy change.

- **Katrina moved to approve increasing class size to 82 in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, 85 in 4<sup>th</sup> grade, and 81 in 5<sup>th</sup> grade for the 2023-24 school year only. Israa Kanfoud seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.**

- Technology Policy update

- Katrina next reported that the Governance Committee is working with Christi and Allison Hester to develop a new Internet Safety Policy. To continue receiving federal funds through the e-Rate program, the Board must vote a new policy in place by April 28<sup>th</sup>. The Governance Committee will be proposing an interim policy for Board approval and continue working with Christi and Allison to develop more nuanced policies and procedures appropriate for our School to be implemented next school year.
- Since the April 28 deadline falls before the next scheduled Board meeting, Tracy will be calling a short meeting soon once this revised Technology Policy is drafted and reviewed, for the Board to vote on it prior to the 4/28 deadline.

- **Community Development Committee**

**Jaclyn Parks**

- Jaclyn Parks reported that the CDC Committee met yesterday and discussed ideas for the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year for both fundraising and community involvement.
- Michael Gottlieb reported that the Business Alliance Update is experiencing renewed energy with a focus on recruitment for the remainder of the school year. Thirteen members have signed up so far. An in-person Business Alliance meeting has been rescheduled to week of May 17 to review recruitment and planning for next year.
- Becky Catlett reported that the ECS community has raised just shy of \$20K in the very early stages of Stride for the Pride. Campaign kickoff coming next week.
- Seventeen families are enrolled in recurring monthly contributions to the Annual Fund. Four new families have signed up since last week's video campaign began, and two other families have reached out to Becky directly about best approaches to donating.

**Director's Update:**

**Christi Whiteside**

- Welcome back! 4th quarter is underway!
- Spring sports seasons are in full play!
- Thanks to PAWS for a great staff lunch on our workday last week.
- Niche rankings were released yesterday. ECS ranked #7 public middle school in NC. ECS ranked #8 elementary school in NC.
- There are many events this quarter, so please note dates that are sent by your grade level: NJHS inductions, spring sports banquet, middle school dance, coffee and conversations for parents, early release date, field day, Fun Run, and several grades have field trips.
- End of Grade tests are coming, so please be sure students continue focusing on mastering skills and competing assignments.
- Our lower grades growth was recently recognized by DPI. Amy Wilson and Holly Heasley spoke to an audience of NC educators to share the program we've established for our early readers and with our EC students using the new Science of Reading. They were invited to speak due to our growth. Our data exceeds the state and nation in every category.

**Public Comment:**

No individual asked to speak during public comment.

**Closed Session:**

- Dustin Embrey moved into closed session pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 143-318(1) and (6) at 7:24 p.m. Jaclyn Parks seconded, and the Motion passed unanimously.
- Dustin Embrey moved to go into open session at 8:48 p.m. Kristen seconded, and the Motion passed unanimously.

**Adjournment:**

Dustin Embrey adjourned the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

**Dustin Embrey**