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## MEETING MINUTES

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of YES Prep Public Schools will hold a regular meeting, open to the public, on **Friday, September 15, 2023 at 7:30 AM**. The Board will convene in Open Session at 5455 South Loop East Freeway, Houston, TX 77033. It is the intent of the Board to have a quorum physically present at the above address. If a quorum of the Board is not physically present at the above address, it is the intent to have the presiding officer physically present at the above address. Other members of the Board may be participating via videoconference in compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act (Tex. Gov't Code § 551.127(e)). Videoconferencing link provided upon request at [julie.nguyen@yesprep.org](mailto:julie.nguyen@yesprep.org). Members of the public may submit comments on any agenda items(s) to [dana.foughty@yesprep.org](mailto:dana.foughty@yesprep.org) before or during consideration of the item.

The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are listed below. Items do not have to be taken in the order shown on this meeting notice. Consent agenda items, if applicable, will be acted on at one time. If during the course of the meeting, discussion of any item on the agenda should be held in a closed meeting, the Board will conduct a closed meeting in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Section 551, Subchapters D and E. Before any closed meeting is convened, the presiding officer will publicly identify the section or sections of the Act authorizing the closed meeting. All final votes, actions, or decisions will be taken in an open meeting.

### **YES Prep Board of Directors Present:**

Mickey Barrett, Eric Calderon, Luly Castillo, Michol Ecklund, Jordan Marye, Melanie Trent, Amy Wright

### **YES Prep Staff Members Present:**

Carmen Darville, Mark DiBella, Nella Garcia Urban, Dana Foughty, Luis Mena, Tony Munoz, Phil Wright, Cesar Cedillos, Julie Nguyen, Lucero Guerrero, Danika Palacios, Sarah Landsman, Keith Weaver, Jacklyn Gonzales

- 1. Call to Order, quorum determined, meeting declared open**
- 2. Public Comment**
- 3. Vote** on corresponding resolution to elect, designate, approve, or delegate Board members, Board officers, Board committees, Board committee membership, and seal.  
**Motion: Jordan Marye**  
**Second: Michol Ecklund**  
**Unanimously approved at: 7:33 a.m.**
- 4. Vote** to approve amended and re-stated By-laws for YES Prep Public Schools, Inc.  
**Motion: Melanie Trent**  
**Second: Michol Ecklund**  
**Unanimously approved at: 7:34 a.m.**
- 5. Vote** on the corresponding resolution to fully avail YES Prep of the protections offered by the Municipal Fairness Bill enacted through Texas HB1707.

**Motion: Melanie Trent**

**Second: Jordan Marye**

**Unanimously approved at: 7:34 a.m.**

6. **Vote** to approve the Non-Expansion Amendment submission and corresponding resolution to revise the YES Prep charter school admission policy to extend the Charter School Admission Application period.

**Motion: Jordan Marye**

**Second: Melanie Trent**

**Unanimously approved at: 7:34 a.m.**

7. **Consent agenda:**

1. **Vote** to approve the minutes from the June 9, 2023 Board of Directors meeting
2. **Vote** to approve YES Prep Family Engagement Policy for 2023-2024 school year.
3. **Vote** on corresponding updates to local dyslexia board policy following passage of Texas HB3928
4. **Vote** to approve Child Nutrition Privacy Policy for IdentiMetrics Finger Scanning use in YES Prep Elementary Campuses.
5. **Vote** to approve Child Nutrition Lunch Program Monitors Contracts and Menu Board Specialist Contract.
6. **Vote** to approve FY23 Q4 Investment Certificates.
7. **Vote** to approve edits to YES Prep Purchasing Policy
8. **Vote** to approve awarding a contract to a pool of vendors (without Co-Op) for Software FY24Q1.
9. **Vote** to approve awarding a contract to a pool of vendors (with Co-Op) for Software FY24Q1.
10. **Vote** to approve awarding a contract to Republic Services for waste management services using PACE Purchasing Cooperative Contract # P00242, and delegate authority to the CEO and his designees to negotiate, finalize, and execute the agreement(s), amendment(s), and renewal(s) through December 31, 2028.
11. **Vote** to approve awarding a contract to Element Architects, LLC for Brays Oaks Elementary project for RFQ# YESP21-01 Architectural Design Services in the amount of \$465,515.00, and delegate authority to the CEO and his designees to negotiate, finalize, and execute the agreement(s) and amendment(s).
12. **Vote** to approve awarding a contract to Preferred Technologies for RFP#YESP2023-26 Cameras, Access Control and Bell-PA Installations in the amount of \$487,485.00, and delegate authority to the CEO and his designees to negotiate, finalize, and execute the agreement(s) and amendment(s).
13. **Vote** to approve awarding a contract to Assignr LLC for RFP#YESP2023-29 Officiating Software Management Services, and delegate authority to the CEO and his designees to negotiate, finalize, and execute the agreement(s), amendment(s), and renewal(s) through June 30, 2027.
14. **Vote** to approve the membership agreement between YES Prep Public Schools and the 791 Purchasing Cooperative.
15. **Vote** to approve the contracts retroactively, previously authorized by the CEO's temporary approval during the summer recess, in alignment with the standard requirement for board approval on all contracts.
16. **Vote** on pending contracts
17. **Vote** to ratify historical contracts

**Motion: Melanie Trent**

**Second: Jordan Marye**

**Unanimously approved at: 7:35 a.m.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pursuant to TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE §§551.071, 551.072, 551.074, and 551.076, the Board will consult with its attorneys on pending or potential litigation, personnel, or legal matters in which the attorneys' duties are governed by the State Bar of Texas (Code of Conduct); and will deliberate, in accordance with the above statutes, real estate matters, security matters and devices, and personnel matters.**

**8. Executive Session**

**9. Adjournment**

**Motion: Melanie Trent**

**Second: Michol Ecklund**

**Unanimously approved at 8:33 a.m.**

## WORKSHOP MINUTES

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Directors of YES Prep Public Schools will hold a regular meeting, open to the public, on **Friday, September 15, 2023 at 7:30 AM**. The Board will convene in Open Session at 5455 South Loop East Freeway, Houston, TX 77033. It is the intent of the Board to have a quorum physically present at the above address. If a quorum of the Board is not physically present at the above address, it is the intent to have the presiding officer physically present at the above address. Other members of the Board may be participating via videoconference in compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act (Tex. Gov't Code § 551.127(e)). Videoconferencing link provided upon request at [julie.nguyen@yesprep.org](mailto:julie.nguyen@yesprep.org). Members of the public may submit comments on any agenda items(s) to [dana.foughty@yesprep.org](mailto:dana.foughty@yesprep.org) before or during consideration of the item.

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### **YES Prep Board of Directors Present:**

Mickey Barrett, Eric Calderon, Luly Castillo, Michol Ecklund, Jordan Marye, Melanie Trent, Amy Wright

### **YES Prep Staff Members Present:**

Carmen Darville, Mark DiBella, Nella Garcia Urban, Dana Foughty, Luis Mena, Tony Munoz, Phil Wright, Cesar Cedillos, Julie Nguyen, Lucero Guerrero, Danika Palacios, Sarah Landsman, Keith Weaver, Jacklyn Gonzales, Leigh Levine

#### **1. Call to Order, quorum determined, workshop declared open 8:35 a.m.**

#### **2. CEO Report: State of Schools**

- Nation Charter Context and Advocacy Update - Presented by Nella García Urban, Chief External Officer and Sarah Landsman, Managing Director of Advocacy
  - Texas Legislature will likely enter special session with a specific focus on funding in October
  - YES Prep focused on elementary growth, not partnerships at this time
  - HB1707 – Would this have helped YES Prep?
    - Another charter was able to open in Fort Bend County after the bill passed
- STAAR & State Accountability - Presented by Phil Wright, Chief Schools Officer
  - Summary: Prior to 22-23 school year, TEA increased the rigor of the STAAR assessment and made it more difficult to earn an A or B rating

- TEA Press Release: It will be mid-November before we know our school and district accountability rating from the 2023 results.
- Algebra course enrollment has shifted; last year was a pilot for Gr 8 students at West
  - YES Prep moved away from all 8<sup>th</sup> graders taking Algebra a few years ago to focus on strengthening math curriculum in 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grader and differentiating instead; we have now begun to find a median in which we can offer Algebra I to Gr 8 students again.
- What is the reality regarding testing re-takers? What supports do they have?
  - Students take the test in May, if do not pass, they can retake in summer and the next December while receiving summer and after school tutorial support
- AP Data - Presented by Phil Wright, Chief Schools Officer
  - Highest number of AP tests ever taken
  - 11 of our high school are in the top 10% in the country
    - Our AP testing rates and scores are one factor landing us on this list
- Talent – Presented by Tony Munoz, Chief Talent Officer
  - Teacher retention stayed flat for 22-23 – Five schools met the 80% goal
  - High level of retention for our Level 4 teachers, many teachers who leave are Level 1 first year teachers
  - Exit Interview/Surveys – Teachers are leaving for better opportunity, higher compensation, and lack of recognition
    - This year, we are being more intentional on how we celebrate our teachers
    - Partnering with the Externals team to crystallize total rewards
- Annual Goals and objectives – Presented by Mark DiBella, CEO
- The Board and Committees: 2023 and Beyond – Presented by Eric Calderon, Board Chair
  - Board Chair commits to reviewing Board committee structure and gathering input from Board members and staff to align structure and use of committees in the future
  - Request to Board members to engage in YES PREP
    - Youth event
    - Executive meet-up
    - Senior event
    - Principal/staff engagement
    - Raising funds
    - Elementary/Secondary tour
    - Public engagement

### 3. **External Affairs Report** - Presented by Nella Garcia Urban, Chief External Officer

- Leading Houston Forward Luncheon – October 25, 2023

### 4. **Finance and Real Estate Report** - Presented by Luis Mena, Chief Financial Officer

- Request to discuss FY25 budget at the November Board meeting – earlier than in previous years – More details on plan to address ESSER sunset at that time
- We met FY23 Budget and completed the bond issuance
- We are on track for spending in FY24 at this time
- Real Estate Report - Presented by Carmen Darville, Chief Operations Officer

- New Brays Oaks Elementary property closed in July
- Previous Brays Oaks Elementary property sale closed today, 9/15/23
- We are exploring what it would look like to buy larger acreage for some of our elementary schools to also be able to rebuild their secondary campus

## **5. Adjournment**

**Motion: Melanie Trent**

**Second: Amy Wright**

**Unanimously approved at 10:00 a.m.**