

MINUTES
Excel Academy Massachusetts Board Meeting
Friday, February 3, 2023 – 8:30 am

Board Members in Attendance: Ben Howe, David Stolow, Bernabe Rodriguez, Rob Lytle, Matt Ottmer, Pam Klein
Board Members Absent: Steve Mugford, Steve Zrike, Nery Castro, Yahaira Acuna, Devon Petersmeyer Johnson
Staff Attending: Owen Stearns, Arthur Kaynor, Diane Cohen, Laura Goldworm, Alba Torres, Yinnette Sano

1. Call to Order

Howe called the meeting to order at 8:30 am and presided over the meeting. Cohen kept the minutes.

2. Approval of Minutes

Lytle motioned to approve the minutes from the 12.2.22 meeting of the Board and Howe seconded.

All those in favor: David Stolow, Bernabe Rodriguez, Rob Lytle, Ben Howe, Matt Ottmer, Pam Klein

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

3. CAPS Update

Goldworm presented an update to the Board on the work of the College Access and Post-Secondary Success (CAPS) Team and discussed trends and outcomes for graduates of the school, impacts of the pandemic, and CAPS priorities and objectives for the year.

4. Teambuilding

Sano led the group in a team building discussion.

5. Update on the Schools

Stearns provided an update on the state of school and the charter renewal process, and the Board discussed updates to staff compensation and other strategies to recruit and retain talent in an increasingly competitive market. Stearns reminded the Board about the upcoming Celebration of Excellence.

6. Update on Board Recruitment

Klein updated the Board on efforts to recruit new members and requested collaboration in identifying new prospective candidates for future Board positions.

7. Development & Communications Update

Torres and Cohen presented updates to the Board on fundraising efforts, plans for the Celebration of Excellence event, and progress with a brand refresh for the school.

8. Update on the CMO agreement

Kaynor updated the Board on the status of DESE approval of amendments related to the CMO agreement, governance structure, and by-laws. The Board discussed goals, timeline, and next steps to prepare for a new, five-year CMO agreement for the school's next charter term.

9. Public Comment

None

10. Adjourn

Ottmer moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 am, seconded by Stolow, and the meeting was adjourned.

List of Documents Presented at the Meeting:

1. Agenda
2. Minutes from 12.2.22
3. CAPS Presentation
4. Development & Communications Update