

Excelsior Academy Board of Trustees

Approved Meeting Minutes

*Thursday, January 23rd, 2025, At 5:30 PM
162 E Erda Way, Erda, UT 84074*



Call to Order

Mr. Clark called the meeting to order at 5:41 PM

Board Members Present

Brandon Clark
Emily Smith
Helen Emefo
Laura Skousen
Danelle Robins
Cathy Hunter
Yesenia Valenzuela

Board Members Excused

NA

Staff Present

Matt Hymas
Jen Martin
Brad Hendershot
Eva Wayman
Cami Thorpe
Brock Camper
Sarah Camper

Public Present

Amanda Griffin

Minutes

Approve the November 21st, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes **Motion:** Mrs. Robins motioned to approve the November 21st, 2024, Board meeting minutes, Mrs.Emefo seconded the motion, there was discussion on spelling errors on page two, all were in favor, and the motion carried.

Public Comment

Amanda Griffin- discussed updates on allowing approved style jeans throughout the week not

just on Lions Pride Day and removing the required collared shirts under the Excelsior Academy sweatshirts.

Mrs. Camper- addressed concerns about the dress code and the difficulty in finding khaki pants that are uniform-approved.

Finance Report

Ms. Martin reviewed the financial reports and scoreboard for December 2024.

See Attachment A

Administrative Report

Mr. Hymas- Discussed enrollment numbers, we are looking healthy and working on retainment. We have the best waitlist numbers we've ever had.

School Culture and Climate- EA Fosters a culture of trust, respect, and collaboration, where teachers are empowered with autonomy and support, families and staff work together effectively, and students thrive in an academically rigorous environment. Trying to build a solid foundation for faculty, parents, and students.

Construction- on the South side of the carpool lanes, there will be event parking that will be added to the property

Professional Development- Elementary weekly emails highlighting PACE

Middle School- weekly emails highlighting different information

Family and community engagement- literacy night, 8th-grade winter ball, MS parent engagement night, February 13, 2025. This is a \$16,000 grant to develop a system to support students at home and in the classroom.

Discussed the policy or compliance updates- R277-608, Emergency safety interventions, and prohibition of corporal punishment. R277-631, Student toilet training requirements. **Challenges and areas for growth-** MS enrollment has stalled, believed to be due to the opening of Stansbury Junior High School.

Recognition of Mrs. Nay

Mr. Hendershot- More students are on the honor roll, increased mastery in ELA, and Science.

Student Development- Mr. Marsden met with almost all students who received an F or a D in math, English, or science during Term 2. We reviewed where they struggled and how they could improve during Term 3. We had massive support for our Winter Dance Concert. More than 1100 people supported the two-night event. We plan to hold the concert at THS in the spring to accommodate the support. We had a wonderful advanced music concert. Our boy's basketball team completed their season with a record of 6-4. Our girl's basketball team has begun their season. See Attachment B

Board Business Action Items

- a. 2025/2026 School Uniform policy- Smith motioned to approve the 2025/2026 School Uniform policy, as amended, and Mrs. Hunter seconded the motion. Discussed the suggested changes that are highlighted in green and discussed the deletions in red. The suggestions are to provide better clarity; six were in favor, Mrs. Skousen opposed and the motion was carried. See Attachment C
- b. 2025/2026 School Calendar- Mrs. Valenzuela motioned to approve the 2025/2026 School Calendar, and Mrs. Emfo seconded the motion. There was discussion on this motion, not having a week-long Thanksgiving break, and creating a survey for staff to vote on future calendars, all were in favor, and the motion carried. See Attachment D

Discussion Items

- a. 1st public hearing on school fees for the 2025/2026 School Year. There are no suggested changes to the 2025/2026, school fees. See Attachment E
- b. Gifted and talented grant- discussed who this grant pertains to and our strategies to meet our goal next year.
- c. 2024 year-end retirement plan review- We have an audit every year and found EA exceeds all expectations. See Attachment F

Adjourn Meeting

Mrs. Valenzuela motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Mrs. Smith seconded the motion. There was no discussion on this motion, all were in favor, and the meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.