

Minutes
Meeting of the Board of Directors – Envision Schools
Support Office
436 14th Street Suite 920
Oakland, CA 94612
October 28th, 2010 4:00PM

I. PRELIMINARY

1. **Call to Order** – Natalie Walrond called meeting to order at 4:05PM.
2. **Roll Call** – Bob Lenz, Natalie Walrond, Helen Bulwik, Jim Wiggett, Greg Daily, Lawrie Mott, Larry Rosenberger
 On Phone: Todd Aldrich, Amy Vernetti
 Absent: Paul Carney
 Also Present: Alicia Siegel, Brian Greenberg, Judy Hill, Jane Breyer

II. DISCUSSIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. CEO Report

- Bob gave a general introduction to his presentation titled “Building Momentum (Then: 2008 to Now 2010) and explained that he would be giving a balanced presentation regarding the state of the organization.
- Bob touched on some key successes in the last year: 100% of ES graduates went to college; our enrollment has grown; attrition numbers among students and staff are lower than they were in years past.
- Brian mentioned that he had reading about charter school staff attrition if board members were interested.
- **Action Item:** Alicia will send presentation to board members and management staff after meeting.

2. Financial Tracking Goals

a. Finance Committee Report

- Amy presented the beginning portion of the presentation and stated that our finances are looking much better than in recent months and that we are moving in the right direction as an organization.
- Helen asked if we were intending to claim the Hewlett grant over 1 year, or two years? Amy responded that for financial bookkeeping purposes, we have to claim the whole grant at once, although we will be paid over the course of two years.
- Jane continued the presentation and outlined the fact that our current budget does not reflect development pledges, but next month’s budget will.
- The 3CS budget issue was brought up and Natalie asked if it was true that 25% of the Hewlett money could go to the schools’ general fund; Judy replied that she was correct, but the money has not been allocated yet but will be soon.
- Jim asked why 3CS was not listed as a program and wondered if there was a strategy behind this; Bob replied no, that we’re still in the process of building 3CS as a program but for now it is part of the general fund. Jim mentioned that we should make this change soon so that the budget will reflect that ES allocates most of its funding to students.
- Judy continued her presentation and explained other key financial factors like the increased ADA funding, and she offered clarification about our cash flow

relationship with Charter School Capital. Helen asked if CSC was the best vehicle for us to acquire funds; Bob replied that nearly every charter school organization and that they are our best choice.

b. Development Update

- Lawrie opened the presentation by stating that we are working hard towards our development goals but that we still have a way to go; Jane stated that the numbers in the presentation reflect where we are as of 10.28.10.
- Jim asked where our development goal came from; Bob replied that we created it based upon where we saw need in our yearly budget.
- Jane mentioned individual giving progress and said a thank you to Paul Carney for his generous donation of \$30,000 to Envision Schools.
- Lawrie mentioned that all board members need to be aware of the upcoming year-end giving letter campaign in which they were asked to supply contact information for persons who might be interested in Envision Schools; Helen asked what our goal was for this campaign and Jane replied that we don't have a goal for it but it will factor into our larger \$100,000 individual goal.
- Bob gave an update regarding his trip to the Midwest for a conference; Kellogg asked us to submit a proposal, and we think ES is a great fit for them and their goals as funders.
- Lawrie closed the presentation by stating that she, Natalie, and Paul will be at the development retreat on November 3rd and 4th to represent the board.

3. Board Member Role Discussion

- Natalie opened discussion by explaining her memo. She explained that she wanted to have a discussion about how we approach our roles and obligations as board members. She stated that the conversation at the board retreat on 10.10 was great, but that it didn't go far enough. She then asked for thoughts about the chapters she included, her memo, and people's thoughts on board member roles.
- Jim stated that if we stick to the goals on pg. 14 we should be in good shape and that we should consider lessening the amount of times that we meet; Natalie agreed and stated that 10 board meetings a year was established during a time of crisis but that we can take another look at that standard in the coming months.
- Larry stated that the model in as explained in the chapters provided by Natalie appears to be a solid one and that he believes that our strategic planning/meeting facilitator Susan Edsall is effective in helping us become a stronger organization and board.

4. API and KPI Standards Discussion

- Brian and Bob opened the discussion by presenting the current statistics for all 4 Envision schools, and comparison data. Brian pointed out that we only compared ourselves to California urban charter schools that are not feeder campus (those that don't have a relationship with a k-8 charter). Bob mentioned that our track record on graduates attending college is higher than some schools with larger API numbers; we know that people look at API numbers, but we will lose college-going metrics if we only focus on APIs.
- Brian stated that we are setting a 730 ranking as our short-term goal and we will adjust it as needed. He also explained the ways in which Envision Schools out-perform other schools with higher APIs in terms of rates of students who go to college, and stay in college.
- Larry stated that having a visual model to explain this could be very useful in communicating to outsiders about Envision Schools.

5. **Action Items for Next Board Meeting**
-N/A

III. **PUBLIC COMMENT/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Non-agenda items. No individual presentation shall be more than three (3) minutes and the total time for this purpose shall not exceed fifteen (15) minutes. Ordinarily, Board members will not respond to presentations and no action can be taken. However, the Board may give direction to the Staff following a presentation.

IV. **ACTION ITEMS**

1. Consent Items
 - Approve Minutes from 8/26/10 Board Meeting
All in favor, none opposed
 - STRS Resolution for Impact Academy
All in favor, none opposed
 - STRS Resolution for Envision Academy
All in favor, none opposed

V. **CLOSED SESSION**

VI. **ADJOURNMENT**