

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Drexel Foundation for Educational Excellence, Inc.
DBA Thea Bowman Leadership Academy
3401 W. 5th Avenue, Gary, IN 46406
Wednesday, June 28, 2023
6:00 PM CT

I. Meeting Called to Order

A meeting of the Board of Directors (the “Board”) of Thea Bowman Leadership Academy (“TBLA”) was held on Wednesday, June 28, 2023. The meeting was called to order by the Board Chair at 6:02 PM CT.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge of allegiance was recited by the assembled Directors and attendees.

III. Roll Call

Eve Gomez, President	Present
Jason Beres, Vice President	Present
Michelle Dickerson, Treasurer	Present
Cliff Gooden	Absent
Helen Hill	Present
Cedric Steele	Present
Jerry William	Present

Other Attendees:

- Earl Martin Phalen, CEO, PLA
- Marisa Simmons, Principal, Thea Bowman Leadership Academy
- Eva Spilker, President & CFO, PLA
- Melissa Morris, NW Regional Director, PLA
- Jewell Harris, Jr., Attorney, Harris Law Firm
- Tahirah Thompson, Director of Operations Facilities & New School Launch, PLA
- Antoinette Troupe, Operations Manager, TBLA
- Johnny Jin, Chief Strategy & Development Officer, PLA
- Ashley Minter, Director of Marketing & Communications, PLA
- Andrea Robinson, Chief Academic Officer, PLA
- Lindsay Omlor, Executive Director, Education One
- Lauren Fihe, Development Manager, PLA

a. Approval of Board Agenda

A motion was made to amend the agenda under New Business, section VIII.a. to include professional development opportunities during the summer.

Motion: Michelle Dickerson Support: Jerry William

Yays: 6 Nays: 0

The Board unanimously voted to approve the board agenda.

b. Approval of Board Minutes from May 31, 2023

Motion: Jerry William Support: Jason Beres

Yays: 6 Nays: 0

The Board unanimously voted to approve the board minutes.

IV. CMO Report

a. Principal's Report

Principal, Marisa Simmons, presented the June Admin Report and provided an academic update, enrollment for 2023-24, upcoming events, and end-of-year events.

b. Academic Support Update

Melissa Morris presented the NWEA data. The ILEARN data is expected to be released on June 30th.

c. Financial Report

Eva Spilker presented an overview of the income statement, balance sheet, and enrollment. The FY24 budget, audit, NP-20, and 990 were also reviewed.

Approval of FY24 Budget

Motion: Helen Hill Support: Cedric Steele

Yays: 6 Nays: 0

The Board unanimously voted to approve the FY24 Budget.

Michelle Dickerson plans to have a quarterly review to adjust the budget to focus on the core curriculum and to ensure funding is available. Additionally, Michelle would like to receive audit engagement proposals.

V. Presentations

a. ESSER

Johnny Jin, PLA Chief Strategy & Development Officer, and Lauren Fihe, PLA Development Manager provided an ESSER update, overview, and use of funds.

ACTION ITEM: Michelle requested a breakdown of the Continuity of Services and budgeted personnel.

VI. Authorizer Report (Trine University/Education One LLC)

Lindsay Omlor shared a general overview of the authorizer report.

VII. Old Business

a. ESSER Project Update

Tahirah Thompson provided an update on the ESSER projects and facility grant projects.

VIII. New Business

a. Approval of Professional Development for Staff **Amended item*

The Board made a motion to approve and ratify the summer professional development for staff.

Motion: Jason Beres

Support: Michelle Dickerson

Yays: 6

Nays: 0

b. Approval of Resolution Ratifying Director Appointment

The Board made a motion to approve the Resolution Ratifying Director Appointment.

Motion: Cedric Steele

Support: Jerry William

Yays: 6

Nays: 0

c. Approval of Resolution Adopting Professional Development

The Board made a motion to approve the Resolution Adopting Professional Development.

Motion: Jerry William

Support: Helen Hill

Yays: 6

Nays: 0

d. Approval of Resolution Adopting Payment & Reimbursement

The Board made a motion to approve the Resolution Adopting Payment & Reimbursement.

Motion: Jason Beres

Support: Michelle Dickerson

Yays: 6

Nays: 0

e. Approval of 2023-24 Board Meeting Calendar

The Board made a motion to approve the 2023-24 Board Meeting Calendar.

Motion: Jason Beres

Support: Cedric Steele

Yays: 6

Nays: 0

f. Approval of Commercial Cyber Policy Renewal

The Board made a motion to approve the Commercial Cyber Policy Renewal.

Motion: Michelle Dickerson

Support: Cedric Steele

Yays: 6

Nays: 0

g. Approval of LiveSchool

The Board made a motion to approve LiveSchool.

Motion: Cedric Steele

Support: Michelle Dickerson

Yays: 6

Nays: 0

h. Approval of Edmentum Courseware

The Board made a motion to approve Edmentum Courseware.

Motion: Jason Beres

Support: Michelle Dickerson

