


**Mission Statement:** Built upon a foundation of academic excellence and a mindset to drive change, Exploration High School graduates are empowered with 21st-century skills to solve the problems in their communities

**Vision:** Creating a school of self-driven learners who collaboratively work to solve problems in their communities of intrinsic interest and external value.

[Zoom Link to Join](#)

1. Call to order with a reading of the Mission and Vision

Jemar Lee is joining the meeting virtually from 2200 Radcliffe Dr SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 52404.

2. Approval of agenda 


3. Approval of [August 2024 meeting minutes](#) 

4. Public Comment, per [Policy #211](#)

*The opportunity for public comment at each regular board meeting is up to fifteen minutes. Each speaker has up to three minutes, subject to change due to the number who wish to speak. Speakers may not ask questions of board members. Board members will not engage speakers in a discussion.*

*Disruptive behavior is not permitted. Personal attacks aimed at students or staff are not permitted. Obscene or defamatory language aimed at anyone is not permitted. Board meetings are not the appropriate venue to air employee grievances, or make complaints on behalf of specific, individual students or about individual staff members. Individuals are strongly urged to address comments or concerns directly to appropriate school staff members and administrators before directing comments to the entire Board. Individuals not in compliance will be asked to cease their public comment.*

5. FY24 Audit Presentation by Bonnie Schwieger from Abdo

Motion: “Accept the FY24 Audit findings.” 

6. Director Updates

7. Internal Communications

8. Committee Updates

a. Finance

i. Approval of the [August 2024 check register](#) 

b. Governance

i. Reminder: new members and Executive Director must complete one required training component before September 30. Send documentation to Stephen, as outlined [here](#).

ii. Reminder: background checks must be completed by 12/31/24 – send to Nathan

iii. Approve [Policy #504 Cell Phone Policy](#) 



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**Board Members:** Stephen Bell-Kemp (secretary), Amelia Corl, Jay Dean, Dana Evans, Liz Ford, Beth Karges, Jemar Lee, Ryan Rodriguez (treasurer), Nathan Strenge (chair)

**School Director:** Dave Heighington

**School Authorizer:** Minnesota Guild of Public Charter Schools

Thanks to our Dean of Students for crafting and implementing!

- iv. Approve [Policy #522: School-Sponsored Student Publications & Activities](#) 
- v. Approve [Policy #610: Library Materials](#) 
- c. Family & Community Engagement
- d. Strategic Initiatives
- e. Development
  - i. Advancing plans for capturing weekly wins via Google forms
  - ii. CRM research in progress
  - iii. Amelia is meeting with great MN schools next week.
  - iv. Dave and Amelia meet next week on donor communications and key 'asks' for the year
- 9. Scheduling
  - a. Mandatory financial training at the 10/21 meeting
  - b. Board & Staff Retreat is Sunday, 11/3 from 9 am to noon
  - c. Regularly-scheduled meetings: 10/21, 11/18, 12/16, 1/20, 2/24, 3/17, 4/21, 5/19, 6/16
- 10. Adjourn 

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**School Director:** Dave Heighington

**School Authorizer:** Minnesota Guild of Public Charter Schools



## **Annual Approval Items**

*For approval on July 29, 2024*

### **DESIGNATION OF MDE IDENTIFIED OFFICIAL WITH AUTHORITY**

Be it resolved, that the Exploration High School Board of Directors designates DAVE HEIGHINGTON, School Leader as the Minnesota Department of Education’s “Identified Official with Authority.”

### **DESIGNATION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION DIRECTOR**

Be it resolved, that the Exploration High School Board of Directors designates NOVA EDUCATION CONSULTANTS for Special Education Director services.

### **DESIGNATION OF FINANCIAL MANAGER**

Be it resolved, that the Exploration High School Board of Directors designates JOSEPH SOVINE through ED FIN for Financial Management services.

### **DESIGNATION OF DEPOSITORY**

Be it resolved, that the Exploration High School Board of Directors designates AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK as the school’s depository.

### **DESIGNATION OF AUTHORIZED CHECK SIGNERS**

Be it resolved, that the Exploration High School Board of Directors designates NATHAN STRENGE, RYAN RODRIGUEZ, and DAVE HEIGHINGTON as authorized signatories.

### **DESIGNATION OF AUTHORIZATION TO MAKE ELECTRONIC FUND TRANSFERS**

Be it resolved, that the Exploration High School Board of Directors authorizes JOSEPH SOVINE and DAVE HEIGHINGTON to make electronic fund transfers on the school’s behalf.