


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.

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

Virtual attendance: Nathan Streng at 411 2nd Street NW in Rochester, MN

Beth Karges at 27206 Little Floyd Lake Road Detroit Lakes, MN

2. Approval of agenda 

Motion: LF

Second: JD

passes unanimously (no absent members)

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

Motion: DE

Second: JL

passes unanimously

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. [Director Updates](#)

6. Committee Updates

a. Going forward: committee chairs will send a short summary of action to Board Chair and Secretary to include in the monthly board agenda

b. Finance

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

Motion: SK

Second: NS

passes unanimously




c. Governance

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

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

School Director: Dave Heighington

School Authorizer: Minnesota Guild of Public Charter Schools

- ii. [School Director 2024-25 Training Plan](#) 
Motion: SK Second: DE passes unanimously
- iii. Amendments to [Policy #500 Admissions & Lottery Process](#) 
Motion: NS Second: JD passes unanimously
- iv. Background checks required for Directors (\$24.95) – must be completed by 12/31/2024
Send background check results to Nathan and proof of payment to Ryan for reimbursement
- v. Annual Report writing is underway!
- d. Family & Community Engagement
- e. Strategic Initiatives
- f. Development
- 7. Scheduling
 - a. Grand Opening at 5:30 pm on Tuesday, 8/27
 - b. Audit presentation at the 9/16 meeting
 - c. Mandatory financial training at the 10/21 meeting
 - d. Board & Staff Retreat is Sunday, November 3 from 9 am to noon
 - e. Regularly-scheduled meetings: 9/16, 10/21, 11/18, 12/16, 1/20, 2/24, 3/17, 4/21, 5/19, 6/16
- 8. Adjourn 
Motion: LF Second: DE passes unanimously



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.