



The Community School of Excellence District # 4181
270 Larpenteur Avenue West, St. Paul MN 55113

Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
March 19, 2025, 4:30 p.m. – Board Room

Mission

The Community School of Excellence develops global-minded leaders through high academic standards and real-life experiences.

Vision

Community School of Excellence is a catalyst for academic transformation.

Board of Directors' Purpose

To provide leadership, set policy, and develop accountability practices that will ensure high student achievement.

Name	8/21	9/18	10/16	11/20	12/18	1/22	2/19	3/19			
Terence G. Jones	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Christie Keefer	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			
TC Young	P	P	A	P	A	A	A	A			
Xeng Xiong	P	A	P	P	P	A	P	P			
Faith Thao	P	A	P	P	A	A	P	P			
Say Vang	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			

Agenda	Notes
Call to Order	Community School of Excellence Board Meeting is called to order by Board Chair, Mr. T. Jones, on February 19, 2025 at 4:30pm. Roll Call: <u>Board Members</u>: Mr. Terence Jones, Ms. Say Vang, Mr. Xeng Xiong, Ms. Christie Keefer, Ms. Faith Thao <u>Ex Officio Member</u>: Ms. Bao Vang, Ms. Kazoua Kong-Thao <u>Guests</u>: Ms. Julie Thao, Ms. Bobbi Hume, Ms. Camryn Laroche (CSE Staff), Ms. Callie Boeckmann
Public Comments	None
Conflict of Interest Declaration	Roll Call: ● C.Keefer - No ● S.Vang - No ● F.Thao- No ● C.Keefer- No

	● T.Jones - No ● X.Xiong- No
Board Meeting Agenda Review for March 19, 2025	The Board of Directors reviewed the Agenda for March 19, 2025. ● Ms. F.Thao motioned to accept the agenda for March 19, 2025; Ms. C.Keefer seconded the motion. ● All voted in favor of approving the March 19th Agenda.
Board Meeting Minutes from February 19, 2025	The Board of Directors reviewed the Board Meeting Minutes from February 19, 2025. ● Ms. C.Keefer motioned to accept the February 19th Board Meeting Minutes as presented; Ms. F.Thao seconded the motion. ● All voted in favor of approving the February 19th Board Meeting Minutes.
Financial and Supplemental Reports for: February 2025	The February 2025 Financial and Supplemental Reports were presented by Ms. C. Boeckmann. ● Ms. S.Vang motioned to accept the February 2025 Financials and Supplemental Reports as presented; Ms. F.Thao seconded the motion. ● All voted in favor of approving the February 2025 Financial and Supplemental Reports as presented.
Schedule Changes for grade (5-12) in the school year 2025-2026.	Ms. B. Vang requested the Board's approval to modify the 25-26 school schedule in order to better support sports activities. These changes will not affect student start and end times. By converting the final period into an advisory class, students and teachers can address any outstanding homework assignment, provide intentional student support as well as allow students to pursue personal interest. ● Ms. C.Keefer motioned to approve the School Year 25-26 schedule changes for grades 5-12; Ms. F.Thao seconded the motion. ● The motion passed with unanimous support
CEO/CAO Update	Upcoming School Updates ● Spring conference will be held on March 20 and 21. ● Spring break will be from March 31 to April 4. ● On March 27, CSE will be hosting a mini concert as their March PTO. ● Calendar for School Year 25-26 will be presented at the April's meeting.
Charter School Request For Proposal (RFP)	Board Chair, Mr. T.Jones updated the Board of Directors on the Charter School Management RFP process, highlighting promotional efforts through local newspapers and the school's website, as well as outreach to over 12 organizations. Ultimately, only Hmong Education Foundation (HEF) submitted a proposal by the deadline. HEF will present today, after which they will be excused for board discussions and decision-making. Following HEF's presentation after they exited the room, the Board of Directors engaged in a productive dialogue regarding the presentation and reached the following conclusion: ● Ms. F.Thao proposed increasing the requested compensation from 4.5% to 5.5%.



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	● Ms. S.Vang supported the recommendation and agreed to the 5.5% increase contingent upon establishing a succession plan. ● Mr. X. Xiong preferred maintaining the original 4.5% proposal without an increase. ● Ms. C.Keefer aligned with the 4.5% figure, citing increased revenue over five years and expressing concerns about long-term succession if Ms. B.Vang retires. ● Mr. T.Jones found 4.5% unsatisfactory and advocated for a higher increase. ● Ms. S.Vang motioned to approve the Charter School management contract for a five-year plan with a 5.25% increase, contingent upon a succession plan development. ● Mr. T.Jones noted that HEF would continue to grow the school for three years and refine in the following two years. ● Mr. X.Xiong seconded the motion. ○ Roll Call: all voted in favor to accept the proposal. ■ C.Keefer- Aye ■ X.Xiong- Aye ■ F.Thao-Aye ■ S.Vang-Aye ■ T.Jones-Aye ● HEF was brought back into the room and the proposal was accepted. They will work with legal counsel to draft the contract to comply with all MDE requirements. Once finalized, the contract will be posted for a duration of 20 days prior to signing.
Authorizer Update	Contract renewal is expected to begin in June of 2025 with our authorizer. More updates will be forthcoming.
Others	● The Board of Directors discussed Board Elections and reviewed the timeline. ● Ms. Kim O'Brien from Rice & Larpenteur Alliance presented the Community Champion Award to the Community School of Excellence.
Adjourn	The Board Chair adjourned the March 19, 2025 board meeting at 7:41 PM.