THE EXCEL CENTER, LLC
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
JANUARY 30, 2023

MINUTES

The Board of Directors of The Excel Center, LLC met at 8:30 a.m. January 30, 2023, at Goodwill’s headquarters. Present were:

Gita Baker, not present
Perry Griffith, present
Kent Kramer, present
Jay Oliver, present
Don Palmer, present
Laura Pickett, present
Doris Pryor, present
Josh Shelton, present

Staff/Other:
Shelley Ashley
Katie Bustamante
Twyla Carlson
Josh Cooper
Anne Davis
Betsy Delgado
Sheila Dollaske
Rachel Eble
Corey Emery
Emily Fritsch
Lynn Greggs
Elysse Hamlin
Miriam Henry

Sylvia Lauer
Corenn Lorenzini
Brandon Marks
Kim Myers
Lakia Osborne
Dan Riley
Shonda Russell
Dan Scott
Sarah Thomas
Jen Wade
Toni Williams
Rachel Zaudtke
Jeri Zawadzki

Board Chair Doris Pryor presided and called the meeting to order.

On a motion by Don Palmer, duly seconded, the meeting minutes of the November 7, 2022, meeting was approved as previously distributed. Roll call by individual members’ present were all in agreement of approval.

There was no public comment.

Dan Riley gave the Treasurer’s report for the period through December 31, 2022. Dan noted the total year-to-date (YTD) revenue is $14,926,000, $122,000 ahead of budget and total YTD operating income is $512,000, $408,000 ahead of budget. Goodwill funding is ahead of budget as a result of the intercompany leases (both with GEI And GCSI) becoming entirely in-kind as of July 1, 2022. Clarksville, Michigan Street, Meadows, and Kokomo (effective 9/15) are affected. State funding is behind budget due to the September count being lower than projected. Federal funding continues to lag behind budget due to smaller than expected claims, and some open grant-covered positions. Rent is over budget due to Anderson’s move and rent incurred in both locations. Also, GEI has adopted the new lease standard, resulting in additional rent expense recognition. Supplies and materials is over budget YTD due to additional computer equipment purchased under the CSP grant, which should be offset by grant income once claim is made. Other expense is over budget due overage in travel and equipment lease expense.

There was discussion on clarification around the new lease standard in the financials.

On a motion by Perry Griffith, duly seconded, the financial statement for December and accounts payable for October, November and December were approved unanimously. Roll call by individual members’ present were all in agreement of approval.
Dan introduced Josh Cooper who was recently promoted from Controller to Vice President of Finance.

Lakia Osborne reviewed the College & Career Readiness (CCR) report, noting the current school year number of graduates number of CCR and CCR rates versus the previous school year. She also highlighting the following:

- Percent earning a certification = 48%
- Percent earning dual credits = 46%
- Percent earning both a certification and dual credit = 6%

There was discussion on the contributors to success and generational impact.

Anne Davis commented on the membership update, noting the creation of a month-to-month process with full engagement and upward enrollment.

There was discussion on traction in Bloomington, IN and potential opportunities in Martinsville, IN.

Miriam Henry introduced staff members who had the top three Education Achievement Award finalists.

Kari Podany spoke about Dakota McLaughlin and shared his story of barriers to success.

Jess Jones shared Terricka Johnson’s journey to success story.

Emily Fritsch reported on Aussie Stone’s pursuit of success into healthcare despite significant learning challenges.

The recipient of this award will be invited to a future board meeting.

There was discussion on trends/data regarding post-grad Excel Center student job retention.

Corey Emery reported on the Office of Education Innovation (OEI) Audit and Report, highlighting the following:

- In October and November, five Excel Centers—Shadeland Ave, Meadows, West, Michigan St, and Decatur—were reviewed for the mayor’s office. OEI requires schools to have a site visit in years three and six of a charter’s term. The review seeks to answer the question for Core Question 4 of the OEI Accountability Framework:
  o Is the school providing appropriate conditions for success?
- Strengths identified by the reviewer:
  o (1) Solid culture preparing students for what is next and students earning post-secondary credentials. The new curriculum has “worth and cultural [relevancy]”.
  o (2) Staff and students love the schools, students are engaged, and we are changing lives.
  o (3) Schools have prioritized enrollment and met targets.
- Opportunities identified were: Enhance, refine, and update the English Language Learner (ELL) programming.

There was discussion on next steps and the issues around OEI changing out their auditors every two years.

There were no updates presented from the Mayor’s Office.

The meeting was adjourned.