

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of  
The Equity Project (TEP) Charter School Board of Trustees  
July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

The **181<sup>st</sup>** regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of The Equity Project Charter School was held on **July 29<sup>th</sup>** at The Equity Project Charter School's Middle School location at **153 Sherman Avenue, New York, NY 10034** pursuant to due notice to Trustees via electronic mail sent on 6/10/24. Public notice was posted on TEP's website at [www.tepcharter.org](http://www.tepcharter.org).

**The following Trustees were present:**

Laura Tavormina attended in person.

Jen Mulhern, Brooks Clark, Sean Juan, and Anyeli Matos joined via videoconference from the following public locations posted in advance on TEP's website:

235 N Mountain Ave  
Montclair, NJ 07043

1350 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02138

450 North End Avenue  
New York, NY 10282

600 Park Ave  
New York, NY 10065

**The following staff members were present:**

Casey Ash, Aaron Villela

Meeting called to order at 5:32 pm.

**Meeting Agenda and Notes:**

**1. 2024-25 School Year Launch**

Casey Ash, Principal, opened the meeting highlighting that the 2024-25 school year will be TEP's 16th year. Principal Ash shared that this will be a special year, as this is the year that TEP will witness its first-ever Kindergarten cohort, graduate from TEP as 8th graders in June (Cohort 2025).

Casey dove deeper into the rising 8<sup>th</sup> grade cohort, by providing an overview of students' academic achievement, according to the 2023-24 NWEA MAP data for Reading and Math.

Casey shared an update regarding TEP's 4-year graduation rate for Cohort 2019 (the cohort that graduated from high school in 2023) – which is a record year for TEP alumni. TEP's 4-year graduation rate for Cohort 2019 was 88%. In comparison, NYS's 4-year graduation rate is 86%, NYC's 4-year graduation rate is 83%, and Community School District #6 4-year graduation rate is 82%.

Casey also presented TEP's goals for the 2024-25 school year, in relation to Students, Families, and Staff, as well as TEP's theme for the 2024-25 school year: *Tiger to Tiger*, a theme centering on the importance of connections and relationship building between staff members, staff and students, and staff and families.

## **2. Staffing Update**

Principal Ash presented a staffing update related to instructional staff; highlighting that the MS instructional team is in good shape for the new school year. Aaron Villela, CEO, provided a staffing update regarding non-instructional staff, highlighting important positions that were recently filled and open positions as we prepare for the 2024-25 school year. Casey and Aaron provided a follow-up regarding staff members that did not return to TEP for this school year.

## **3. Facilities Update**

Principal Ash provided an update regarding potential plans for the future, highlighting opportunities for our Early Childhood and Elementary School, considering approaching timelines and partnerships that may support the educational experience for our students.

Meeting adjourned at 6:12 pm.

Minutes recorded by Jen Mulhern.