

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
The Equity Project (TEP) Charter School Board of Trustees
April 21st, 2025**

The **190th** regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of The Equity Project Charter School was held on **April 21st** 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 4/18/25. Public notice was posted on TEP's website at www.tepcharter.org.

The following Trustees were present:

Andrew Buher, Anyeli Matos, Brooks Clark, Sean Juan, and Jennifer Mulhern joined via video conference from the following public locations posted in advance on TEP's website:

630 Park Avenue
Brielle, NJ 08730

1350 Massachusetts Avenue
Richard A. and Susan F. Smith Campus Center, Cambridge, MA 02138

600 Third Avenue New York, NY 10016

Asphalt Green Battery Park
212 North End Ave, New York, NY 10282

253 N Mountain Avenue
NJ 07043

The following staff members were present:

Casey Ash, Andres Esguerra, and Sophia Senhaji

Meeting called to order at 5:32 pm.

Meeting Agenda and Notes:

1. High School Placement: Class of 2025

Mr. Casey Ash highlighted that the first cohort of students that began at TEP Charter in Kindergarten are now graduating 8th grade. Mr. Ash shared exciting news about the Class of 2025 high school placement results, in which over half the cohort received offers to selective schools, and over a quarter of the cohort received offers to highly selective schools, including specialized and performing arts high schools. Other students in the cohort not mentioned above have many options to choose from, such as other charter high schools, catholic high schools, or public high schools. The Board was content and appreciative of TEP's continued commitment to the successful transition to high school of the Class of 2025.

2. Updates

a. NYS Testing

Mr. Ash informed the Board that the weeks of 4/28 - 5/2 and 5/5 - 5/9 are the New York State exams. Mr. Ash stated he is hopeful all testing logistics will run smoothly for the students, as this is the first year where the majority of students are participating in Computer-Based Testing.

b. Staffing for 2025-26

Mr. Ash informed the Board that TEP is hosting a teacher referral event in case members of the Board are interested in attending or have referrals. TEP is currently well staffed, and the Talent Acquisition team are actively interviewing and screening teacher candidates for the 25-26 school year.

3. ELEM Facilities Project

Mr. Ash updated the Board on communication with the DOE. Mr. Ash is hopeful there will be progress as communication continues with the DOE. Mr. Ash opened the floor to the Board for new ideas to move forward with facilities upgrades. Board members provided possible contacts with the DOE for continued conversation.

4. Student Spotlight

Mr. Andres Esguerra, Middle School Assistant Director, presented the progress of a 5th grade student on the autism spectrum. Mr. Esguerra acknowledged the student's kind and gentle nature, and informed the Board of the student's sensitivity to stimuli. Mr. Esguerra praised the student's paraprofessional, Ms. Rodriguez, who has worked with TEP for 8 years and has been aiding the student navigating day-to-day classes and school events. Ms. Rodriguez creates space for the student

to develop a new skill in all kinds of classes, from arts to education, which has allowed the student to make tremendous progress from Trimester 1 to Trimester 2.

The Board recognized TEP's Special Education program for its dedication to providing high quality support for its students to ensure academic growth and success, such as that displayed in this meeting's spotlight.

Meeting adjourned at 6:10 pm.

Minutes recorded by Jennifer Mulhern