

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
The Equity Project (TEP) Charter School Board of Trustees
August 25th, 2025**

The **194th** regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of The Equity Project Charter School was held on **August 25th** 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 8/22/25. Public notice was posted on TEP's website at www.tepcharter.org.

The following Trustees were present:

Andrew Buher, Anyeli Matos, Sean Juan, Brooks Clark
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

55 Hudson Yards
New York, NY

600 Third Avenue New York, NY 10016

The following staff members were present:

Casey Ash, Aaron Villela, and Sophia Senhaji

Meeting called to order at 5:33 pm

Meeting Agenda and Notes:

1. 2025 NYS Exam Scores

Mr. Casey Ash shared the NYS English Language Arts and Math exam scores data for 3rd – 8th grades. Mr. Ash highlighted substantial improvements in ELA and Math exam scores across all grades, 3-8. Data showed particular improvement over the years for students that have attended TEP from Kindergarten to 8th grade. Data also showed that TEP's IEP cohort and ELL cohort outperformed the respective cohorts of both New York City and District 6. Mr. Ash expressed to the BOT that this is excellent progress and hopes that next year, TEP students will continue to improve their scores and performance.

2. DYCD Compass Program Update

Mr. Aaron Villela introduced Inwood Community Services as the designated after school program provider for the DYCD Compass Program at the Elementary Campus, selected by TEP in adherence with the process required by DYCD. The selection was based on several factors including their programming experience and connection to our school community. TEP is currently in the final stages of solidifying the logistics of the program, including identifying the program director. The program will launch at TEP's Elementary school campus, opening to 2nd grade first and gradually 3rd and 4th grade. The program will serve up to 120 students at capacity and is slated to begin in mid-September.

3. BOT Expansion

Mr. Ash Introduced the prospect of adding a new board member to the BOT: Shelly Gupta. Ms. Gupta was TEP's previous Chief Financial Officer and has significant experience and knowledge in finance and institutional knowledge at TEP. The Board was excited about the addition of Ms. Gupta.

Board members were directed to contact Mr. Ash if they would like to meet with Ms. Gupta or if they need any additional information prior to the September meeting and vote.

4. District Safety Plan BOT Vote

Mr. Ash presented the TEP Schoolwide Safety Plan for review and approval. Mr. Villela explained this is a yearly plan that must be approved by the BOT and submitted to the New York State Education Department. This plan addresses safety procedures across all campuses for the 2025-26 school year.

After review, all board members voted to approve the district safety plan.

5. Use of AI at TEP

Mr. Ash opened the discussion to BOT regarding the use of AI at TEP.

Ms. Anyeli Matos suggested establishing a committee that can oversee possible AI programs and processes. Mr. Juan agreed and emphasized that teacher input would be a great way to identify uses of AI in the classroom.

Meeting adjourned at 6:03 pm.

Minutes recorded by Jennifer Mulhern