EVMS Board of Visitors Resolution
Approved November 30, 2020

WHEREAS, as a school founded by the community, for the community, EVMS remains committed to improving the health of Hampton Roads and the state overall. In July, the Board agreed to participate in what was described as a study process convened by ReInvent Hampton Roads to identify opportunities and strategies to strengthen the Hampton Roads healthcare ecosystem in partnership with EVMS, Sentara, ODU, the Commonwealth of Virginia and other key stakeholders. EVMS entered into the study process in good faith and participated fully and with transparency. However, the process not only lacked transparency, freedom from conflicts of interest, and actual dialogue between all parties, it appears to have been based on a predetermined outcome conceived prior to EVMS’ participation. Had EVMS known prospectively of the real and perceived conflicts of interest and the lack of objectivity to the engagement, we would not have agreed to participate.

WHEREAS, we find this process negligent and conducted without the best interest of EVMS or the community it serves in mind. The Board is rescinding its participation, including financial, in the study. We will not have our financial participation mistaken for a sign of support for the agenda that appears to be behind it.

WHEREAS, Despite problems with the previous process, EVMS also remains committed to operating in good faith and doing the difficult work of developing an effective model of collaboration with Old Dominion University and Sentara Healthcare to advance health outcomes for the local community. We invite these anchor institutions to join us in this commitment and find a path forward that engages not only the three anchors but other community and state-level entities in building a more robust health ecosystem for Hampton Roads and the Commonwealth.

RESOLVED, the Board approves A Path Forward: A Transitional Model Presented as a Starting Point for Discussion of Partnership & Alignment Opportunities.

RESOLVED FURTHER, the Board remains committed to discussions with our community partners to identify opportunities and strategies to strengthen health care in Hampton Roads. However, it withdraws from the consulting arrangement being conducted by Manatt Health as convened and engaged by ReInvent Hampton Roads with a vote of no confidence.

RESOLVED FURTHER, the Board directs management to seek recoupment of the investment and to direct any money returned to be used towards scholarship to ease the financial burden on an EVMS student who has been financially hurt by the pandemic-driven recession.

RESOLVED FURTHER, the Board reiterates its commitment to the community and the EVMS mission to strive to improve the health of our community.