



## Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 26, 2021 – 4:00 PM

Zoom Video Conference

[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/82018777182?pwd=MnpBVTFTGnIN0xMSU9AWVVTbTJFQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82018777182?pwd=MnpBVTFTGnIN0xMSU9AWVVTbTJFQT09)

### I. CALL TO ORDER

This meeting is being held in compliance with Open Meeting requirements of the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act and is open to the public. Notices were duly posted and the meeting was advertised in The Philadelphia Daily News. Formal action will be taken.

### II. ROLL CALL

Board Member	Present	Absent	Board Member	Present	Absent
Winston J. Churchill	x		Lois Pressman	x	
Emily Ashe	x		Tom Rebar	x	
Ira Brind	x		Valerie Schwartz	x	
Dana Dwirantwi			Gail Singer		
Valerie Hanraty	x		Blair Stambaugh	x	
Esther Kaplin	x		Wayne Weisman	x	
Sanjeev Midha			Bonnie Young	x	
Alexandra Panichello	x				

**Also present: John Amenda, Becca Chazin, Josephine Wang, Kristen Tini, Kevin Corcoran, Charles Freyer, Samantha Banks, Devon Buchanan, Ellyn Saft**

### Election of New Trustee:

*RESOLVED*, that Josephine Wang are hereby, on motion duly made and seconded, unanimously elected as a Trustee of Young Scholars Charter School, with immediate effect.

### III. BOARD DISCUSSION TOPICS

Topic	Facilitator(s)	Committee Connection
<p><b>Co-Principal Update-</b> Mr. Amenda shared a previously recorded video by Co-Principals, Beth Birnkrant and Shakira Smith who both gave updates on instruction and school culture. Student attendance started strong in Quarter 2 and there have been many student life activities that promote joy- October Awareness Week, High School Day, Trunk or Treat. A priority this year is encouraging a strong and joyful culture.</p> <p><b>Goal Setting Overview and Diagnostic Data-</b> John Amenda sent out notes detailing the school's goal setting process and using data to set academic goals.</p>	<p>Shakira Smith Beth Birnkrant John Amenda</p>	<p>N/A</p>

<p>There was a discussion regarding the potential SEPTA strike and how it would affect students and families. The school team sent out a survey to all families that communicated the situation and how the school is preparing for it and asked for feedback about preferred method of instructional delivery in the event of a strike.</p>		
<p><b>Board Committees- meeting cadence, committee charters-</b> Draft committee charters were shared with the Board. Each Board committee will meet quarterly, except for the Finance Committee which will meet before every board meeting.</p>	<p>Winston J. Churchill John Amenda</p>	<p>Governance</p>
<p><b>High School Admissions-</b> Devon Buchanan gave an update about the high school admissions process. High school applications are due on November 19<sup>th</sup>. Changes in admissions policies were reviewed. SSAT tutoring is occurring every Wednesday.</p>	<p>Devon Buchanan</p>	<p>High School Admissions &amp; Alumni Engagement</p>
<p><b>Financial Summary and Statements-</b> Kevin Corcoran from Charter Choices gave an update on financial statements and the financial summary. The school is in a strong financial position and the audit is proceeding smoothly with drafts ready for review by November 8th. He also gave a legislative update from Harrisburg. Federal funding plans were also shared with the Board.</p>	<p>Kevin Corcoran Tom Rebar Wayne Weisman</p>	<p>Finance</p>
<p><b>Pride Leadership Institute Lunch-</b> Trustee, Esther Kaplin, is donating catering services to the Pride Leadership Institute lunch on November 4<sup>th</sup>. <b>2021-2022 Annual Campaign-</b> Mr. Churchill shared information about the 2021-2022 Annual Campaign and asked Trustees for annual contributions to support the mission of YSCS, as well engage their networks by sharing fundraising materials.</p>	<p>Winston J. Churchill</p>	<p>Development</p>
<p><b>Facility Project Planning-</b> The building expansion project is in process. The Friends of Young Scholars Board and Ira Brind are working together to plan out general contractors and engineering plans but all work is currently exploratory. Josephine Wang will join the Planning and Property Committee.</p>	<p>Ira Brind John Amenda</p>	<p>Planning &amp; Property</p>

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Resolved that the Board approve the Regular session minutes from the September 14, 2021 meeting.

Board Member	Present	Absent	Board Member	Present	Absent
Winston J. Churchill	x		Lois Pressman	x	
Emily Ashe	x		Tom Rebar	x	
Ira Brind	x		Valerie Schwartz	x	
Dana Dwirantwi			Gail Singer		
Valerie Hanraty	x		Blair Stambaugh	x	
Esther Kaplin	x		Wayne Weisman	x	
Sanjeev Midha			Bonnie Young	x	
Alexandra Panichello	x				

**V. MOTIONS FOR APPROVAL**

- a **Policy / Governance / Operations / Miscellaneous - None**

**VI. NEW BUSINESS****VII. OLD BUSINESS****VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Members of the public wishing to address the Board of Trustees must state their name and are requested to limit their comments to three minutes. Please be aware that all Charter School employees retain the right of privacy and shall retain all rights against defamation and slander per the laws of Pennsylvania. The Board shall not be held liable for comments made by members of the public. Each member of the public will be given one opportunity to address the Board.

**IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

It is expected that the Board will go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters, legal matters and facility negotiation matters. A brief executive session was held to discuss a legal matter.

**XIII. IMPORTANT DATES**

1. Next Board meeting- Tuesday, December 14, 2021
2. Next Board Retreat- Friday, November 5, 2021

**XIV. MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Board Member	Present	Absent	Board Member	Present	Absent
Winston J. Churchill	x		Lois Pressman	x	
Emily Ashe	x		Tom Rebar	x	
Ira Brind	x		Valerie Schwartz	x	
Dana Dwirantwi			Gail Singer		
Valerie Hanraty	x		Blair Stambaugh	x	
Esther Kaplin	x		Wayne Weisman	x	
Sanjeev Midha			Bonnie Young	x	
Alexandra Panichello	x				