

Regular Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, September 5, 2018 – 4:00 PM

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.

Board meeting started 4:08pm

II. ROLL CALL

Board Member	Present	Absent	Board Member	Present	Absent
Winston Churchill	x		Alexandra Panichello	x	
Emily Ashe	phone		Lois Pressman	x	
Ira Brind	x		Tom Rebar	x	
Dana Dwirantwi		x	Renee Rosenbluth	x	
James Egan		x	Valerie Schwartz	x	
Charles Freyer	phone		Miriam Spector	x	
Robert Fox		x	Blair Stambaugh	X	
Valerie Hanraty	phone		Wayne Weisman	x	
Kevin Kan	x		Bonnie Young		x
Sanjeev Midha	phone				

Also in attendance were: John Amenda, Kevin Corcoran, Ellyn Saft, Becca Chazin and Katherine Reinert.

III. UPDATES

1. Executive Director Update

a Beginning of Year Update & Staff Introductions

1. John first invited the faculty and staff into the meeting to introduce themselves and take questions from the Board. With the additional faculty hired this year, the student/faculty ratio has been reduced to 12-1. There will be instructors in each home room, and Spanish will be taught full time.
2. John next spoke about having distributed leadership at YSCS this year: there will not be a Principal, as such, this year. Instead, there will be three Assistant Principals in the building with differing responsibilities (Curriculum and Instruction; Culture and Operations; Special Ed). John will also be present 4 days a week. John and two of the Assistant Principals are accredited principals. The Board was very complimentary of this structure.
3. John next introduced Becca Chazin and Katherine Reinert.

b Transportation Update and Planning for 18-19 and Beyond

1. John expressed appreciation to the Board and parents whose lobbying with the SDP helped reverse their decision to stop bus service for 7th and 8th grade, and instead extend bus service for all to YSCS for this year, as reflected in the letter among the meeting materials.
2. YSCS students come from 31 zip codes, and we need bus service or we will lose students; we already lost students from 8th grade due to the announcement that bus service would not be available. Options include arranging our own bus service (2 buses cost an aggregate

of approx. \$120,000/year), or offering to pay some lesser amount to the District to retain their bus service.

3. John will calculate the marginal cost of these options and work with Board members Sanjeev and Brind and any other Board members who join this ad hoc committee to negotiate a settlement with the District this Fall.
- c Enrollment Decisions Re: 8th Grade
1. A few students left because of the announcement that bus service would not be available, leaving 15 spaces open in 8th grade. YSCS will try to enroll at least 7 additional 8th graders
 2. John will see if PSP might supplement the cost of not having full enrollment.
 3. Invoices are submitted monthly, so new students will be on the rolls from their arrival
- d Evergreen Goals
1. John reviewed the school's goals and their level of achievement over the past few years. Incoming 6th graders are further below grade level than in the past, and we are getting more special ed students, both of which pose a challenge to our goals. On the other hand, YSCS met its fiscal 2018 fundraising goal, expanded its building, was renewed without conditions, has positive external relations, strong financial health, an engaged board, over 60 partnerships, and strong waitlists for 6th and 7th. As a result, John proposed resetting our PSSA 18-19 goals to those achieved in 16-17. Other 18-19 goals have been set higher than in 17-18.

2. Finance & Audit Committee

- a Year End Financial Statements: Tom and Kevin gave the finance update, noting that the school will report a \$170K surplus; the annual independent financial audit is underway; Harrisburg reimbursement rates for 18-19 school year will reflect a 6% increase in general education, and a 9% increase in special education; and the YSCS balance sheet is quite healthy, due in large part to successful development activities.

3. Development Committee

1. 20th Anniversary Event: Ellyn and Renee gave the development report, focusing on the Anniversary event and the outstanding success of the development team, during fiscal 2018. Val and Renee who were complimented by the entire Board for their leadership, diligence and energy in organizing this event. While it appears we will exceed our fundraising goal at the event, Win encouraged 100% participation by the Board.
2. Renee suggested having a fundraiser every year, as the cornerstone of YSCS fundraising efforts; a decision will be taken on this idea after the anniversary event in October. Ideas discussed included having different co-chairs for each event; Alexandra will distribute information about the anniversary event to the members of the Young Friends group.

4. School Performance Committee

- a 18-19 Goal Setting: The committee will meet and set goals before the next board meeting, probably in the next couple weeks

5. High School Admissions Committee

- a The school has prepared an excellent and thorough High School Guide, with a lot of help from the Princeton interns this summer, and excellent leadership from Mario Dattilo, Director of HS Placement and Alumni Engagement.

6. Governance Committee

- a Annually the Governance Committee entertains requests to change committee assignments. Anyone wishing to do so should contact Mr. Freyer.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Mr. Churchill, seconded by Mr. Weisman the following resolution was approved unanimously:
Resolved, that the regular session minutes from the June 6, 2018 meeting of this Board and hereby approved and adopted.

Board Member	Present	Absent	Board Member	Present	Absent
Winston Churchill	x		Alexandra Panichello	x	
Emily Ashe	x		Lois Pressman	x	
Ira Brind	x		Tom Rebar	x	
Dana Dwirantwi			Renee Rosenbluth	x	
James Egan			Valerie Schwartz	x	
Charles Freyer	x		Miriam Spector	x	
Robert Fox			Blair Stambaugh	x	
Valerie Hanraty	x		Wayne Weisman	x	
Kevin Kan	x		Bonnie Young		
Sanjeev Midha	x				

V. MOTIONS FOR APPROVAL

1. Policy / Governance / Operations / Miscellaneous

2. After discussion, and on motion of Mr. Churchill seconded by Mr. Weisman, the following resolution was approved unanimously:

Resolved, that the following policies, procedures and handbooks, each in the form distributed to this Board and reviewed by its members in advance of this meeting, are hereby approved for implementation and distribution:

- a Religion Policy Approval
- b YSCS Financial Policies and Procedures
- c Parent/Family Engagement Policy
- d HR Handbook 2018-19
- e Student and Family Handbook 2018-19

Board Member	Present	Absent	Board Member	Present	Absent
Winston Churchill	x		Alexandra Panichello	x	
Emily Ashe	x		Lois Pressman	x	
Ira Brind	x		Tom Rebar	x	
Dana Dwirantwi			Renee Rosenbluth	x	
James Egan			Valerie Schwartz	x	
Charles Freyer	x		Miriam Spector	x	
Robert Fox			Blair Stambaugh	x	
Valerie Hanraty	x		Wayne Weisman	x	
Kevin Kan	x		Bonnie Young		
Sanjeev Midha	x				

VI. NEW BUSINESS

John noted that he was feeling very good about this year's faculty and staff so far. He again thanked the Board for their leadership in fundraising, and suggested we develop a long-term fundraising strategy. He encouraged the Board to come visit the school during classes. Win added his thanks to the Board, noting that the Board is of a good size and very engaged.

VII. OLD BUSINESS-None

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.

No members of the public attended this meeting.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A brief executive session was held to solicit discussion among the Board. No such discussion was forthcoming and the meeting was adjourned.

XIII. IMPORTANT DATES

1. Next Board meeting – September 26, 2018
2. 20th Anniversary Celebration - October 17, 2018, 5:30 – 7:30pm

XIV. MOTION TO ADJOURN

The Meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 5:35.

Board Member	Present	Absent	Board Member	Present	Absent
Winston Churchill	x		Alexandra Panichello	x	
Emily Ashe	x		Lois Pressman	x	
Ira Brind	x		Tom Rebar	x	
Dana Dwirantwi			Renee Rosenbluth	x	
James Egan			Valerie Schwartz	x	
Charles Freyer	x		Miriam Spector	x	
Robert Fox			Blair Stambaugh	x	
Valerie Hanraty	x		Wayne Weisman	x	
Kevin Kan	x		Bonnie Young		
Sanjeev Midha	x				