

**Meeting of the Board of Trustees of
Young Scholars Charter School (“YSCS”)
December 7, 2016**

The meeting was convened on December 7, 2016 at 3:34 pm at Young Scholars Charter School. This Board of Trustees meeting was held in accordance with Public Meeting Law i/a/w/ Section 4 of the Sunshine Act. Attending in person or by phone were Trustees Miriam Spector, Jim Egan, Kevin Kan, Tom Rebar, Dana Dwirantwi, and Board Chair Wayne Weisman. In addition to the Trustees, the meeting included guests from Young Scholars Melissa Campbell, John Amenda, Lauren Marlowe, and 8th grade student Demaine Cumberbatch-Lee; prospective Board Members Sanjeev Midha and Alex Arnold; Brianna Schmidt, Liz Vento, Jim Murphy, and Michael Licata from Munroe Creative Partners; and Kevin Corcoran from Charter Choices. Trustees Carmon Harvey and newly appointed Trustee Winston Churchill joined the meeting at 3:45pm and 4:15pm respectively.

The meeting began with a welcome from Board Chair Wayne Weisman and a review of the meeting’s agenda. Mr. Weisman then moved the Board to resolutions and consent agenda items.

The Board considered for approval the September 14, 2016 Board meeting minutes. Mr. Rebar moved to approve; motion was seconded by Ms. Dwirantwi and unanimously approved.

Mr. Weisman led discussion on board composition with the goal of ensuring active engagement of current members and potential expansion of the board to maximize impact. In accordance with board bylaws regarding attendance, the board will request a letter of resignation from a Trustee who has been an inactive member. If no letter is received, the board will vote for removal at the next meeting.

Mr. Weisman nominated for appointment to the Board two new Trustees: Winston Churchill and Sanjeev Midha (both were formerly on the Scholar Academies board). Ms. Spector moved to approve; motion was seconded by Ms. Dwirantwi and unanimously approved.

Ms. Harvey introduced prospective Board Member Alex Arnold. Pending follow-up discussions, the Board may move to appoint Mr. Arnold to the Board at the next meeting.

The board considered for approval the transfer of CEO title from principal Ms. Campbell to Mr. Amenda. Ms. Dwirantwi motioned to approve the designation; the motion was seconded by Ms. Spector and unanimously approved.

The board considered for approval the updated Attendance (Truancy) Policy. Ms. Spector moved to approve; motion was seconded by Mr. Rebar and unanimously approved. The motions were seconded and unanimously approved.

Mr. Weisman then moved the Board to committee updates.

Mr. Weisman and Mr. Amenda shared of the progress of the Development committee in committee Chair Ms. Disston's absence. Mr. Weisman and Mr. Amenda met with Elizabeth Dale, (Executive Vice President of Jefferson Institutional Advancement), and her colleagues to discuss development efforts for Young Scholars Charter School. Among other items, Ms. Dale encouraged participation in Pennsylvania's EITC (Education Innovation Tax Credit) program, in order to receive corporate contributions. Additionally, Mr. Amenda shared that Ellyn Saft has been contracting with the school team in preparation for increasing development efforts in 2017. Her work is funded by gifts from the Churchill Foundation and David Wachs.

Mr. Amenda led the board through a review and discussion of the Dashboard, highlighting important student achievement and culture data for the first semester. There was no further update from the School Performance & Planning committee.

Ms. Harvey shared that there were no additional updates from the Governance committee, as board composition was discussed earlier in the meeting.

Mr. Kevin Corcoran from Charter Choices presented an overview of the financial packet provided to the board as of October 31. Among other highlights, Mr. Corcoran shared that the school has a healthy projected fund balance, particularly due to favorable per pupil funding from the District. Mr. Corcoran and Mr. Amenda will share budgets at the next Board Meeting, modeling possible scenarios for Special Education funding.

Mr. Amenda then moved the board to a program update. Ms. Campbell and Young Scholars student Demaine shared with the board anecdotal information about the High School application process. Demaine shared that his time at Young Scholars and participation in associated programs (specifically Arete afterschool and summer program) has prepared him well—academically and emotionally—for the high school application process, and he looks forward to next year. Ms. Campbell also briefly shared highlights from the school, including high parent satisfaction rates, and the addition of a new special education teacher.

Mr. Amenda then moved the board to discuss Strategic Planning, Development and Branding. As part of this discussion, Mr. Amenda introduced Monroe Creative Partners, who have begun branding work for the school. The Munroe team presented position statements for consideration by the board, which prompted a Board discussion of the direction of the Strategic Planning work. Mr. Amenda and Munroe will engage other stakeholders, and discuss further with the group at the next meeting of the Board.

Mr. Weisman then opened the floor for public comment. There was no public comment.

At 5:33, the Board adjourned to an Executive Session to discuss privileged and confidential legal matters; this session lasted until 5:45 p.m.

Mr. Weisman adjourned the meeting at 5:45 p.m.