



Young Scholars Charter School

Minutes

Regular Board Meeting

Date and Time

Tuesday May 3, 2022 at 4:00 PM

Location

Young Scholars Charter School
900 N. Marshall Street
Philadelphia, PA 19123

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.

Trustees Present

B. Stambaugh (remote), B. Young (remote), E. Kaplin (remote), G. Singer (remote), I. Brind (remote), J. Brown (remote), J. Wang (remote), L. Pressman (remote), S. Midha (remote), W. Churchill (remote), W. Weisman (remote)

Trustees Absent

A. Hay, D. Dwirantwi, E. Ashe, T. Rebar, V. Hanraty, V. Schwartz

Guests Present

B. Chazin (remote), Charles Freyer (remote), J. Amenda (remote), K. Lamilla (remote), Kevin Corcoran (remote), Kristen Tini (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

W. Churchill called a meeting of the board of trustees of Young Scholars Charter School to order on Tuesday May 3, 2022 at 4:07 PM.

II. Board Discussion Topics

A. Open Discussion of Q&A re: Executive Director Narrative Update

John Amenda reviewed key details with the board on the following topics: PSSA updates, talent updates, summer programming, curriculum, culture and special education staff committees (PD intersection), building updates and renewal. The school has a 95% staff retention rate for next year and is now focused on hiring for 9 open positions with the redesign of the schedule/program to meet the needs of students and to create a more sustainable environment for teachers. Staff committees in Curriculum, Culture and Special Education are meeting to refine systems, identify resources and to develop trainings for staff once they return in August. The school team is currently preparing the renewal application which is due by July 15.

B. Committee Updates: High School Admission & Alumni Engagement, School Performance & Curriculum, Development, DEI, Governance and Planning & Property

High School Admission & Alumni Engagement- A list of high schools where students are attending next year was shared with the Board.

School Performance & Curriculum- John Amenda reviewed the dashboard with the Board.

Development- Win Churchill discussed the Fall event. It is being held on September 28th. A save-the-date is being sent and the school team is currently searching for a keynote speaker.

DEI- John Amenda talked about how the committee and school team will be working together next year on a scope and sequence for Black Lives Matter Year of Purpose.

Governance- Ira Brind and John Amenda introduced the Student Attendance Policy that will be up for approval at the next board meeting.

Planning & Property- The school is awaiting a response from Curtis Wilkerson, Chief of Staff for Council President, and Darrell Clarke on its' interest in the adjacent lot and next

steps. The school team is beginning to prepare an RFP for project management services on the project.

C. Financial Summary and Statements

Kevin Corcoran gave an update on the school's finances. Finances are looking good on all measures. It has been a very healthy financial year and the school is in a healthy cash position, The school is meeting every ratio and metric that the school district tracks.

D. Board Self-Evaluations- located in BoardOnTrack Policies up for Review- Student Attendance Board Retreats

Board Self-Evaluations: Board members were asked to fill out a Board self-assessment in BoardOnTrack.

Student Attendance Policy up for first review: Board members will review this policy and it will be put forward as a motion for approval at the next board meeting.

E. Teacher Appreciation Note Writing, Discussion of appreciation initiatives

The Board discussed ways to show staff appreciation for their hard work during this challenging year.

III. Approval of Minutes

A. Resolved that the Board approve the Regular session minutes from the March 22, 2022 meeting

G. Singer made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Board Meeting on 03-22-22.

W. Churchill seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

G. Singer	Aye
A. Hay	Absent
T. Rebar	Absent
D. Dwirantwi	Absent
E. Kaplin	Aye
S. Midha	Aye
W. Churchill	Aye
J. Brown	Abstain
B. Stambaugh	Aye
I. Brind	Aye
V. Schwartz	Absent
E. Ashe	Absent
V. Hanraty	Absent
B. Young	Absent

Roll Call

J. Wang Aye
L. Pressman Aye
W. Weisman Abstain

IV. Motions for Approval- Policy / Governance / Operations / Miscellaneous

A. Public Participation in Board Meetings Policy- 2nd and Final Review

Motion to Approve the Public Participation in Board Meetings Policy- 2nd and Final Review.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Service Animals in School Policy- 2nd and Final Review

Motion to Approve the Service Animals in School Policy- 2nd and Final Review.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

C. Trauma Informed Approach Policy- 2nd and Final Review

Motion to Approve Trauma Informed Approach Policy- 2nd and Final Review.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

D. Flexible Instruction Days (FID) Application Board Affirmation

Motion to Approve the Flexible Instruction Days (FID) Application Board Affirmation.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

E. Letter of Intent for Renewal Application

Motion to Approve the Letter of Intent for Renewal Application.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

F. Student Attendance Policy- 1st Reading

Motion to Approve the Student Attendance Policy- 1st Reading.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

V. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 5:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
K. Lamilla