



Young Scholars Charter School

Minutes

Regular Board Meeting

Date and Time

Tuesday March 28, 2023 at 4:00 PM

Location

Virtual Only

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. Harrison (remote), B. Stambaugh (remote), B. Young (remote), D. Dwirantwi (remote), E. Ashe (remote), G. Singer (remote), J. Brown (remote), J. Wang (remote), L. Pressman (remote), S. Midha (remote), T. Rebar (remote), V. Schwartz (remote), W. Churchill (remote), W. Weisman (remote)

Trustees Absent

E. Kaplin, I. Brind, V. Hanraty

Guests Present

Beth Birnkrant (remote), J. Amenda (remote), K. Corcoran (remote), K. Lamilla (remote), Shakira Smith (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 Mar 28, 2023 at 4:03 PM.

II. Board Discussion Topics

A. Comprehensive Schedule & Program Update for 2023-2024

Mr. Amenda explained that we are maintaining our total staffing count but shifting resources to expand special education staff, introduce more instructional leadership and culture support and provide specialized programming for students needing more supports or enrichment. We will return to a 3 section homeroom model with specialized programming for approximately 15-25 students. This will be a mixture of special education supports, enrichment, intervention and placement for students needing a more therapeutic environment. We will also pivot to a Trimester model, allowing for more intentional expressive arts, foreign language and physical education/health opportunities for students across three grades. The trimester model will also reduce the frequency of summative assessments and align with our Beginning, Middle and End of Year NWEA MAP Assessments.

B. Compensation Guide

Mr. Amenda presented the updated compensation guide that aims to be more competitive.

C. Finance Summary & Statements

Kevin Corcoran gave an update on the school's finances. The current year is healthy and is hitting all metrics required by the charter school office. The budget for 2023-2024 was reviewed and will be approved at the next board meeting. Mr. Corcoran also discussed the current rates for CDs included in "CDARS" program at WSFS. Win Churchill put a motion forward to approve the new CD rates.

W. Churchill made a motion to approve the new CD rates.

W. Weisman seconded the motion.

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

D. Committee Reports

Development- Mr. Amenda gave a fundraising update and noted that the school exceeded this year's fundraising goal of \$350,000. Valerie Schwartz then updated the Board on the 25th Anniversary celebration being held on October 18th, 2023 at Vue on 50 in Philadelphia.

High School- Mr. Amenda gave an update on high school acceptances. 94% of 8th graders have already accepted high school offers and offers are still coming in.

School Performance- No update at this time.

Governance- No update at this time.

E. Statement of Financial Interest Forms

Board members were reminded to fill out their Statement of Financial Interest forms if they hadn't already done so.

F. Determine Meeting Format for May 2, 2023 Board Meeting

It was decided that the two remaining board meetings of the 2022-2023 school year will be held in person.

III. Approval of Minutes

A. Resolved that the Board approve the Regular session minutes from the December 13, 2022 meeting.

W. Churchill made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Board Meeting on 02-07-23.

G. Singer seconded the motion.

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

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

A. 2023-2024 School Calendar

W. Churchill made a motion to Approve the 2023-2024 School Calendar.

G. Singer seconded the motion.

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

V. Executive Session

A. Executive Session

The Board went into a brief executive session to review a legal agreement.

VI. 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 5:01 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
W. Churchill