APPROVED

Young Scholars Charter School

Minutes

Regular Board Meeting

Date and Time
Tuesday January 23, 2024 at 3:45 PM

Location
Remote

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
A. Wang (remote), B. Harrison (remote), B. Young (remote), E. Ashe (remote), G. Singer (remote), J. Wang (remote), R. Halpern (remote), W. Churchill (remote), W. Weisman (remote)

Trustees Absent
D. Dwirantwi, E. Kaplin, I. Brind, J. Brown, T. Rebar

Guests Present
B. Chazin (remote), Beth Birnkrant (remote), C. Freyer (remote), J. Amenda (remote), K. Corcoran (remote), K. Lamilla (remote), K. Tini (remote), S. 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 Jan 23, 2024 at 3:49 PM.

II. Board Discussion Topics

A. Dashboard

John Amenda went through the school dashboard. Highlights include strong staff attendance, student and staff retention at or above the goal. There was a strong increase in families attending student-led conferences- families are engaging more overall in student academic progress. Areas of improvement include math achievement. growth is near national average. More intensive interventions are taking place in math.

B. Student-Led Conferences

Beth Birnkrant, Principal, shared information about the purpose of the student-led conferences. Students work with advisors to prepare for this conference with parents and teachers. It is entirely driven by the student and promotes student ownership. John Amenda then shared a video example of one of the student-led conferences.

C. Elevate 215 Application/Design Sprint

John Amenda discussed the Elevate 215 application that was submitted in January and the design sprint.

D. 5th Grade Expansion Amendment

The expansion amendment was submitted to the district. We will not receive a response until June most likely.

E. Facility Update

We are still in planning phase in submission to the city for the land. Phase 1 environmental study is complete and site surveying is completed. now turn into development of site plan. submitted RFP out for architectural and engineering firms.

F. Capital Campaign Consultant Proposals

Becca Chazin, Chief of Staff, gave an overview of three capital campaign consultants who submitted proposals for a school capital campaign.

G. Committee Updates Where Applicable

Kevin Corcoran, from Charter Choices, gave an update on financial position. Strong position financially this year. It will be a more challenging budgeting environment next year with the expiration of ESSER funding.

Corran Branch, Academic Guidance Counselor, gave an update on high school admissions. Lottery results came out.

H. Statement of Financial Interest Forms Due 2/15

III. Approval of Minutes

A. Resolved that the Board approve the Regular session minutes from the December 5, 2023 meeting.

W. Churchill made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 5, 2023 board meeting. Regular Board Meeting on 12-05-23.
A. Wang seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Resolved that the Board approve the Regular session minutes from the January 8, 2024 meeting.

W. Churchill made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 8, 2024 board meeting. Special Board Meeting on 01-08-24.
W. Weisman seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

IV. 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 4:41 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
W. Churchill