APPROVED

Young Scholars Charter School

Minutes

Regular Board Meeting

Date and Time
Tuesday September 10, 2024 at 4:00 PM

Location
900 North 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
A. Wang (remote), B. Harrison (remote), E. Kaplin (remote), J. Wang (remote), R. Halpern (remote), T. Rebar (remote), W. Churchill (remote), W. Weisman (remote)

Trustees Absent
B. Young, E. Ashe, G. Singer, J. Brown

Guests Present
C. Freyer (remote), J. Amenda, K. Corcoran (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 Sep 10, 2024 at 4:05 PM.

II. Board Discussion Topics

A. Phase I Facility Project Summary and Phase II Preview

J. Amenda provided an overview of the facility improvements completed in Phase 1, including key enhancements and additions, and timeline/scope of work. Pre-construction activity began in April; Phase 1 was completed in August. Phase 2 is anticipated to be completed in 2026.

B. 2024_2025 Organizational Chart and Staffing Overview

J. Amenda provided an overview of the school's staffing structure and organizational chart, noting the exceptionally robust Special Education program staff.

C. Elevate 215 Grant Updates and Design Team Work Products

J. Amenda shared that Young Scholars is guaranteed to receive $550,000 through the Elevate 215 grant and provided an overview of the aligned design team work that has taken place. We are currently closely monitoring the implementation of key design principles. Amenda added that our current focus related to staffing is on retention rather than recruitment, underscoring the positive impact that compensation adjustments have had on teacher satisfaction.

The capital campaign was discussed, including current challenges related to the Land Bank's stalled movement around the process of purchasing the additional land to complete Phase 2. R. Halpern raised the question of how how trustees can best advocate. Follow up discussion will be conducted.

D. 2024_2025 Goals

J. Amenda provided an overview of 2024-25 school goals with an emphasis on the increased accountability aligned to more ambitious goals. Strong growth was underscored in addition to the focus on re-ascension to previous levels of academic achievement, as well as breakthrough outcomes and sustainable practices

E. Transportation Status and 4th Bus Amendment

S. Smith provided an overview of new transportation procedures at Young Scholars and the positive impact that providing our own buses has had on student attendance as well as challenges that we have encountered, including adjustments that have been made. Cost analysis indicated that transportation costs this year are comparable to previous years, with significantly increased ridership.

F.

Capital Campaign Status

G. Wilson, representative of Schultz & Williams, provided an update on the Capital Campaign status. 9 trustee interviews have been conducted to date.

G. Committee Updates Where Applicable

K. Corcoran provided a update on financial standing and goals, underscoring that Young Scholars met all financial district metrics and finished the school year in a strong cash position.

III. Approval of Minutes

A. Resolved that the Board approve the Regular session minutes from the June 11, 2024 meeting.

W. Churchill made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Board Meeting on 06-11-24.
W. Weisman seconded the motion.
Minutes from June
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

IV. Motions for Approval

A. 2024-2025 Schoolwide Goals

W. Churchill made a motion to Approve minutes, schoolwide goals and addendum to transportation contract.
W. Weisman seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Addendum to Transportation Contract

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 5:01 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
W. Churchill