Young Scholars Charter School

Minutes

Regular Board Meeting

Date and Time
Tuesday June 16, 2026 at 4:00 PM

Location
Remote 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
A. Wang (remote), B. Young (remote), L. Umbrecht (remote), R. Halpern (remote), S. Piltch (remote), T. Grosswald (remote), W. Churchill (remote), W. Weisman (remote)

Trustees Absent
G. Singer, J. Brown, S. Schwartz

Guests Present
A. Wright (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

R. Halpern called a meeting of the board of trustees of Young Scholars Charter School to order on Tuesday Jun 16, 2026 at 4:00 PM.

C. Nomination of Kevin Jayne as a Trustee

R. Halpern made a motion to To approve Kevin Jayne's appointment as Board Trustee effective June 16, 2026.
W. Churchill seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Board Discussion Topics

A. Dashboard Review

John Amenda reported significant math performance improvements with a 10 percentage point gain school-wide and strong gains in fifth and sixth grade students who started at near-zero proficiency. The school implemented new leadership, high-impact tutoring, curriculum investments, and coaching partnerships, with plans to replicate these successful math efforts in reading next year. The team discussed expanding tutoring to include reading and seeking additional expertise in science of reading instruction for older elementary students, with Toby Grosswald offering to provide training on foundational skills.

B. Facility Update

The Level Field team presented updates on the facilities project's due diligence period for acquiring the new property, which has been extended through July 29th. The team also updated on real estate development progress and is working to refine costs and continues on schedule for a 2028-2029 delivery. The team also discussed ongoing environmental testing, including Phase 2 assessments and additional testing for lead, water, and radon, with results expected by July 10th.

C. Talent Report

Aniyah Wright gave a brief talent update and is completing the hiring process for remaining open positions for the 26/27 school year (7th grade science, 5th/6th grade reading and language arts, 7th grade math, operations manager).

D. Committee Updates Where Applicable

Members from Philanthropic Fundraising and FundED Strategies presented their backgrounds and expertise in raising funds for charter schools, with specific experience in capital campaigns and six and seven-figure gifts. They presented a proposal for managing the school's capital campaign to raise $5 million. They outlined a six-month engagement starting in July and would support board members and staff in making confident gift requests and introductions to potential donors, including providing talking points, materials, and guidance on best practices for capital campaigns. The team expressed enthusiasm about the project's potential and agreed on the importance of collective effort in fundraising to make it a success.

Kevin Corcoran gave a finance update and indicated an increase in next year's funding due to higher charter school rates from the district.
R. Halpern made a motion to To authorize CEO and board chair to engage with fundraising consultant for 3 months beginning in July 2026.
S. Piltch seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

III. Approval of Minutes

A. Resolved that the Board approve the Regular session minutes from the May 5, 2026 meeting.

R. Halpern made a motion to approve the minutes from May 5, 2026 meeting. Regular Board Meeting on 05-05-26.
B. Young seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

IV. Motions for Approval

A. To approve 2026-2027 Board Meeting Dates

R. Halpern made a motion to To approve 2026-2027 Board Meeting Dates.
W. Churchill seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. School Safety and Security Annual Report

R. Halpern made a motion to To approve the School Safety and Security Annual Report.
W. Churchill seconded the motion.
The board reviewed the School Safety and Security Annual Report.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

C. Documents Associated with Payoff of Seller Financing Note

R. Halpern made a motion to To approve the Documents Associated with Payoff of Seller Financing Note.
W. Churchill seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

D. Submission of the Relocation Amendment Package

R. Halpern made a motion to To approve the Submission of the Relocation Amendment Package for Young Scholars Charter School.

L. Umbrecht seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

E. To approve the 2026-2027 Insite Health Services contract

R. Halpern made a motion to To approve the 2026-2027 Insite Health Services contract.
W. Churchill seconded the motion.
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 5:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
W. Weisman