APPROVED

New Heights Charter School Board of Trustees

Minutes

AEC Meeting

Date and Time
Wednesday November 19, 2025 at 3:00 PM

Location
Zoom:

New Heights
Academic Excellence Meeting
Join Zoom Meeting

ZOOM Meeting:
https://nhcsb-org.zoom.us/j/71960947850?pwd=UVlZY1RtbU5lZmN2dVR1R2Z5R2VHQT09

Committee Members Present
G. Phillips (remote), J. Charnel (remote), R. Jones-Hyde (remote), S. Bernard (remote), S. Jackson (remote)

Committee Members Absent
None

Committee Members who left before the meeting adjourned
R. Jones-Hyde

Ex Officio Members Present
O. Walker (remote)

Guests Present
K. Kendrick (remote), M. Fernandes (remote), M. Jean (remote), N. Jones (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

R. Jones-Hyde left at 3:30 PM.

B. Call the Meeting to Order

S. Bernard called a meeting of the Academic Excellence Committee of New Heights Charter School Board of Trustees to order on Wednesday Nov 19, 2025 at 3:00 PM.

II. Academic Excellence

A. Enrollment

The meeting began with a discussion of student transfers and enrollment patterns, including how some students move between district schools and the current enrollment imbalances across grade levels.

The meeting focused on student transfers and enrollment patterns, with Nichole explaining that some students transfer to district schools to avoid early college pressures, particularly those with IEPs who require more support. Shelly inquired about exit surveys for departing students, to which Nichole clarified that transfers are typically the result of multiple meetings with parents and detailed documentation rather than anonymous surveys. The discussion also addressed enrollment numbers, with Maria explaining that while middle school enrollment typically starts at 110-112 students, there has been a significant imbalance in recent years, particularly in 10th, 11th, and 12th grades, where fewer students remain compared to the middle school grades.

B. MCC Partnership Update

The Academic Excellence Committee discussed a conflict between the goals of having 11th and 12th graders on the Massasoit campus and the institution's capacity to accommodate them. Dr. Jones and Dr. Hyde agreed on the nature of the conflict, which stems from the dichotomy between the school's audacious goals and Massasoit's limitations. To address this, Dr. Hyde offered to step away from future discussions, and the committee agreed that she should recuse herself from the current meeting to allow for a clearer board discussion. The committee planned to reconvene after Dr. Hyde's departure to further discuss the issue and determine a resolution.

Once Dr. Hyde left the zoom meeting, discussion continued around concerns with Rita's role as a Massasoit College representative on their board, particularly regarding her ability to make decisions that conflict with New Heights' educational model. The committee learned that their MOU with Massasoit expires at the end of the school year, raising questions about whether to renegotiate the requirement for a Massasoit

representative. The committee agreed to address this issue at the next full board meeting, where they will have an executive session to discuss whether to continue having Rita serve as a board member.

C. Data Presentation

The Board chair and others agreed that this presentation would be moved to the Board meeting taking place on December 2, 2025.

III. 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 4:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
S. Bernard