



The New American Academy Charter School

Minutes

Board Meeting

Date and Time

Wednesday July 17, 2019 at 6:00 PM

Location

9301 Avenue B

Directors Present

A. Sadr-Kiani (remote), E. DeAngelis (remote), F. Monroe, H. Hunt (remote), K. Monroe, V. McDonald (remote)

Directors Absent

None

Directors who arrived after the meeting opened

F. Monroe, K. Monroe

Guests Present

L. Parquette Silva (remote), M. Harrington (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance and Guests

B. Call the Meeting to Order

L. Parquette Silva called a meeting of the board of directors of The New American Academy Charter School to order on Wednesday Jul 17, 2019 at 6:03 PM.

C. Approve Minutes

K. Monroe made a motion to approve minutes Board Meeting on 05-22-19.

E. DeAngelis seconded the motion.

The motion unanimously did not carry.

II. Finance

A. TNAACS Audit Updates

K. Monroe arrived.

F. Monroe arrived.

- Feedback from Part I of our Audit which took place on Wednesday June 12th
- In this first part, there were no outstanding issues. They came for the day and looked at snapshots of the year and look at various sped files and gen ed files and looked at dates and services to make sure all is aligned. Matt meets with the accounting manager and speaks to them and they ask him questions. They said that TNAAC files were cleanest they have ever seen.
- The second part of our audit will take place August 14th and August 15th. They return for several more days to do more oversight. Matt wants to improve events and cash collection systems - collecting and documenting in more detail. By September, there will be a plan for this.

III. Education

A. Staffing Update

- We have officially promoted Teaching Assistant Very Moranza to Apprentice Teacher
- Ms. Moranza will replace Sabrina Faust from Team Obama
- Ms. Moranza has provided documentation that she is enrolled in a Masters of Education program and will be moving towards attaining her teacher certification
- In the fall we will move towards finding a new teaching assistant for this team.
- Very low teacher turnover - a very positive for the school.

B. Summer Training

TNAACS has several trainings taking place in August:

I. New Teacher Training around Myers Briggs and Talk Sense - August 13th and August 14th Led by L. Silva

II. Reflection Training for new staff and Teaching Assistants - August 15th led by L. Scorsone

III. CGI math Training - All Classroom and Student Support Teachers the week of August 19th -Led by Certified CGI Trainers:

- CGI stands for Cognitively Guided Instruction
- Cognitively Guided Instruction (CGI) is a student-centered approach to teaching math. It starts with what students already know and builds on their natural number sense and intuitive approaches to problem solving.
- Rather than a math program or curriculum, CGI is a way of listening to students, asking smart questions, and engaging with their thinking—all with the goal of uncovering and expanding every student's mathematical understanding

IV. RULER Training for all staff - August 27th led by O. Gibson:

- RULER was developed at Yale University
- RULER is an evidence-based approach for integrating social and emotional learning into schools,
- RULER applies “hard science” to the teaching of what have historically been called “soft skills.”
- RULER teaches the skills of emotional intelligence — those associated with recognizing, understanding, labeling, expressing, and regulating emotion. Decades of research show that these skills are essential to effective teaching and learning, sound decision making, physical and mental health, and success in school and beyond.
- While some staff have used RULER in the past and all existing staff have had some form of RULER training, RULER will be mandatory this year and is a school wide initiative

IV. Governance

A. CEO Evaluation

Lisa is working on the CEO evaluation and will send via Board on Track and board will receive via board on track for review.

Mac asked about board on track. He stated that the public availability of minutes have been late. Lisa responded that Board on Track was notified about how to make the minutes appear/open to the public in an appropriate amount of time. Lisa will notify the board when this is corrected.

Lisa is working on the renewal and the annual report.

Staff can use \$1000 for vacation and travel beginning August 1st.

B. NYSED RENEWAL SITE VISIT

- Kimberly Santiago from NYSED reached out to me today and informed me our site visit will take place in October.
- She needs dates the board members are available to be on site to meet with her. Give Lisa dates in October that we are not available. Lisa will send an email asking for this information from the board. She is asking for dates and times that board members are available. Only one day is required for the board to attend.
- It is important to note the board has made a significant growth from our last renewal.
- There is no school in session at TNAACS Oct 1, 9 or 14 ; otherwise the school calendar seems clear.
- Once the renewal application is complete, Lisa will speak to the board about the site visit in conjunction with the renewal application.

V. Other

A. TNAACS Next Jump Vacation Stipend

Teachers can use the \$1000 beginning August 1st. Funds were approved and were donated by Next Jump.

B. NYSED Recognition School Status for TNAACS

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 6:37 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
E. DeAngelis