



The New American Academy Charter School

Minutes

TNAACS Board Meeting

Date and Time

Thursday June 15, 2023 at 5:00 PM

Directors Present

C. Cuellar-Lezcano (remote), C. Kelly (remote), E. DeAngelis (remote), F. Monroe (remote), H. Hunt (remote), M. Lynch, V. McDonald (remote)

Directors Absent

K. Yu

Guests Present

Elaine Schmiedeshoff (remote), J. Trani (remote), L. Parquette Silva (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance and Guests

B. Call the Meeting to Order

E. DeAngelis called a meeting of the board of directors of The New American Academy Charter School to order on Thursday Jun 15, 2023 at 5:06 PM.

C. Approve Minutes

Lisa reviewed the minutes from May 2023 meeting.

C. Kelly made a motion to approve the minutes from May 18, 2023 TNAACS Board Meeting on 05-18-23.

C. Cuellar-Lezcano seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Finance

A. TNAACS Monthly Financials & Finance Committee

Elaine Schmied

reported that there are 3 months of cash on hand. June is a non-pupil receiving month but she expects the number to go up and expects about \$4.1mm in June.

She expects that all will go as projected through the end of the school year.

B. TNAACS Budget for the 2023/2024 School Year

Elaine reported on the 2023-24 budget.

Revenue 8.1MM expected.

She reviewed line items.

Jenny Trani spoke to the additional hires for expected higher enrollment.

Elaine spoke about projected medical increase and stated that they are waiting for final numbers for other insurances but have anticipated an increase in the cost.

ARP is the Covid based grant and Elaine explained that this grant and ESSR grant remaining funds will be used next year.

Jenny Trani spoke about the increase in Professional Development which will include CGI and an additional vendor.

H. Hunt made a motion to approve 2023-24 budget.

F. Monroe seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

III. Data

A. iReady End of the Year Data

Jenny presented the EOY data. She reminded that the goal was on or above grade level and 100% typical growth/150% stretch growth in Math to bring students closer to proficiency.

She spoke about Math growth data and compared this year to last year. Mac asked about the story it is telling because basically the numbers are the same by grade.

Lisa explained that we need to look at cohorts and you will see gains. She also stated that the lower grades have not shown as much growth as upper grades.

Jenny continued with data to show proficiency in Math. This data indicates that there needs to be more movement in the lower grades. Last year the summer school and intervention was only offered to upper grades. This year, more needs to be done for lower loop - summer, intervention, and improved classroom instruction. Lower group did not show 35 hours or more in instructional usage. Jenny spoke to less hours/less performance in lower level grades vs. upper loop and higher usage/higher performance.

A question was asked about how the usage is standardized across grades so that all classrooms hit 35 or more hours of usage.

Lisa explained how in lower loop, iReady was used as a station and how they may have used it somewhat at home. She spoke about how to keep this resource front of mind with the teachers.

Jenny told the board that all families are supported with internet and a Chromebook.

Cristy spoke to workshops for parents about how to get on and maybe in the lower grades it feels like play and if it is developmentally appropriate. Lisa explained that iReady reads it to lower grades and it is play based.

Jenny spoke to how it took longer for Lower Loops to begin using iReady with their students.

Mac spoke to goal for Lower Loop and if that is realistic. Lisa spoke to how the 35 hours is over 10 months. Mac stated that this then needs to be incorporated into the day and also brought into the home.

Jenny also spoke about how she plans to engage parents next year about how to log on and use iReady.

Jenny then explained iReady data for Reading.

Colleen asked if there were any changes that could explain the lower scores in lower loop. Lisa explained that Amplify is new. It could be teacher confidence or the fact that there was some exposure in the summer prior to its use.

Jenny showed data that shows great gains in upper loop, especially in Grades 3 and 4.

Lisa also explained that the pacing of Amplify in the lower loop is a challenge.

Another chart shared showed where the grades are in Math and Reading in terms of growth and performance. This showed the relationship of students in TNAACS and use of iReady and how it effects growth and performance - more usage, greater gains.

IV. Governance

A. Math Professional Development Vendor

Jenny shared results of meeting with 3 Math consultants.

Lavinia

Generation Ready

Breaking the Math Ceiling

She explained the pros and cons of each one. Jenny and Lisa explained how there is a high need right now for Math support.

Lavinia is also going to look for donor funding for some of the PD cost. Lisa explained that this may be money well spent given the current needs based on the data.

Cristy commented that given the short turn around time for test score results, it makes the most sense.

Mac asked about the 20 active coaching days and cost per day being about \$3000 a day.

Lisa explained that consultants in the past have charged that per day as well. Mac stated that since we have the resources, this would be directed toward goals for consistent growth.

M. Lynch made a motion to contract with Lavinia as a Math Consulting group for 2023-2024 school year at a cost of \$81,600.

C. Cuellar-Lezcano seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Computer Bid

Jenny stated that TNAACS has a computer for each student and as they are using them more, along with the state tests going to be they need to be replaced/updated.

They would like to purchase

65 touch screen Chromebooks - \$17,875. She shared vendor costs for 4 vendors and TNAACS would like to use CTS who has the computers in stock and can configure them and have a one of the lowest prices.

C. Kelly made a motion to use CTS as a vendor for 65 Chromebook purchase.

H. Hunt seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

V. Committees

A. Governance Committee

Michelle spoke to how the committee is working toward an onboarding process and Holly thanks Cristy for creating a spreadsheet of what new board members need to know and will be paired with a mentor/current board member for support.

The spreadsheet was shared. Holly stated that if you think something should be added to let them know.

B. Educational Excellence Committee

Cristy spoke to how the need for Math PD was identified and that the committee made a recommendation for additional PD in this area. The committee will meet with the DTL's regularly in order to understand classroom needs.

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 6:36 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
E. DeAngelis

Documents used during the meeting

None