



The New American Academy Charter School

Minutes

TNAACS Board Meeting

Date and Time

Thursday November 16, 2023 at 5:00 PM

Directors Present

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

Directors Absent

H. Hunt, K. Yu

Guests Present

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

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

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 Nov 16, 2023 at 5:04 PM.

C. Approve Minutes

C. Kelly made a motion to approve the minutes from October 19, 2023 TNAACS Board Meeting on 10-19-23.

C. Cuellar-Lezcano seconded the motion.

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

II. Finance & Data

A. TNAACS Monthly Financials

Elaine Schmiedeshoff shared the FY 23-24 financials. There is a deficit in general revenue with special revenue up due to lower enrollment overall.

A savings budget was formed and budget was revised. Staffing/hires line was reduced because staff not needed due to low enrollment.

Benefits have been higher due to health insurance premium increases. Elaine spoke to each line item to show expenses will be under budget.

She stated that there is \$2.9 mm cash on hand which is a strong cash position, enough for 7 months.

Elaine asked the board if they had any questions.

Mac had one question about corporation funding and Elaine explained that that was from the Summer Boost program. Mac also asked that if the grant is available next year, could some of the money be used in September and October and Elaine stated that it would seem possible.

Lisa stated that there is always the possibility that the grant may not continue but they should know soon about applications.

Lisa added that the current enrollment is 266 with the possibility of adding several more.

She emphasized again that enrollment is thin across both charter and DOE schools.

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III. Governance

A. Academic Excellence Committee

Cristy stated that the meeting was held on Tuesday. She stated that the committee is looking to insure that the PD becomes systematized so it can continue when Lavinia is no longer at the school.

They reported:

There are agenda items that will systematized.

Running notes were shared and Beth and Cristy will review.

One of the highlights was that they liked the way data was organized and would like to try to use some of these ideas with ELA as well.

Lisa spoke about work habits and the connection to academic achievement. If we know these are the work habits of successful students, how are we supporting these habits with students. This was a PD done that came from the work with Lavinia.

B. Principal Evaluation and Goals

Colleen shared links of survey results and board retreat for members to review in order to work on planning additional goals.

Lisa spoke to additional areas that are being worked on and will continue including observations, staff to staff communication, DTL needs and their coaching, feedback for teachers who may be considered for promotion, salary feedback.

Jenny spoke to how there are aspects of operations within the school, that are very much happening but teachers are unaware and may feel that there is a lack of transparency.

Mac added that teachers may need to do some of the research themselves as professionals. If they ask the question, and don't get the answer then they there is a lack of transparency.

Colleen added that the board as we become more aware, we need to ask more questions as a board as well.

The board discussed possible goals and Colleen noted these possible goals on the board retreat documents.

C. TNAACS Board Evaluation

This will be discussed at next month's board meeting.

D. Material Change to the TNAACS Charter- Key Design Elements

C. Kelly made a motion to Approve the Written Material Change Proposal to Modify four Key Design Elements in the TNAACS Charter.

V. McDonald seconded the motion.

The Board reviewed a proposal to modify four key design elements in our original charter application. These modifications are based on evolving schoolwide trends, including retaining more experienced teaching staff across years, enrollment trends, and fiscal considerations.

The New American Academy Charter School (TNAACS) proposes revising four key design elements to better reflect the school's needs. The four key design elements proposed for revision are:

- *Four-Person Teaching Team*
- *Embedded Master Teacher*
- *Lower Student-to-Teacher Ratio*
- *Five-Week Summer Training Program*

After board members reviewed the written proposal and provided feedback, the board voted unanimously to approve the proposed material revision to the charter, modifying four key design elements.

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

IV. 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 7:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
C. Cuellar-Lezcano