



# The New American Academy Charter School

## Minutes

### TNAACS Board Meeting

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#### Date and Time

Thursday October 17, 2024 at 5:00 PM

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#### Directors Present

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

#### Directors Absent

H. Hunt

#### Guests Present

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

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### 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 Oct 17, 2024 at 5:02 PM.

#### C. Approve Minutes

C. Kelly made a motion to approve the minutes from TNAACS Board Meeting on 09-19-24.

C. Cuellar-Lezcano seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

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

## **II. Finance & Data**

### **A. Monthly Financials**

Elaine Schmiedeshoff CSBM shared the monthly financials. Elaine stated that it is a pleasure to work with Jenny and complimented TNAACS on the successful audit.

There is currently \$2.8m in bank so cash on hand is good. Elaine explained the variance in decreased revenue is due to decreased enrollment. Jenny referenced an error on front page needed to be changed to reflect the enrollment number. Total revenue for year is just over \$6.0 million which is a decrease from prior year of \$1.0 million. Elaine explained that the negative revenue always changes over the year and that numbers shown reflect the lower enrollment.

Mac had a question on the special ed supplement and Lisa explained that this year and next year, the SPED supplement will remain the same according to Albany. Lisa explained that they do expect to increase funding for SPED for unidentified students in Kindergarten and others new to the school.

### **B. i-Ready Data from Diagnostic I**

Jenny shared math data from the first round of i-Ready diagnostics which included: Beginning of the year data - An iReady chart was shown to include a new proficiency rate. iReady math data was shared which showed how students are performing at this time of year. Jenny explained that it is typical to see results that seem low because the students have not received instruction yet in all the standards. It does also show that the students are starting stronger than they have at the beginning of any year prior. Reading data for initial iReady was also shared.

Jenny explained that there is often a summer slide and how this data will be discussed in future data meetings.

Jenny showed how iReady was a very good predictor of NYS Math exam results. However, that is not the same for Reading. Lisa reminded the board that it could be because there is not a writing component on iReady.

Colleen suggested tracking use of iReady over the summer and the impact it might have on initial iReady scores. She also suggested backing out graduates and Kindergarten to see what the data reflects comparing last year to beginning of this year. Colleen

suggested that perhaps each board member follows a student and that student's data points through the year.

Lisa and Jenny explained how the data, when discussed at the grade level, is much more specific. At team meetings teachers will analyze data and planning for student goals along with after school tutoring program. There will also be PD for ways to use iReady as an intervention tool.

Jenny shared data that shows students who use iReady with fidelity and 70% pass rate on the lessons perform better on state exams. TNAACS has committed to student goals and including these minutes/goal on the report cards. The school is establishing reward systems for minutes and completion of lessons with 70% pass rate. Jenny stated that they will support families with internet/device issues.

### **III. Governance**

#### **A. NYSED Renewal Site Visit Updates - Revised Site Visit Dates**

Lisa Parquette Silva shared information about the McCloud Cares organization and why Site Visit needs to be changed.

- Dates were shifted to 12/18 & 12/19 to allow TNAACS students to participate in McCloud Cares "Miracles in December Event. The foundation provides an event for the students and purchases a holiday gift valued at up to \$250 per child. They plan to host the event at the American Dream Mall in New Jersey this year.
- Link: <https://www.mccloudcares.org/programs/>
- To prepare for this visit here are two manuals to review:
- NYSED Renewal Site Visit Manual 2022/2023 LINK: For information <https://www.nysed.gov/sites/default/files/programs/charter-schools/final-2022-2023-ren-sv-protocol-.pdf>
- NYSED Renewal Site Visit Manual 2024/2025 LINK: This is the one applicable to the review. (Lisa will share the link.)

Lisa explained that there were revisions that were needed and felt that the rewrite made the renewal stronger and she was able to add more about the progress of the board.

#### **B. Board Professional Development Opportunities**

### **IV. TNAACS Board Retreat**

#### **A. TNAACS Principal Evaluation & Board Evaluation**

Colleen Kelly reviewed/shared the TNAACS goals for 2023-24 and board members/leadership added comments asked questions and noted progress for Benchmarks 1-8.

Colleen asked the board for ideas as to what Lisa could possibly note as a goal. Lisa stated that she would like to write the goals as SMART goals in order to make them quantifiable, measurable and time bound. Lisa stated that all the DTL's and Admin. will be setting goals.

Cristy agreed with Lisa that it is important to create goals that is quantifiable and make goals that are ambitious but also feasible. There were questions as to how to come up with realistic numbers.

Lisa and Cristy spoke about discussing ways to coach teachers who are all at different levels and developing action plans and be data driven even when working with teachers.

The board evaluation was shared. Colleen asked that committees look at the board evaluations and which look at which benchmarks align or committee or if there are other goals that need to be set to let her know.

## **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 7:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
E. DeAngelis