

# The New American Academy Charter School

## **Minutes**

## **TNAACS Board Meeting**

## **Date and Time**

Thursday January 16, 2025 at 5:00 PM

## **Directors Present**

C. Cuellar-Lezcano (remote), C. Kelly (remote), D. Dula (remote), F. Monrose (remote), H. Hunt (remote), J. Beavers (remote), M. Lynch (remote), V. McDonald (remote)

## **Directors Absent**

E. DeAngelis

## **Guests Present**

J. Trani, L. Parquette Silva (remote)

## I. Opening Items

## A. Record Attendance

## B. Call the Meeting to Order

C. Cuellar-Lezcano called a meeting of the board of directors of The New American Academy Charter School to order on Thursday Jan 16, 2025 at 5:00 PM.

## C. Approve Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes from TNAACS Board Meeting on 12-19-24. The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

#### II. Finance & Data

#### A. Monthly Financials

E. Schmiedshoff from CSBM shared the monthly financials from December. She shared a slight decrease in per-pupil and that enrollment in December was 247. She stated that the reduction of per-pupil was offset by IDEA funding. The decrease in student population resulted in a reduction of in-kind rental assistance. However, the decrease in funds was only \$26,000 due to benefits costs being switched from what was budgeted to what was actually spent. With depreciation, the overall loss for FY25 is \$342,000. This is still expected to go down as the year goes on. Currently, the school has 186 days of cash on hand.

#### **B.** School Wide Data

J. Trani shared current enrollment data. As of January, 245 students are enrolled at TNAACS. It is typical to lose students in January, and we lost 2. Jenny also shared that we usually won't gain many more students at this point in the year. For the 25/26 school year, we currently have 33 applicants, mostly K students. It is typical to see an uptick in K applications in January.

Jenny shared an analysis of discharge data. Most discharges typically happen in July, when other charter schools start pulling kids who have enrolled in their schools, and in September, when some students are no-shows or only attend a few days before realizing we aren't the right fit for them. The team is focused on how to get families to commit. Things that seem to work include communication, a personal touch or relationship, school events, and transportation.

When looking at how people find us, 50% of applicants said social media or online ads. The school is adding weekly in-person tours with the Principal and virtual open houses. The school is also doing a series of virtual "Getting Ready for Kindergarten" parent workshops for applicants.

In addition, Intent to Return forms for current families are going out shortly. TNAACS also pays for all K supplies, does a K playdate in August, holds a Family Fun Day in August, and an Orientation/meet your teaching team to engage new and existing families.

Suggestions for recruitment include home visits to applicants with a gift, and an incentive referral program for current families.

## III. Governance

## A. Academic Excellence Committee

The Academi Excellence Committee had no updates this month.

## B. Cybersecurity Incident Involving PowerSchool

Lisa shared information about the recent Powerschool Cyber security breach. TNAACS uses the PowerSchool platform but only in a limited capacity. She assured the board that no sensitive information about students or staff, such as social security numbers, had been compromised. TNAACS notified staff and families about the breach. TNAACS is awaiting further guidance from PowerSchool.

## C. Board Member Update

Lisa shared that Beth DeAngelis, our board secretary, plans to resign from her position as a TNAACS board member. Beth will remain on the board until they can put a new secretary in place. Lisa said she would share a board secretary job description and asked board members to consider taking on this vital role now that Beth plans to step down.

## D. Board Professional Development Opportunities

Lisa shared some upcoming virtual training sessions for board members provided by Board On Track.

## 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,

L. Parquette Silva