



The New American Academy Charter School

Minutes

TNAACS Board Meeting

Date and Time

Thursday October 16, 2025 at 5:00 PM

Directors Present

C. Cuellar-Lezcano (remote), D. Dula (remote), F. Monroe (remote), H. Hunt (remote), J. Beavers (remote)

Directors Absent

C. Kelly, V. McDonald

Guests Present

J. Trani (remote), L. Parquette Silva

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

C. Approve Minutes

F. Monroe made a motion to approve the minutes from TNAACS Board Meeting on 09-18-25.

C. Cuellar-Lezcano seconded the motion.

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

II. Finance & Data

A. Monthly Financials

Elaine Schmiedesshoff shared the monthly financials for the period ending September 30th. TNAACS has \$2.8 million in the bank and 4.8 months of cash on hand. Recent changes include moving \$1.3 million to an interest-bearing CD account and \$900,000 to an additional savings account. By the end of the fiscal year, TNAACS is predicted to have 3.5 months of cash on hand.

Enrollment is slightly below budget, resulting in a slight decrease in per-pupil revenue. Current personnel expenses are slightly under budget, as two teacher positions remain open. We are projecting both positions to be filled in November.

Everything else is on budget. The only difference is the PD costs attributed to reflection and the Executive coaching costs. A slight loss is currently projected.

B. Enrollment Data

Jenny Trani shared that attracting new applicants this year has been challenging. Our Actuals for this year are 248, while our projected student count was 268. It is important to note that while the number of applications received was at an all-time low, we had a high rate of applications that led to students actually enrolling.

C. iReady Data

Jenny Tranin then shared iReady baseline data in Reading and Math from our first round of schoolwide assessments.

She first focused on reading. At the beginning of this year (25/26), 28% of TNAACS students scored in the green or striped green compared to 26% of students last year (24/25).

Jenny shared that our schoolwide goal for this year is that by the third assessment in June, no student's score will be in the red in either Reading or Math. Last year, 5% of TNAACS students scored in the red by June (24/25).

Jenny also shared that, unlike previous years, more students are scoring in the green in the Upper Loop in both reading and math than in the Lower Loop, reversing a trend of several years in which students in the green have gone down in the Upper Loop.

D. Schola Renewal Proposal

Lisa shared a renewal proposal from Schola, offering a 14-month contract at the price of a 12-month contract. She shared a brief history with Schola: there had been a significant dip in their performance, followed by a complete leadership change, resulting in service improvements, including increased support for Ms. Tatum and more leads. In reviewing the proposal more closely, Jenny observed that while they were offering two months "free," they were also increasing the monthly cost by \$250. In addition, while the services seemed to be increasing, it was unclear precisely what they would provide. After some discussion, it was decided that Lisa and Jenny would go back to the Schola Reps to review the agreement in greater detail, clarify exactly what was being offered, and counter with the original monthly cost of \$3500. A vote to approve the contract was tabled until additional information could be gathered.

III. Governance

A. Academic Excellence Committee

Cristy shared that the Academic Excellence Committee was focused on Lesson Planning and Intellectual Prep. After reviewing Paloma's notes, they found inconsistencies in teacher planning and intellectual prep, which are crucial for instruction. The committee is focused on several questions:

- How to hold teachers accountable?
- How to codify systems
- How do we hold teachers accountable for promotion and salary increases

Lisa shared the 4-step system developed with the DTLS to hold teachers accountable. A discussion was held about the importance of documentation, ensuring staff know what is expected of them, and where to find the documentation of the expectations.

B. Potential Partnership Opportunity

Lisa shared that enrollment in Kindergarten in both DOE and Charter schools is down, but that while enrollment is down 1.8% in DOE schools, it is down 4% in charters. This is mainly because charters in NYC are not eligible for RFP PreK grants and cannot start their own PreKs.

Lisa is proposing to establish partnerships with non-DOE preK centers and childcare centers to serve as feeder schools for TNAACS. TNAACS can provide parent workshops, store hours, exclusive tours, priority registration, and supplies. In return, these preKs will recommend us to their students and families. Mr. Marrero is currently working on one such partnership, and Ms. Kori will be approaching a second site shortly.

IV. Other

A.

Board Professional Development Opportunities

L. Silva shared some upcoming BoardOnTrack PD opportunities.

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,
L. Parquette Silva

Documents used during the meeting

- TNAACS Schola Services 14-month Renewal Proposal Sep 2025.pdf