

# Nuasin Next Generation Charter School

## Minutes

### Board Meeting

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#### Date and Time

Thursday June 23, 2022 at 6:30 PM

#### Location

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://metlcs.zoom.us/j/99734620211?pwd=TjJIRHJjdDZrSWZOQlFwcmxZYkt2UT09>

Meeting ID: 997 3462 0211

Passcode: 180165

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,99734620211# US (New York)

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#### Mission

At Nuasin Next Generation, we believe in the unlimited talent and intellectual potential of our scholars and our community. We cultivate this talent and intellectual potential through a progressive education that focuses on deep exploration, thoughtful questioning, relentless curiosity and critical thinking. Nuasin Next Generation Charter School implements a progressive K-12 educational program and an unyielding commitment to cultivating our scholars' innate intellectual talents to empower our graduates to achieve excellence in their postsecondary paths and make positive impacts on the broader community. Every single one of our scholars have the potential to be great and change the world, at Nuasin Next Generation we prepare our scholars for that opportunity.

#### 3 Pillars

The Mission of Nuasin Next Generation stands firmly on the foundation of our three pillars: Rigor, Self-Advocacy, and Community. These three pillars are the guiding principles for our school and culture. Please find a deeper explanation of our pillars below.

#### Rigor:

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We use the word “rigor” not in the stringent or inflexible sense, but in the sense of an unyielding need to challenge and push our scholars because we understand and believe in the potential, talent, and ability of our scholars and community. We challenge our scholars to build their confidence and help them realize what they can achieve.

#### **Self-Advocacy:**

Our scholars are empowered to advocate for themselves, their families, and their communities.

As our scholars come to understand that their voices are valued and needed, they learn to advocate for themselves. Our scholars are seen and valued; they understand that not only do they have the right to express their opinions, views, and perspectives, but it is their obligation to do so.

#### **Community:**

Our scholars will embrace community and understand that as a member of a community you have certain

inalienable rights, the right to be seen, the right to be heard, the right to be protected and the right to be loved and

cherished. Our scholars will also learn of their obligations. As a member of a community you have the obligation to

respect, listen, support and only want and assume the best in all others. Every member of our community must understand that they are active participants in the Nuasin community and the community goes as we go.

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#### **Trustees Present**

A. Bothner (remote), A. Khanyile (remote), A. Khatiwada (remote), C. Barnes-Watson (remote), J. Boulet (remote), K. Brisseau (remote), K. Shabazz (remote), M. Dorrie (remote), S. Huda (remote), S. Pressley (remote)

#### **Trustees Absent**

E. Chen, T. Bryan

#### **Trustees who arrived after the meeting opened**

J. Boulet, S. Huda

#### **Ex Officio Members Present**

M. Russell (remote)

#### **Non Voting Members Present**

M. Russell (remote)

#### **Guests Present**

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Isis Umana Walters (remote), K. Davidson (remote), K. Pellerin (remote), K. Perez (remote), M. Alston (remote), R. Keogh (remote), Shahz Rasheed (remote)

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## **I. Opening Items**

### **A. Record Attendance and Guests**

### **B. Call the Meeting to Order**

A. Bothner called a meeting of the board of trustees of Nuasin Next Generation Charter School to order on Thursday Jun 23, 2022 at 6:39 PM.

### **C. Review the Agenda**

A. Bothner went through the agenda and reminded board members that there are many of things to vote on tonight.

### **D. Nuasin Mission/3 Pillar Reflection**

M. Dorrie shared his experiences on a personal level as well as being a board member.

## **II. School Update**

### **A. Executive Director Update**

M. Russell shared his monthly updates.

- k-8 attendance is 90%
- 9-12 attendance is 85%
- Staff attendance is 88%

Our first 12th-grade scholars as Nuasin graduated in Ichan Stadium on June 22, 2022. M. Russell gave a shout-out to the school team for its success. it's one of those times that gets you reflected on this perspective and we have the perspective of what a great job we have, and that's all of us, to be able to impact and touch these great families and great children's lives in even the smallest way is just a joy. And when you see the pride on both the scholars' and the families face, it's something that really resonates with you and makes you think poorly of yourself for ever having a tough day.

- 100% of our students apply to at least six colleges;
- 42 scholars have been accepted to at least one two-year or four-year university
- \$3.1 million based on merit-based aid
- 100% of seniors are currently on track to graduate on time

#### Upcoming events:

- Kindergarten and 8th-grade graduation on June 24, 2022, at 10 am and 12 pm.

#### Teacher Updates:

- TNTP Results- a national survey that's given to teachers, and we'll go through our results and give an honest account of where we believe we are and where we're going to go.
- The data was collected in K through 12 for both teachers and support staff. It has 15 different categories of questions: family engagement, acting opportunity, hiring process, information, feedback, and instructional planning for student growth. Next slide. Professional development, learning environment, evaluation, leadership, career progression, peer culture, diversity, DEI, school operations, workload, and teacher compensation.
- The results aren't where we want them to be. They aren't as surprising. Our takeaways are it's been a tough year. We have had a pandemic, mental health, an unstable economic outlook, and an unstable economic outlook we are really seeing as we go towards the end of the year.
- Summer Updates- Professional development. Culture, Content Community.
- Leadership training- Expectations. We are going to make sure that we are prepared for each and every encounter we have, and that we are consistent
- The curriculum development is fully focused on rigor, engagement, and mastery. A big push for our first 30 days.

The board retreat is on Saturday, July 23, 2022.

S. Huda arrived at 7:06 PM.

#### **B. K-8 Principal Update**

J. Boulet arrived at 7:24 PM.

K. Davidson shared his monthly updates.

- K-8 Goals: We are keeping our goals high. Excellence is what we are looking for in all areas. We have been making a lot of progress this year. We have not met our goal but we are pleased with some of the progress that we've made this year.
- State exam scores will not be presented until September.
- The final Interim Assessments in ELA and Math were given in the beginning of June. There has been an overall growth that we've seen throughout this school year.
- ELA-This last IA's for ELA did not include constructed responses or essay questions. They did not accept any assessments that did not have full annotations

and main ideas written for each passage. They wanted to see how the scholars were thinking while answering the questions.

### **C. 9-12 Interim Principal Update**

A. Brown shared his 9-12 updates.

- Initially, we're looking at our humanities, ELA, and history data. The data stayed the same throughout the year. They have increased the number of scholars that have improved in terms of scoring 75% and above.
- I-Ready data- They did not meet their goal yet but are going to continue to work on those skills, those interdisciplinary skills, those particular targeting the needs of our scholars, be it IEP, general ed, or high-performing scholars, to make sure that they get the necessary support in order to improve as they move throughout the year.
- Humanities reflection Goal- K through 12th grade has been working on close reading strategies. Close reading has been completed based on reading, stopping, and jotting.
- STEM Reflection- The annotation. Just like close reading, is something that all of our scholars are doing across the board. One of the things that we have a huge push for is interdisciplinary and transferable skills.

### **D. Operations Update**

K. Perez gave her K-12 enrollment updates. Enrollment has stopped for the current school year 2021-2022. This month there have been two withdrawals. Enrollment has begun for the 2022-2023 school year. Applications for the 2022-2023 school year are at 1,598.

M. Alston shared her Operations updates for the month.

- There are seven total teacher positions open, and five are leader openings. In K-8, there are four openings. In high school, there are three and for K-12 position has five openings.
- Manager of talent acquisition and marketing updates- C. Ramos is heavily focused on hiring but also intentional onboarding. The onboarding process has expanded, for example, bringing in the teachers ahead of time to set them up for success by giving them technology and what's expected of them before coming in.
- A virtual meet and greet were held earlier this month with the new staff members and a team builder.
- C. Ramos is also working on how to print ads to target staff and new scholars.
- Expansion- A walk-through with the construction contact, the architect, the owner of the building, and the broker for the potential building was today June 23, 2022. A test fit was conducted and looked into the actual design.
- COVID Updates- three staff members and four scholars have tested positive since last month.

- M. Alston focuses- Onboarding is the main focus as well as summer PDI for staff. A series of PD for the operations team.

### III. Finance Committee Updates

#### A. General Updates

S. Pressley congratulated the school team on a successful year.

- Audit- Our audit started last week. An update will be given at the July board meeting. I
- There is a scheduled meeting with JP Morgan to discuss the investment portfolio.

#### B. May Financials

S. Pressley made a motion to Approve May Financials.

A. Bothner seconded the motion.

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

##### Roll Call

S. Pressley	Aye
E. Chen	Absent
K. Shabazz	Aye
J. Boulet	Aye
A. Khanyile	Aye
T. Bryan	Absent
M. Dorrie	Aye
S. Huda	Aye
C. Barnes-Watson	Aye
A. Khatiwada	Aye
K. Brisseau	Aye
A. Bothner	Aye

R. Keogh gave the May updates.

- R. Keogh introduced K. Pellerin and S. Rasheed who will be replacing E. Mew who left the company.
- As of May 31st, we are really strong with our cash on hand and a marked increase in the investment account.
- Last quarterly report there's been a drop given the market volatility that I think we've all seen over the last few months.
- From April to May, our assets went down due to the intermittent month without receiving per pupil, but the current ratio has gone up and holds.
- No changes to enrollment. The only risk factor s any enrollment updates that we might cover with the submission of the reconciliation invoice, which takes place in August.

- Financials continue to look good. The year-to-date surplus is running very much in line with what has been presented over the last few months.

S. Pressley made a motion to approve May Financials as reported.

A. Bothner seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

A. Khanyile	Aye
T. Bryan	Absent
A. Khatiwada	Aye
C. Barnes-Watson	Aye
K. Brisseau	Aye
E. Chen	Absent
S. Pressley	Aye
M. Dorrie	Aye
A. Bothner	Aye
J. Boulet	Aye
K. Shabazz	Aye
S. Huda	Aye

**C. School Policy Approval**

Financial policies and procedures. Nothing major has changed. Only 1 added addition.

S. Pressley made a motion to Approve all financials policies and procedures for the 2022-2023 School year.

A. Bothner seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

A. Khatiwada	Aye
S. Pressley	Aye
S. Huda	Aye
A. Khanyile	Aye
K. Shabazz	Aye
A. Bothner	Aye
J. Boulet	Aye
C. Barnes-Watson	Aye
T. Bryan	Absent
E. Chen	Absent
K. Brisseau	Aye
M. Dorrie	Aye

**D. School Policy Review**

S. Pressley shared the Donations Policy will be officially voted on at next month's board meeting so that all stakeholders A. Bothner and the school leadership has time to discuss it fully. The policy will be voted fundraising.

#### IV. Education Committee Updates

##### A. Education Committee Report

No new updates for this month.

#### V. External Relations Committee Update

##### A. Fundraising Initiatives

A meeting is scheduled in July with different providers who will be donating funds for our school.

#### VI. Nominating Committee Update

##### A. Board Member Slate Renewal

K. Brisseau made a motion to all combine all votes into one vote so that we can vote for all of the members up for renewal within one vote.

K. Shabazz seconded the motion.

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

##### Roll Call

A. Khatiwada	Aye
S. Pressley	Aye
A. Bothner	Aye
A. Khanyile	Aye
K. Shabazz	Aye
C. Barnes-Watson	Aye
M. Dorrie	Aye
T. Bryan	Absent
K. Brisseau	Aye
E. Chen	Absent
J. Boulet	Aye
S. Huda	Aye

A. Bothner shared that the facilities committee will be worked on with the board members and the senior leadership on expansion.

K. Brisseau made a motion to roll the vote into one vote so we can re-elect the board chair, the vice chair, the treasurer, and the secretary.

A. Khatiwada seconded the motion.

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

##### Roll Call

T. Bryan	Absent
A. Bothner	Aye
C. Barnes-Watson	Aye
A. Khatiwada	Aye



**Roll Call**

A. Khanyile	Aye
S. Huda	Aye
M. Dorrie	Aye
E. Chen	Absent
K. Brisseau	Aye
S. Pressley	Aye
J. Boulet	Aye
K. Shabazz	Aye

K. Brisseau made a motion to vote on the re-election of those that we just rolled into the one vote.

M. Dorrie seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

S. Huda	Aye
K. Brisseau	Aye
E. Chen	Absent
M. Dorrie	Aye
A. Bothner	Aye
T. Bryan	Absent
A. Khatiwada	Aye
S. Pressley	Aye
J. Boulet	Aye
K. Shabazz	Aye
A. Khanyile	Aye
C. Barnes-Watson	Aye

K. Brisseau made a motion to proposing the continuance of the facilities committee as an ad hoc committee to work with the ED and senior leadership on the expansion as that process progresses.

S. Pressley seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

S. Huda	Aye
K. Brisseau	Aye
M. Dorrie	Aye
J. Boulet	Aye
C. Barnes-Watson	Aye
S. Pressley	Aye
E. Chen	Absent
A. Khanyile	Aye
K. Shabazz	Aye
A. Khatiwada	Aye
A. Bothner	Aye
T. Bryan	Absent

K. Brisseau made a motion to vote on electing those members that we just rolled into the one vote into the committees that are listed on the screen.

S. Pressley seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

S. Pressley	Aye
J. Boulet	Aye
A. Khatiwada	Aye
A. Bothner	Aye
C. Barnes-Watson	Aye
S. Huda	Aye
T. Bryan	Absent
E. Chen	Absent
A. Khanyile	Aye
K. Brisseau	Aye
M. Dorrie	Aye
K. Shabazz	Aye

**VII. Public Comments**

**A. Public Comments**

There are no registered public members in the meeting.

**VIII. Board Governance**

**A. Approve May 2022 Board Meeting Minutes**

J. Boulet made a motion to approve the minutes from Board Meeting on 05-26-22.

S. Pressley seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

C. Barnes-Watson	Aye
A. Khatiwada	Aye
A. Khanyile	Aye
J. Boulet	Aye
E. Chen	Absent
S. Pressley	Aye
T. Bryan	Absent
A. Bothner	Aye
S. Huda	Aye
K. Shabazz	Aye
K. Brisseau	Aye
M. Dorrie	Aye

J. Boulet recapped, the policies that are up for review and approval again this month, the Public Comments Policy, the COVID Safety Plan, which has been updated in accordance

with current COVID guidelines, the Complaint Policy, the Grievance Policy, the Complaint Policy is for the family handbook, the Grievance Policy is for the staff handbook, the Data Security Policy, and Complaint Form. The FOIL Policies and Notices and Subject Matter list as required by law. Most of the policies do not have any substantive updates.

- Mr. Brown has been added to the Grievance Policy. He is the high school contact.
- The Public Comments Policy has not changed just a slight discrepancy in how many minutes. We clarified that it's three minutes for public comments.

J. Boulet made a motion to to roll the approval of all of these policies into a single vote,.

A. Bothner seconded the motion.

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

#### Roll Call

J. Boulet	Aye
A. Bothner	Aye
K. Shabazz	Aye
T. Bryan	Absent
C. Barnes-Watson	Aye
A. Khatiwada	Aye
M. Dorrie	Aye
S. Huda	Aye
E. Chen	Absent
K. Brisseau	Aye
S. Pressley	Aye
A. Khanyile	Aye

J. Boulet made a motion to approve all of the policies listed.

A. Bothner seconded the motion.

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

#### Roll Call

S. Huda	Aye
C. Barnes-Watson	Aye
A. Bothner	Aye
S. Pressley	Aye
K. Shabazz	Aye
A. Khatiwada	Aye
M. Dorrie	Aye
K. Brisseau	Aye
E. Chen	Absent
J. Boulet	Aye
A. Khanyile	Aye
T. Bryan	Absent

There is one more policy the legacy policy. The policy is to determine how the board interacts with stakeholders at times in the context of a grievance or a complaint. The

policy was put together in late 2019, or early 2020. A name change had to be made to harmonize with the grievance policy and the complaint policy. Depending on the edits timeline, the policies may be brought up in July's board meeting as well as the stakeholder interaction policy updates.

## **B. Trustee Goal Setting Reflection**

K. Shabazz shared his goal for the month.

## **C. School Policy Approvals**

Staff handbook Changes- A huge transition with the handbook from last year towards this year. Senior Leadership made new policies and revamped things from the Lighthouse Handbook.

- Changes to the time-off policy will be coming soon. Add in a prorated payout based on when you enter into the school year and how much PTO and sick time a staff member may have.

The leave policy, specifically, outlines a compliance piece of PFL with the New York State credits that are received. Normally, the policy is that if you go on parental leave, you only get 67% of your pay. Our policy is that you are made whole, so we pay the employee fully for the time that they're out, for the 12 weeks, and the leaves are concurrent. Also, compliance is around making sure that the employee understands and knows the policy.

General updates are the school year calendar, the blackout calendar, and updating the executive director's welcome letter. Anything that is embedded in the handbook will be updated as well. Holidays, adding in Juneteenth.

Lactation breaks have also been added to the handbook.

TriNet has a safety component that's also included in our partnership. A walk-through with TriNet has been conducted. Kisha, Melissa, and the facilities operations person, walked with the rep to get the company's perspective on what Nuasin's safety protocols should model.

All updated policies will be voted on in the next board meeting.

## **D. Board Succession Plan**

## **E. School Policy Preview**

# **IX. Proposed Executive Session to Discuss Personnel Matters.**

## **A. Proposed Executive Session to Discuss Personnel Matters.**

A. Bothner made a motion to proposed executive section to discuss the personnel matter in relation to the senior leadership of the school. Inviting Malik Russell.

A. Khanyile seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

K. Brisseau	Aye
K. Shabazz	Aye
A. Bothner	Aye
S. Huda	Aye
T. Bryan	Absent
A. Khanyile	Aye
A. Khatiwada	Aye
M. Dorrie	Aye
E. Chen	Absent
S. Pressley	Aye
J. Boulet	Aye
C. Barnes-Watson	Aye

**X. 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 11:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
J. Boulet