APPROVED

Next Generation Charter Schools

Minutes

Monthly Nuasin Board Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday October 20, 2022 at 6:30 PM

Location
Join Zoom Meeting
https://metlcs.zoom.us/j/92229492418?pwd=N1lQUnJtbTJjb284dkhwRndZRFU5QT09

Meeting ID: 922 2949 2418

Passcode: 180165

One tap mobile
+16465588656,,92229492418#,,,,*180165# US (New York)

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:
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.

Trustees Present
A. Bothner, A. Khanyile (remote), E. Chen, J. Boulet, K. Brisseau (remote), K. Shabazz, M. Dorrie (remote), S. Huda, S. Pressley (remote), T. Bryan (remote)

Trustees Absent
C. Barnes-Watson

Trustees who arrived after the meeting opened
A. Bothner, S. Huda

Trustees who left before the meeting adjourned
J. Boulet

Ex Officio Members Present
M. Russell (remote)

Guests Present
A. Brown, F. Chughtai, J. Keeney (remote), John Scott (remote), K. Davidson (remote), Kate VanBramer (remote), M. Alston, S. Kochar

---

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance and Guests

B. Call the Meeting to Order

K. Shabazz called a meeting of the board of trustees of Next Generation Charter Schools to order on Thursday Oct 20, 2022 at 6:53 PM.
K. Shabazz called a meeting of the board of trustees of Next Generation Charter Schools to order on Thursday Oct 20, 2022 at 6:53 PM.

C. Review the Agenda

K. Shabazz reviewed the agenda briefly.

II. Mission and Pillars Board Reflection

A. Community

J. Boulet reflected on Community and shared the importance of community in her life and her journey thus far. Community is three things:
- Giving
- Receiving
- Being

J. Boulet provided a reflection on Community and the meaning of this pillar in her life.

III. School Update

A. Executive Director Update

A. Bothner arrived at 7:09 PM.
M. Russell reiterated the priority areas for this school year with the goal being that we are constantly thinking about and going back to these areas. Intellectual excellence is something we keep in mind daily with teachers, and we are leveraging data to drive this effort. We have made significant changes to invest in the whole child.

M. Russell provided an update on progress across the school toward their goals. Operations continues to prioritize remaining on brand, developing the team, and focusing on process improvement and sustainability. K-8 is focusing on the creation of exemplars, regular meetings, rooting decisions in data, and executing their vision for advisory. 9-12 is focusing on purposeful instruction through coaching sessions, academic counseling, and restructuring advisory.

M. Russell shared an update on succession planning. He reiterated his goals for the people strategy and the role of succession planning in that strategy. There has been progress made to date toward this. A process for teacher evaluation has been rolled out,

and there are ongoing discussions to establish an evaluation structure for leader and operations evaluations.

M. Russell provided an update on attendance. We are continuing to work on improving staff attendance. Lower and middle school has been doing well with attendance, and we are working on improving high school scholar attendance. We are navigating how to be thoughtful in an environment where everyone is more health conscientious while balancing academic needs.

M. Russell provided an update on expansion efforts. We are trending in a positive direction with progress toward the space on Jerome. The acquisition continues to progress as we refine the memo of understanding and support their renewal effort.

M. Russell shared some additional data received on state exam results. We are continuing to see our success following the pandemic compared to other charter schools, across the city, and throughout the state. This year with our investments, we hope to see even more growth. We're continuing to invest to see growth across the school in various ways to achieve our goals.

K. Shabazz asked about how these results would be maintained when we scale the school given comparable charter schools test 10,000+ students. M. Russell reiterated that our goal is much further beyond the passing rate, so we want to aim higher and grow thoughtfully to have true intellectual excellence at the school.
S. Huda arrived at 7:15 PM.

B. K-8 Update

K. Davidson reiterated the priority areas for this year. He shared some highlights from the culture side. We continue to get positive feedback from families when they drop scholars off in the morning. We had a social-emotional learning day led by a member of the culture team to address some of the gaps that had arisen during the remote learning era. The goal is to be more proactive in the culture team rather than reactive through early intervention. The progress is being seen through a decreased number of behavior interventions, suspensions, and higher attendance. This month, the key priority is the culture of data area and what that means. We're approaching this very intentionally by creating a culture of data. Data is not just a snapshot for us, it is what we use to operate daily. There has been more data tracking consistently even at the start of the year. This tracking is being driven through staff development by giving teachers the opportunity to model out difficult scenarios and prepare for their day-to-day interactions with scholars. Teachers are planning 1:1 with leaders right now, which is a strategic choice to allow us to focus on what the co-planned lesson is. K. Davidson walked through some example scholar work to demonstrate the success of their efforts. M. Russell emphasized that the reason why we have them show multiple ways of solving a problem is to demonstrate their deep understanding of the problem at hand.

K. Davidson gave a problem that was one of the more difficult items for scholars for the board to complete to understand the rigor of the work.

C. 9-12 Update

A. Brown shared that they are providing afterschool support for scholars that did not pass iReady last year. They're focusing on providing support to improve their reading comprehension skills. They have launched their math essay, and it is a challenge for scholars and teachers because of the change in mindset for how to view and explain math. Learning math is a rough draft, and ultimately, you will arrive at your destination. In November, they are launching their literacy and reading program which will include a revamped advisory schedule with one day dedicated to reading. They are exploring how to incentivize the pillars by introducing a dean's list and other activities to celebrate success. E. Chen asked whether there was outside support coming in, and A. Brown shared that they are especially using external support for social-emotional learning sessions.

A. Brown shared that IAs are coming up next week, so during the next board meeting, there will be results and work samples for the board to review. The goal is to reach understanding so it isn't procedural memorization. Some of our teachers teach the way they were taught so we are trying to challenge that and use multiple methods of teaching to reach scholars. They are leveraging data to identify areas of opportunity and using a targeted approach to address those gaps. A. Brown reviewed a math essay to demonstrate the reasoning behind using a conceptual approach to math.

D. K-12 Operations Update

M. Alston shared that we are overenrolled in the lower school and a bit under-enrolled in the high school, which has been a trend throughout the school year. We don't enroll scholars in 11th or 12th grade, which is what feeds this trend and so we over-enroll in lower school to make up for that. We continue to recruit for this school year and the next one. Applications are a little lower as of today because we continue to collect applications throughout the school year. There are 7 teacher positions open with the majority being in the high school given it requires a more specialized skillset. There are 3 new hires this month. Compliance reporting is ongoing for this semester. 4 COVID cases in the staff and none for scholars this month.

E. School Safety Plan

A. Bothner made a motion to approve the school safety plan.
T. Bryan seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

J. Boulet	Aye
S. Huda	Aye

Roll Call

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

J. Boulet left at 9:02 PM.

IV. Finance Committee Updates

A. General Updates

B. September Financials

J. Keeney provided an overview of September financials. There has been an increase in total assets and a small increase in liabilities. The current ratio is very strong. Debit to asset is very low. The days of cash on hand are well above the requirement. The debit to service ratio is very strong. Our enrollment is very strong, which is great since many other charter schools have seen a decrease. The P&L is very strong at this time.

C. Audit Update

K. VanBramer shared an overview of the audit report. There is a clean, unmodified opinion on pages 3 and 4, and the report is a little longer due to requirements. We are working to address a few missing items right now, and they should be resolved by next week. K. VanBramer shared some details about the financial state of the school and walked through the notes in the report.

K. VanBramer discussed the single audit report, and there was a clean, unmodified report relating to that. She walked through the significant risks identified. The risks identified are risks that are present in the vast majority of audits, and the difference this year is that we are required to report these. These risks have not been found, but it is a requirement to report as a standard.

D. Audit Vote

S. Pressley made a motion to pass the preliminary audit report.
T. Bryan seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

E. Chen	Aye
A. Bothner	Aye

Roll Call

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

S. Pressley made a motion to accept the september financial report and quarterly investment report.

T. Bryan seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

E. Quarterly Investment Update

J. Keeney walked through the quarterly investment report. Decreases are due to the market at this time and nothing of concern.

V. Education Committee Updates

A. Education Committee Report

E. Chen shared that the presentations from the principals should give an idea of the enhancements being made. We look forward to seeing more information from testing soon.

VI. External Relations Committee Update

A. External Relations Committee Report

A. Khanyile shared that he participated in an alumni event at his alma mater about fundraising strategies. One of the ideas that stuck out was around the website and how to generate traffic to the website.

E. Chen shared the new fundraising platform and page for her wedding donation collection.

VII. Board Governance

A. Approve August 2022 Board Meeting Minutes

A. Bothner made a motion to approve the minutes from Monthly Nuasin Board Meeting on 08-25-22.
E. Chen seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

B. Approve September 2022 Board Minutes

A. Bothner made a motion to approve the minutes from Monthly Nuasin Board Meeting on 09-22-22.
E. Chen seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

C. Annual Review of Academics

A. Bothner shared that we will table this discussion for the time being.

D. Trustee Goal Setting Reflection

S. Huda provided her reflection on some recent experiences she had to continue diving into the educational space and the challenges faced in the charter school space.

E. Board Succession Plan

A. Bothner made a motion to approve the board succession plan for SY22-23.
E. Chen seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

F. Review Trustee Pledge and Attendance Guidelines

A. Bothner shared the trustee pledge and attendance guidelines for the board's review, and they will vote on it during next month's board meeting. The goal is to standardize expectations across the board.

G. Fifth Amended Bylaws

A. Bothner made a motion to adopt the updated by-laws.
E. Chen seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

Roll Call

S. Pressley Aye

VIII. Public Comments

A. Public Comments

A. Bothner confirmed that no members of the public were present.

IX. Executive Session

A. Executive Session

A. Bothner confirmed there is no executive session tonight.

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 9:27 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
A. Bothner