

APPROVED

# Nuasin Next Generation Charter School

## Minutes

### Monthly Nuasin Board Meeting

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#### **Date and Time**

Thursday April 27, 2023 at 6:30 PM

#### **Location**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://metlcs.zoom.us/j/92229492418?pwd=N1lQUmJtbTJjb284dkhwRndZRFU5QT09>

Meeting ID: 922 2949 2418

Passcode: 180165

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,92229492418#,,, \*180165# 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:**

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), J. Boulet (remote), J. Scott (remote), K. Brisseau (remote), K. Shabazz (remote), M. Dorrie (remote), S. Pressley (remote), T. Bryan (remote)

**Trustees Absent**

C. Barnes-Watson, E. Chen, S. Huda

**Guests Present**

A. Brown (remote), G. Borja (remote), J. Keeney, K. Davidson (remote), M. Alston (remote), S. Kochar (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 Apr 27, 2023 at 6:50 PM.

**C. Review the Agenda**

AB announces we will review the agenda as is with the exception of the Initial Policy review under board governance that will take place at a later date.

## II. Mission and Pillars Board Reflection

### A. Mission Reflection

Rigor is reflected in our students and in our jobs, it resonated throughout my contact with scholars and in the different aspects of our jobs.

## III. Finance Committee Updates

### A. General Updates

990 was completed a few months ago and was signed by Aaron. Will be filed so we can remain in compliance. 990 reports our earnings as a nonprofit.

FFP review- will hold off on a review until June or July when we review other policies and procedures

### B. March Financials

JK reports that reviews 9 months of finances. There is no dept, 11.9 million in assets.

March has one month of advance payment. The debt to asset ratio is very low.

Enrollment was 672, 10 students above budget. 12.9 million in staff budget. Surplus to date is 433K. Forecasting to end the year with over 126K. All of our performances are better than the benchmark. The forecasted budget is positive 400K due to the summer boost. SP asks if this includes budget amendment and HJK replies that it does. Strong balance sheet representation.

### C. Quarterly Investment

One treasury matured last month and one more will take place in July and the last in September. SP asks to elaborate on CD that they will be transferred to, and JK responds that he is unsure. MR responds that there is more per pupil that is reflected this month as well. AB suggests different investment options and MR responds that we are looking into more attractive investments and believes this is a good idea that we are currently pursuing.

S. Pressley made a motion to Accept March Financials and Quarterly report provided by 4th sector.

T. Bryan seconded the motion.

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

### D. Budget Review

## IV. School Update

### A.

## **Executive Director Update**

MR reports that priorities are on incorporating rigor into the scholar curriculum. Every grade above p60% proficiency for ELA and Math, 90% above pass rate in regents, and 90% of scholars reading 30 minutes a night. The progress towards our goals of building the brand, school expansion, and delivering a cohesive message to the community. Removing the obstacles and focusing on self-reflection to meet our cultural goals. Intellectual excellence in our growth with students, strong culture data, responding to students' needs with their data to support their struggles, and growing the whole child. celebrating the students through different acknowledgments. Staff attendance averages 0 less than 5% of absences. 93% in middle school 94% in lower school and 88% in high school. We are focused on the 1342 inwood ave space. We are still revisiting terms, we are looking to be a single tenant. We are supporting our enrollment with our expansion. Our community supports our goals to expand. We are in discussions with the DOE, who are excited about our model and would like us to absorb schools that are struggling. we are also working with different partners. We are looking at schools that are struggling and marketing to those scholars in a continued effort to support enrollment and expansion. We are consistent with enrollment. We are in the process of building our cocktail hour and golf event. more details to come and an event we look forward to holding on an annual basis. we have created a fundraising deck, it contains our pillars, bios of staff, student testimonials, academic achievement facts throughout all grades, and operational achievements.

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

KD focuses on priority areas, intellectual excellence, a strong culture of data, and growing the child. KD begins with culture spirit week. Culture Day enables children to share their broad diversity. We also had a twin day in which teachers and students participated. We have a partnership with Bronx Children's Museum, There was a pep rally for state testing, Mock ELA testing supports our curriculum, and shows how scholars are growing in their skillset. ELA formatting has changed, there is more writing than multiple choice. This year the first day was longer. we are projecting growth in the 3rd and 4th grades due to the data we are tracking. we have invested in Lavinia and more story problems. Children are using different ways of breaking down, a dramatic improvement. Focusing on student calculator proficiency but also ensuring they are understanding the material by making them show the work. ELA mock data average was 63%. Day to mock ELA was 55%. Mock Math day 1 average was 61%, day 2 average was 60%. Final results for state testing will be posted by September. We will continue working towards proficiency.

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

AB reviews the HS scholars that are reading to students in the LS grades. We celebrate students that are meeting the pillars and we reward scholars that were selected based on application selection. All scholars have been on a school trip that visits a college. We are focused on scholars in every grade being exposed to different colleges. We are focused on a 90% regents pass rate and a 100% graduate rate. , 100% of acceptance rate in at

least 3 4-year colleges. Transition is critical and alignment with K8, and this is being with annotation across all subject areas.

IA data does not reflect where we want to be but gives us something to work towards, we will continue to push our scholars to reach their full potential. We observe the daily exit tickets to target support with peer tutoring and teacher support. Growing the child is reflected in the college readiness focus. SAT data enables us to strive for better. 95% of seniors have been accepted into a 4-year college. 2 scholars have been accepted to the highly competitive and prestigious Questbridge program. The Questbridge program will enable scholars to receive a full scholarship to prestigious universities. We have received full scholarships to NYU, Syracuse, UB, and Hunter College.

#### **D. K-12 Operations Update**

MA reports into school enrollment, there have been no changes. we have 1033 applications for next year. We have hired one new teacher and one new operations tech. We are advertising in the charter school directory and in charging stations in the Bronx. we have trips planned for both May and June. Reminders, that remote status will be updated with NYC mandates. Retreat survey and golf fundraiser doodle.

SP asks about the reading program. MR responds that we are still conducting the program and since it is not an immediate construct we will continue using this model.

Khari asks if we can use the mock exams or IA data to predict testing scores and KD responds that we do not feel comfortable using these data to project scores. Feels that next year we will be in a better space to make projections but can see with mock exams that there will be improvements.

MR responds that predictive analysis needs to have less variance, especially with the new testing format.

KS wants to know if take-home reading program is aligned with state testing, and MR responds that it is. He questions the predictive analysis, and MR responds that we need more data over time to be able to comfortably predict. MD responds that our data manager will review mock testing and state testing in an effort to study a pattern.

#### **V. Education Committee Updates**

##### **A. Education Update**

no updates at this time.

#### **VI. External Relations Committee Update**

##### **A. External Relations Update**

SP advises that the Board member's help is needed. A list of sponsors is needed to help contribute to the golf fundraiser. There is a doodle response, and we would like the sponsors to meet board members and create that presence. AK The doodle will solidify a date for the golf fundraiser and is important to complete. SP asks MA to give a fundraiser update. MA responds that we are waiting for survey results to complete so that we can

nail down a date. We will create a save the date so that we can send it out to our contacts. We have a goal of 100K for the fundraiser. AB mentions that it is important for all members to show up. AB wants to dedicate a board member as the point person for the fundraiser and support the development around that. AB is dedicating John Scott to be the point person around fundraising.

## **VII. Nominating Committee Update**

### **A. Nominating Committee Update**

AB presents the annual vote in June and reminds everyone to be prepared to report any changes to the slate.

## **VIII. Board Governance**

### **A. Approve March 2023 Board Meeting Minutes**

J. Boulet made a motion to approve the minutes from Monthly Nuasin Board Meeting on 03-23-23.

A. Bothner seconded the motion.

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

### **B. Initial Policy Review**

JB reports there are no changes but that it is upcoming.

### **C. Trustee Goal Setting Reflection**

AK reports his reflection on how important it is to care for ourselves and for the people around us.

## **IX. Public Comments**

### **A. Public Comments**

There are no public comments.

## **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 9:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

A. Bothner