APPROVED

# Next Generation Charter Schools

# Minutes

## Monthly Nuasin Board Meeting

**Date and Time**
Thursday June 22, 2023 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.

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

**Trustees Absent**
C. Barnes-Watson, T. Bryan

**Ex Officio Members Present**
M. Russell (remote)

**Guests Present**
C. Polanco (remote), Dan Pasek (remote), G. Borja (remote), J. Keeney (remote), K. Davidson (remote), M. Alston (remote), Raisa Schwanbeck (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 Next Generation Charter Schools to order on Thursday Jun 22, 2023 at 6:41 PM.

### C. Review the Agenda

AB reviews that the agenda is as normal and the only difference in agenda will be CB presenting Nominating committee at the end due to work conflict.

## II. Mission and Pillars Board Reflection

### A. Community Reflection

KD reports on Rigor and discusses a student that became a salutatorian and has been at Nuasin since its prior years of Metropolitan. She has received a full scholarship to Boston University, a testament to the pillar of Rigor.

## III. Finance Committee Updates

### A. General Updates

JK reports on April financials. Net assets are 11.3 million, which contrasts most charter schools which saw enrollment decrease. Enrollment is steady, subsequently, funding is also. We expect to come in at 18 million in revenue. AB asks about other income. JK answers that it is due to Bloomberg summer boost funding. AB suggests that we will have a healthy balance sheet at the end of this year and JK agrees.

### B. Budget Discussion

MR discusses moving towards expansion. The different reasons we need in order to strengthen our academics, retain and attract staff, increase engagement from parents, and increase high school programming and college readiness. MR discusses two different expansion models, that would focus on expansion in different cohorts, Each of the cohorts will require us to run in a deficit. Rental assistance is only for 6-12, which would allow for that model to be more financially enticing. We are scaling out our hiring so that we are prepared. This is not a long-term plan. The visual data plans show that no change in K-4 would show greater revenue quicker since we would receive rental assistance for the older children. JS asks about the number of applications and MR discusses that we have a healthy amount in each of those grades.  AB asks about conversion rates and MR responds that we do not have one but do not experience under-enrollment.

Different alternatives show that revenue will double in 6 years. AB asks about inflation for the per pupil rate in NY. JK responds that it is 3.3%, and MR reports that this year it was 4%. Both plans include ICT k-12 program. JK states the second model is economically more viable since it has a better worse case. DP asks about the difference between more at lower or more at high school. JK states that alternative two has less risk. DP notes that there is an advantage to building a relationship at an early age, and is more conducive towards growth although they do not pay as much. The two-year projection shows the

projected deficit to be 5.9 million. This does not include fundraising. AB suggests putting all cash into investing in treasuries to make money off of it. MD asks MR what is his preference in each scenario. MR responds that he believes they are both sustainable, but feels that the model that supports growth in more grades is easier to execute but this negates the rental assistance. Both are sustainable. AB asks about the staffing items. MR discusses that we will add a developmental person, who will work in government and private spaces. We are allocating 120K for this salary. Structuring the salary of the person is dependent on the person in this space. MD discusses that the salary is low for someone in this space. SH discusses that 120 with commission can be attractive. JB reports that she agrees with the hire. KB defers salary to school research but believes that we should get the right person.

## IV. School Update

### A. Executive Director Update

MR reviews the goals we have for the school. reviewing data and new comings to the school. Staff and scholar attendance are average. We are still in the process of our expansion, no updates.

### B. K-8 Update

KD begins discussing academic goals. Reviews our i-Ready data, which shows we have made a 68% growth goal, and have increased 10% from 2021-2022. Reviews growth in Kindergarten, which is common since they are beginning school. 8th grade took assessment 1 week before regents. They do not perform their best, hypothesized it can be due to burnout, and looks to change the timeline of taking the test next year. Results for all grades are common. AB asks if the growth is linear for all grades. KD reports there are outliers in every grade and we examine the macrocosm for the, but for a majority, movement is linear and progressive. IA mock test and IA 4 tests the whole school year. progression shows growth overall, not where we want to be, but shows potential. ELA averages in IA testing for 3rd quarter were significantly lower. He suggests buffering the rigor, and as leaders, they will examine how to tailor solutions and plans for each scholar to achieve success. Moving children out of the red, are not proficient but are making progress and show growth. We continue to have similar numbers for regents data.

### C. 9-12 Update

AB starts by discussing goals and informs that some were met and some were not. IA's are a reflection of the regent's tests, and there is consistency in grades. There is an increase in the number of scholars scoring above 65. More Scholars are performing better. Out of the norms include Living environment which had a new teacher begin in the 2nd quarter who found it difficult to catch up with scholars. There is more improvement in Algebra and Living environment. More scholars did better in ELA, we are looking to have scholars take this test a year early and that is a reflection of the current pass rates. More scholars are taking more exams. 98% graduation rate this year. We will work with the one

scholar that did not graduate so that they can graduate this summer. We have exceeded the district and NYC and NYS. We are pushing scholars to get college credits. 17 out of 22, will earn 6 to 9 credits. JS asks about whether scholars will attend college and AB responds that we have a team that helps them through the process. DP asks about algebra and MR goes through the sequence of math at Nuasin.

### D. K-12 Operations Update

MA discusses the healthy waitlist. There is a projected 94% return of staff for the next school year. AB asks about the shift, and MA responds that different variables impact staff retention. AB asks about last year, MA projected 97% for last year and the actual was 88%. MR notes that it's hard to solidify projection, but agrees it can be 88%-95%. We are confident in our projection. We expect to be fully staffed next year. GB reports on OML audit,

## V. Education Committee Updates

### A. Education Update

EC reports there are no updates at this time.

## VI. External Relations Committee Update

### A. External Relations Update

AK reports there are no updates.

## VII. Governance Committee Update

### A. Approve May 2023 Board Meeting Minutes

### B. Trustee Goal Setting Reflection

AB discusses his personal role and examines his habits. Taking a step back and constantly re-evaluating to continue to grow and acknowledge colleagues. Being proactive in your own growth.

### C. Review Updates for School Policies

MA reports changes in covid measures, no requirement of mask-wearing. KD reports that the k-4 space is where we will track mastery and focus on narrative. AB reports that we will be changing the percentages for major buckets.  MA reports that we are adding policies in AI, K-12 plagiarism, community expectations, social media, scholar extended absence policy, leave policy, antiracism policy, and inclusion policy.

### D. Structure Vote

### E.

**OML Audit**

### F. 2023-2024 School Year Calendar

MA reports that the only change will be to close schools on same day as parent teacher conference.
J. Boulet made a motion to Approve school year calendar.
A. Bothner seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

## VIII. Public Comments

### A. Public Comments

there are no public comments.

## IX. Nominating Committee Update

### A. Nominating Committee Update

AB discusses the different slate proposals and different governance rules around each of the committees.

### B. Vote Slate Renewal

AB discusses the different slates, he will move from A to B. AB reviews the committee slate. Trustees, officers committees, and committee chairs. The creation of the committee chairs will be done as a vote once the committee slate is done. No formal process for nominating those chairs.
Use your best effort to stay on target with meeting schedules. norm on providing each other with grace, respect, and accountability in your role on the board.
JB wants to note that is dedicated to one committee and your contribution can be met in many ways.
Voting structure, two step vote. proposal to vote on class A slate including movement of AB into class B. and vote of slate structure as proposed.
A. Bothner made a motion to proposal to vote on class A slate including movement of AB into class B.
J. Boulet seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
A. Bothner made a motion to Nominating committee slate as proposed.
J. Boulet seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

## 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 10:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
A. Bothner