APPROVED

# Next Generation Charter Schools

# Minutes

## Monthly Nuasin Board Meeting

**Date and Time**
Thursday August 24, 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, A. Khanyile, J. Boulet, J. Scott (remote), K. Brisseau, M. Dorrie (remote), S. Huda, S. Pressley (remote)

**Trustees Absent**
C. Barnes-Watson, E. Chen, K. Shabazz, T. Bryan

**Ex Officio Members Present**
M. Russell

**Guests Present**
A. Brown, C. Polanco, G. Borja, J. Keeney (remote), K. Davidson, M. Alston, S. Kochar, S. 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 Next Generation Charter Schools to order on Thursday Aug 24, 2023 at 6:52 PM.

### C. Review the Agenda

AB reviews the agenda and discusses changes may be made depending on attendance

### D. Board Meeting Updates

MR discusses the different topics we will review during the meeting.

## II. Mission and Pillars Board Reflection

### A. Self-Advocacy

CP discusses supporting staff and helping them to vocalize self advocacy and have staff impart that to the scholars.

## III. School Update

### A. Executive Director Update

MR opens up with the journey and joyous excellence. Reminds everyone to enjoy our journey. Discusses our PD's and the different spaces we are in. Priority areas are always part of the focus within the pillars. We focus on differentiation, ICT model for K-12. Understanding where every child is to support them. Assessments are not only used to see but to support each scholar. Writing is an important and part of our focus for all scholars. Family engagement is our last important focus. Our brand, removing all obstacles and excellence is our only option. We are mindful about each grade level in determining their needs in each space. We have specialized grade team leads, to increase parent engagement. MR encourages board members to attend the family engagement events. We are engaging Perkman Eastman.
AB reminds everyone about the new structure process and discusses how we will more forward with this new process.
MR reports that we have screened 3 applicants, have had over 100 applicants. MR has a meeting with a contact that runs the charitable donations for Goldman sac's. MR has also taken the initiative to reach out to his contact at NBA to do the same. Encourages the board members to do the same, reminds everyone to retell the compelling story as a strategy to engage in conversations with contacts.
AB requests a script or sample for Board Members to use with their contacts. MR responds that he will provide something but reminds everyone to "be natural". Asks for those that are not comfortable to just facilitate the introduction to him, encouraging everyone to participate in every level.  Ab appreciates the sample script and reminds everyone that this is about telling our story and having people invest in us.
MR responds that it is useful to find a connection to everyday life and what we do for our school.

### B.

**K-8 Update**

KD discusses the similar approaches for k-8 development. Focusing on developing staff, how to utilize two teachers in each room. Creating spaces for our scholars and staff to thrive. Encourages BM to share his slides with their potential donors. He reflects on the different building changes that have occurred throughout the years. Discusses the major transition during 2020 to the present. He reminds that job has never been a challenge for our scholars. Our baseline for passing was very low in comparison to today's numbers. Discusses how our name is mentioned with other schools and we strive to be on top. He discusses how the difference in teaching methods are changing the quality of our scholars. Recalls different scholars, their personal story of struggle and success. MR brings up how many teachers are laser focused on building relationships and this is creating the joyous excellence. Developing our staff, having them experience success with their scholars also drives our organizational retention. Different organizations are taking notice in our programs. We are piloting a program for a PD we participated in HIVE, they will be filming in October and performing a case study. MR responds that the partners are using us to market their product. Their products are impacting our scholars and creating joyous excellence. TFA partnership is driving our retention and brings great marketing value. KD connects different examples of scholars exhibiting joyous excellence.

**C. 9-12 Update**

AB begins with Joyous excellence as our theme for this year. He brings up increasing support for our scholars, teachers and families. SP asks about accountability for families. AB responds that we are working with parents to help them build a stronger ties to the scholars. Working with families allows all the staff to personalize the approach to each scholar. SP appreciates our thought and approach. AB also mentions we are focusing on SAT prep and transferrable skills, and that we will monitor instruction and adapt as needed. He also bring sup grade team leads, and the different support we are providing to each type of scholar. BM AB asks about AP class offerings. MR responds that we are increasing, PAL AB responds that we are offering 10 classes this year. MR responds that with expansion we are working towards more partnerships that offer to create a more competitive offering. Goals are on the top of our mind. Our priority is to grow the scholar.

**D. Operations Update**

MA begins with scholar enrollment, we are over enrolled in HS by two school, and over enrolled in lower school by 4. We have not met our internal goal. We projects 94% staff retention. The actual was 91% return rate, this is the highest return rate we have had since we have began. Last summer it was 87%. The attrition rate was due to different reasons. other employment, another leave to DOE three did not specify, 3 were not asked back and 3 relocated to different location. MA reports we are in a good space on looking for a Speech Pathologist and Director of Development. MA reports our new staff was very engaged and this event created a lot of excitement. For reporting we submitted

the annual report and PD8. For reminders next month meeting is in person and winter retreat is scheduled for February 10.

## IV. Finance Committee Updates

### A. General Updates

SP reports that EOY financials are ready for review.

### B. June Financials

JK reports that these have not been audited. One major change, it reflects the least that is reflected as a long term asset and right of use. Strong balance sheet. Biggest change reflected in right of use asset that takes the building lease liability into balance sheet. This tool is is provided by auditors to assess your assets. AB asks about difference in overall total? JK responds that the rental assistance. SR also discusses the other current liability is the same as short term liability. JK suggests an offline meeting and also references the footnote in BOT.

### C. Strategic Goals 2023-2024

We are still looking for Director of Development.
SP, JK and MA have met to create a quarterly meeting to increase financial literacy.

### D. June Financials Approvals

S. Pressley made a motion to approve EOY financials.
A. Bothner seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

## V. Education Committee Updates

### A. Education Update

AB is filling in for EC, her strategic goals are being workshopped and will be completed by next BM.

## VI. External Relations Committee Update

### A. External Relations Update

AK reports he attended National Night Out to connect with different organizations. He also visited the community board and attended their meeting. No further updates.
CP reports that she and colleague attended National Night Out.

## VII. Governance Committee Update

### A. Approve May 2023, June 2023, July 2023 Board Meeting Minutes

J. Boulet made a motion to APPROVE MINUTES.
A. Bothner seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
J. Boulet made a motion to approve the minutes from Monthly Nuasin Board Meeting on 07-22-23.
A. Bothner seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
J. Boulet made a motion to approve the minutes from Monthly Nuasin Board Meeting on 05-25-23.
A. Bothner seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
J. Boulet made a motion to approve the minutes from Monthly Nuasin Board Meeting on 06-22-23.
A. Bothner seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

### B. Trustee Goal Setting Reflection

AB reflects on not for profit fundraising. He is learning a lot and is happy to connect and share more with everyone individually if they request it.

### C. Safety Plan 2023-2024

SK reports that no major changes were made, just names, roles and dates.
J. Boulet made a motion to Approve safety plan.
A. Bothner seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

### D. Board Meeting 2023-2024 Calendar Date Revision

J. Boulet made a motion to Approve Board Dates 2023-2024 changes.
A. Bothner seconded the motion.
changes were made after DOE sent out their calendar.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

## VIII. Nominating Committee Update

### A. Nominating Committee Update

AB reports that CB is unable to join us but he has reached out to everyone to propose a new committee and dissolve the facilities committee. The expansion committee will fundraise and also discuss new building proposal. JS, SP, and AB will be in this committee. since we do not have quorum we can not vote but we will take a formal vote in September.
KB asks if there will be an end date for this committee. No one is opposed to this committee.

### B.

### Proposal for Expansion Committee

AB differs to next month since we do not have quorum.

## IX. Public Comments

### A. Public Comments

no 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 9:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
A. Bothner