

APPROVED

# Nuasin Next Generation Charter School

## Minutes

### Monthly Nuasin Board Meeting

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#### **Date and Time**

Thursday September 28, 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, E. Chen, J. Boulet, J. Scott (remote), K. Brisseau, K. Shabazz, M. Dorrie (remote), S. Huda, S. Pressley, T. Bryan

**Trustees Absent**

C. Barnes-Watson

**Ex Officio Members Present**

M. Russell

**Non Voting Members Present**

M. Russell

**Guests Present**

A. Brown, Amy Wilensky, C. Polanco, G. Borja, Jizelle Holman, M. Alston, Nick Chevalier, S. Kochar, Sharon Webb

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**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 Nuasin Next Generation Charter School to order on Thursday Sep 28, 2023 at 6:53 PM.

## **C. Review the Agenda**

MR reports the agenda items that we will review in detail during the meeting.

## **D. Board Meeting Updates**

EC reports her priority areas are to develop her connection to our community, and plans to visit the school.

SP reports priority areas, discusses hiring development director. SP explains that the expansion committee are working to expand their network.

KA explains that the external relations committee is to work with fundraising and expanding networking efforts.

JS discusses the expansion committee looks to work with fundraising and ensure transparency.

KB discusses the nominating committee is in works.

JB discusses the governance committee is working with developing schedules and processes for Executive director, review policies and values, aligning on culture and organizational policies.

## **II. Mission and Pillars Board Reflection**

### **A. Community**

SP reports about her connection to the community and the responsibility everyone has as board members and educators to connect with our scholars, families and beyond. EC reports she is working to develop her connection to our community, and plans to visit the school.

## **III. School Update**

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

MR discusses differentiation, writing in all components and family engagement. MR explains they are working on branding but also thinking about the different instructional components that we are launching and enhancing. We are also reviewing our system and processes, hot washes for each project to celebrate the positive and grow from negatives. TB asks if they are repeated offenders, MR responds they are. JB asks about percentage, MR explains the chart outline. KS asks about the reasons why, and MR responds that people respond with traffic, child care and parking. AK asks if this is typical for the new year and MR responds that it is but we work with everyone. MR discusses attendance. MR explains that as we settle with enrollment, our attendance will be

impacted. KS asks about BEDS day and clarification with enrollment. MR explains the enrollment process and how this impacts attendance. Ma and CP go into details on specifics of items like families that are away and do not begin on the normal start date. MR discusses succession plan and being thoughtful with structuring. MR reviews the focus and Q1, norming a standard, teacher evaluations, development and plans, alignment, and continuous improvement. MR reports we have hired a new development person, she will be in different committee. MR also shouts out SH on visiting the school, and her engagement with the scholars. SH thanks everyone for welcoming her, she attended a workshop and a trivia game. SH was excited to visually bring to life the initiatives we discuss during our meetings. KS inquires about graduation plan for SPED scholars. MR responds that we are focused on a whole and not just focusing on SPED and considering the whole for scholar achievement. KS discusses being mindful about making sure we graduate scholars from SPED and MR responds that as a school our focus and concern is ensuring that all students are thriving, regardless of educational status.

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

KD discusses the different scholars who have worked hard and describes them in his PowerPoint presentation and reminds everyone to personalize their achievements. J Holman exits the meeting. HD discusses that math has jumped an average of 20 points. KD discusses the different grade levels and each of their achievements. KD attributes the amazing teachers to the impact they have had on the scholars. JS leaves the meeting. Both ELA and Math have experienced incredible growth. KS asks about growth in ELA, and KD responds that the growth is stable. KD presents a graph of all students that depicts the growth time over time. KD discusses the growth from 2015 to the present, that shows we have increased over 40% in ELA proficiency and 38% in Math proficiency. KD reminds everyone that our focus is in achievement, differentiation and including writing in every part of our curriculum.

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

AB reports the different priority areas, including ICT classrooms, and implementing those types of support with differentiation. For family engagement, we have advisors reaching out to parents and keeping them update to date with events, scholar particulars and community events. AB discusses changes in the mindset. We are offering more pre-AP and AP classes. we have increased 40% of scholars that are in Pre-AP or AP classes. through differentiation we are meeting scholars needs in different areas. JB asks about the different courses and how scholars are assimilating. AB discusses that the teachers receive heavy professional development that enables them to maintain a rigorous course. She asks if they are experienced or new, AB explains that most of the teachers are new and explains that we are monitoring and providing support. JB asks about the learning curve and AB explains that we are working with them all to adjust and understand what the learning curve will be. AB also reviews the change in our mindset from staff to scholars. AB discusses leveraging their will to their increase their achievement. AB

discusses in school suspension, which is a major shift that enables them to continue building their relationship. EC discusses how interesting their progress will be to track with this new method. SP asks about family outreach and updates on initiative. AB discusses that more families are informed on a personal level.

#### **D. Operations Update**

MA discusses the enrollment update, we are over enrolled by two scholars. We anticipate we will reach 705 enrollment number. MA reviews the enrollment process and the common app. MA also is looking to revise priority, where staff can enroll their scholar in our school sooner. We are fully staffed and the only position we are hiring for is a speech pathologist. MA and GB went to Nashville for PD. MA presented a calendar of events for Board members to attend.

### **IV. Finance Committee Updates**

#### **A. General Updates**

SP reports that auditors are working on the audit and will be present for the October Finance Committee and Board Meeting.

#### **B. July and August Financials**

JK reviews the financials. Revenue is 2.9, surplus is 264K. Our projected deficit is more than we anticipated. Projected deficit is 562K, this includes 2 million in fundraising.

S. Pressley made a motion to Approve financials for July and August.

A. Bothner seconded the motion.

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

#### **C. Strategic Goals 2023-2024**

SP reports that strategic goals were discussed at the beginning of the meeting.

#### **D. Quarterly Update**

JK reports we are earning about 5% of our investments. JK reviews the difference between all of the bonds that we hold, the charge types we pay, the interest we make.

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

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

EC reports there are no updates

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

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

AK reports eh is involved with an organization that does community outreach and how we can leverage this relationship.

## **VII. Governance Committee Update**

### **A. Approve August 2023**

J. Boulet made a motion to approve the minutes from Monthly Nuasin Board Meeting on 08-24-23.

A. Bothner seconded the motion.

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

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

MD discusses feeling unengaged because of his phone and how he is working to change his perspective. MD reports wanted to create focus where its needed.

### **C. Bylaws Vote**

J. Boulet made a motion to Approve Bylaws.

K. Brisseau seconded the motion.

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

## **VIII. Nominating Committee Update**

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

KB reports that she has assumed a new position with the city and she is investigating whether she can maintain her position. To date, there is no conflict of interest and she will remain in her new position.

## **IX. Public Comments**

### **A. Public Comments**

There are no public comments.

## **X. Executive Session**

### **A. Executive Session proposed for the purposes of the proposed acquisition, sale, or lease of real property or proposed acquisition of securities or sale or exchange of securities, held by such a public body, but only when publicity would substantially affect the value thereof.**

MR leaves at 8:30, MA invited into Executive Session

### **B. Executive session proposed for the purposes of discussions regarding proposed, pending, or current litigation.**

- C. Executive Session Proposed for the discussion of the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation;**

## **XI. 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 10:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

A. Bothner