

# Nuasin Next Generation Charter School

## Minutes

### Monthly Nuasin Board Meeting

---

#### Date and Time

Thursday May 23, 2024 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)

---

#### 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), J. Boulet (remote), J. Scott (remote), K. Shabazz, M. Dorrie, S. Huda, S. Pressley (remote)

**Trustees Absent**

E. Chen, K. Brisseau, T. Bryan

**Trustees who arrived after the meeting opened**

A. Bothner

**Guests Present**

A. Brown, C. Polanco, J. Keeney, K. Davidson, M. Alston, M. Russell, P. Paulino, S. Kochar, S. Meding (remote)

---

**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 May 23, 2024 at 6:38 PM.

### **C. Review the Agenda**

MR reviewed agenda briefly.

### **D. Board Meeting Updates**

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

### **A. Self-Advocacy**

CP did the reflection on self-advocacy, especially around empowering scholars to be proud of being from the Bronx. Inviting all to attend the Humanities showcase on June 18 and graduation.

## **III. School Update**

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

MR discussed the priority details.

MR discussed staff absences:

- Avg. Late per day is 3
- Avg. Absences is 4

MR discussed scholar attendance:

- MS with the highest attendance
- Goal is 95% across the board

MR discussed the Expansion:

- 1342 Inwood Ave (permanent space) - pending lease
- Bronx Academy of Promise (temporary space) - lease proposal negotiation
- Zombie Charter -

MR discussed the SUNY visit at Nuasin

- Changes to proposal due May 30
- Second Interview on June 14
- Fingerprinting for Applicants/Board Members June 21

Q: Will board members need to be fingerprinted? (SH)

A: Yes, we will finalize the number of the board for the SUNY (MR)

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

KD discussed the 3 priorities:

1. Rigor - Writing in all Components
2. Self-Advocacy - Differentiation
3. Community - Family Engagement

KD discussed how the immigration unit in 2nd grade was closely tied to close reading

KD shared out some events that have occurred this past month:

- VIP Dance for grades 2-4
- 8th Grade Dance
- Spring PD Day
  - Highlight on the DEI Training

KD discussed the EOY Assessments, up next:

- 8th Grade Algebra Regents
- 8th Grade Living Environment
- EOY F&P Reading Level Assessment
- EOY iReady
- IA#4
- NYSESLAT

KD discussed EOY K-2 Literacy

- Guided Reading
  - Mid-cycle progress monitoring
  - Cross Grade level groups on growth and gaps
  - Administering EOY F&P with feedback highlighting strengths and areas for improvement for next year's teachers
- Phonics
  - Conducting review sessions
  - Creating personalized sight/CVC word lists for each student based on their specific needs and practicing mastery of words
  - Prepping for a transition to a new phonics curriculum for SY24-25

KD discussed Regents Prep for 8th Grade

- Algebra 1
  - Daily Mastery lessons using same proven structure as 5-7 with released Algebra Regents
  - Each lesson launch done by MW (5-8 DOI of STEM)
  - Targeted coaching by all teachers in classroom
- Living Environment
  - Daily Mastery lessons using released Living Environment Regents Focusing on how to answer short response questions

- Vocabulary homework
- Targeted coaching by both teachers

KD Discussed Upcoming events for K-8:

- Middle School Showcase
- Kindergarten Stepping Up Ceremony
- 8th Grade Graduation

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

AB Discussed the 3 Priority Areas:

1. Rigor - Writing in all components
2. Self-efficacy - Differentiation
3. Community - Family Engagement

AB Discussed the Rubric Tool - Interdisciplinary Rubric

- Criteria:
- Content and Analysis
- Command of Evidence
- Coherence, Organization and Style
- Control of Conventions
- Scaled Score - Percent - Aptitude:
- **4** - 100-85 - Exemplary
- **3** - 84-70 - Proficient
- **2** - 69-55 - Developing
- **1** - 54 and below - Emerging

AB discussed that we are at 100% college Acceptance

A. Bothner arrived at 7:18 PM.

### **D. Operations Update**

MA discussed scholar enrollment:

- Under by 1 in HS
- Over by 20 in LS

MA introduced PP to the board, School Aide of Community Outreach

MA discussed the Nuasin Hiring Needs, which currently is just the K-12 Manager of Special Projects

MA discussed the school policies fundamental change detail for Policies:

- Workplace Violence
- Leave Policy

**E. '24-'25 School Year Calendar Review**

**F. '24-'25 Policy Change Fundamental Change Detail**

**IV. Finance Committee Updates**

**A. General Updates**

**B. March Financials**

**C. April Financials**

**D. Financial Policies and Procedures**

**E. '24-'25 Budget Approval**

The full proposed budget was discussed by MR and also provided context:

**• Landscape**

- Multi Front Expansion
- Continued Lack of Clarity on Demographics, Charter Schools, and National/State Economic Outlook
- Solidifying Foundation of Sustained Excellence

**• Challenges**

- Labor crunch
- Need for competitive salaries
- Declining Birth Rates
- Families moving out of the city
- Our community as a whole needs more support than they ever did in the pastResponse

**• Response**

- Plan to expand Middle and High school
- Merger discussion
- SUNY Application Submission
- Increased focus IEP conversion

MR discussed the revenue, revenue drivers, and revenue assumptions

JK discussed Expense assumptions and expense drivers

JK discussed the 5 year projections

AB discussed the surplus on the variance summary and what will be proposed for vote, cash flow has increased due to trimming on spending

AB emphasized the importance around fundraising, cash on hand

Q: When does the full budget need to be submitted to the DoE (SP)

A: June 30 (JK)

A. Bothner made a motion to Approve: - March Financials - April Financials - SY24-25 Budget - Sublease ; contingent on being reviewed by the council, concluding that there is no material default.

S. Pressley seconded the motion.

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

#### **Roll Call**

T. Bryan Absent

A. Khanyile Aye

S. Pressley Aye

J. Scott Aye

A. Bothner Aye

K. Brisseau Absent

M. Dorrie Aye

J. Boulet Aye

E. Chen Absent

S. Huda Aye

### **F. Committee Strategic Report**

## **V. External Relations Committee Update**

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

AK we want to set clear goals:

- Providing services for the Highbridge community
- community forums
- forging partnerships
- quarterly meetings

JS wanted to compliment the Nuasin team on the SUNY charter process as well as the advocacy from the community on advocating for expansion

### **B. Committee Strategic Report**

## **VI. Expansion Committee Update**

**A. Committee Strategic Report**

**B. Lease for 1342 Inwood Ave**

No vote will be held on this lease today, this was included in the agenda for review.

**C. Sublease for 1366 Cromwell Ave**

**VII. Nominating Committee Update**

**A. Nominating Committee Update**

AB spoke for KB who is absent, but reminded all that KA will be working with MA in order to set a meeting for renewals, interests, not for the nominating, finance, and expansion committee.

Everyone must have their nominations to KB by June 10

**B. Committee Strategic Report**

**C. Board Slate Reminder**

**VIII. Education Committee Update**

**A. General Updates**

There are no education committee updates since EC is absent.

**B. Committee Strategic Report**

**IX. Governance Committee Update**

**A. Governance Committee Update**

**B. Trustee Goal Setting Reflection**

**C. Board Meeting Calendar for '24-'25**

JB discussed that we will be voting on the SY24-25 Board meeting

AB highlighted that June's meeting is off cycle, MA shared that it is because Juneteenth falls on that Thursday and is an observed Holiday.

SP shared the concern around voting around Financials in the May-June area

J. Boulet made a motion to Approve Board Meeting Calendar for '24-'25.

A. Bothner seconded the motion.



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

**Roll Call**

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

**D. Board Structure Reassessment**

JB requested for all board members to have a small synopsis to discuss during the next meeting.

**E. Committee Strategic Report**

**F. Approve Special April Board Minutes**

J. Boulet made a motion to approve the minutes from Special Meeting of the Board on 05-02-24.

A. Bothner seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

K. Brisseau Absent  
S. Huda Aye  
A. Bothner Aye  
J. Boulet Aye  
S. Pressley Abstain  
A. Khanyile Aye  
T. Bryan Absent  
M. Dorrie Aye  
J. Scott Aye  
K. Shabazz Aye  
E. Chen Absent

J. Boulet made a motion to Move into.

A. Bothner seconded the motion.

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;

With added guest Malik Russel

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

**Roll Call**

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

**G. ED Evaluation**

**X. Public Comments**

**A. Public Comments**

A. Bothner made a motion to Move into executive session.

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.

With added guest Malik Russel

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

**Roll Call**

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

**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 10:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
A. Bothner