

APPROVED

# Vida Charter School

## Minutes

### Board Meeting

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**Date and Time**

Monday June 24, 2024 at 6:30 PM

**Location**

120 E. Broadway  
Gettysburg, PA 17325

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**Trustees Present**

B. Reyes-Lua, J. Burmistrova, L. Rice, P. Diaz-Parga, P. Miller, S. Luque (remote), V. Fonseca

**Trustees Absent**

J. Lewis, T. Arias

**Ex Officio Members Present**

M. Turner (remote)

**Non Voting Members Present**

M. Turner (remote)

**Guests Present**

E. Nashelsky

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**I. Opening Items****A. Record Attendance****B. Call the Meeting to Order**

B. Reyes-Lua called a meeting of the board of trustees of Vida Charter School to order on Monday Jun 24, 2024 at 6:37 PM.

**C.**

## **Approve May 2024 Minutes**

P. Miller made a motion to approve the minutes from Board Meeting on 05-20-24.

V. Fonseca seconded the motion.

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

### **Roll Call**

J. Lewis Absent

T. Arias Absent

## **II. Executive Director Report**

### **A. Monthly Report**

Elana Nashelsky reported the following updates during the meeting:

1. The 21st Century CCLC program is scheduled to commence in August.
2. An application has been submitted for the ACCF Giving Spree. The participants for this event will be announced on July 11th.
3. There is a Summer Internship opportunity at CPS/Vida Garden.
4. We have observed an increase in volunteerism among Vida alumni.
5. As for enrollment and re-enrollment, we have so far registered 254 students for the 2024-2025 academic year.

## **III. Academic Excellence**

### **A. Updates from Academic Excellence Committee**

Elana Nashelsky shared the following updates on Academic Excellence:

There has been a marked improvement in both discipline and language skills among the students.

The Board raised multiple questions about the math results. They observed a discrepancy in performance levels from Kindergarten to second grade and then from third to sixth grade, primarily due to differences in testing methods.

Additional data from the Math assessment will be available in the coming days.

Elana Nashelsky also emphasized that there has been a significant increase in biliteracy among the students

### **B. Staff Satisfaction Survey**

Will be discussed in the next meeting.

## **IV. Finance**

### **A. Monthly Financials**

Leighton presents the Monthly financials.

L. Rice made a motion to Approve the financial reports.

B. Reyes-Lua seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

J. Lewis      Absent

T. Arias      Absent

V. Fonseca    Aye

S. Luque      Aye

P. Miller      Aye

J. Burmistrova Aye

B. Reyes-Lua Aye

L. Rice      Aye

P. Diaz-Parga Aye

**B. MOU with Vida EA/ESP**

Leighton Rice presented the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Vida EA/ESP during the meeting. He confirmed that this revised MOU has been approved by the union, following a revision by the solicitor.

L. Rice made a motion to Approve the Health Reimbursement Account MOU.

P. Miller seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

V. Fonseca    Aye

S. Luque      Aye

B. Reyes-Lua Aye

P. Miller      Aye

L. Rice      Aye

T. Arias      Absent

J. Burmistrova Aye

J. Lewis      Absent

P. Diaz-Parga Aye

**C. 2024-25 Budget Draft**

Leighton Rice explained the draft budget for the 2024/2025 fiscal year during the meeting. He noted that it includes a rise in the health insurance premium due to changes in several factors, including pricing adjustments.

The board reviewed in detail the budget.

P. Miller made a motion to Approve the Budget Draft.

V. Fonseca seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

J. Lewis      Absent  
T. Arias      Absent  
B. Reyes-Lua Aye

**D. Student Information System Quotes**

Melissa Turner shared that they have tested a new software, eService Synergy SIS. She noted that its price is on the lower side compared to other options they have tried. She also mentioned that we can expect its implementation by September.

L. Rice made a motion to Approve the Contract for the eService Synergy software with CSIU.

S. Luque seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

T. Arias      Absent  
J. Burmistrova Aye  
P. Diaz-Parga Aye  
J. Lewis      Absent  
S. Luque      Aye  
B. Reyes-Lua Aye  
L. Rice      Aye  
P. Miller      Aye  
V. Fonseca      Aye

**E. Liability Insurance**

In the meeting's opening remarks, Melissa advocates for the continuation of our partnership with Zenith Insurance, citing their exceptional service as the primary reason. She advises against proceeding with Guide1. She elaborates on her stance by providing specific instances and examples drawn from our experiences with these insurance providers.

L. Rice made a motion to Acquisition of Zenith Insurance.

P. Miller seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

T. Arias      Absent  
P. Diaz-Parga Aye  
V. Fonseca      Aye  
B. Reyes-Lua Aye  
S. Luque      Aye  
J. Burmistrova Aye  
P. Miller      Aye  
L. Rice      Aye  
J. Lewis      Absent

## **F. COVID sick days for non-CBA employees**

Leighton discusses the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) pertaining to the benefits for CBA employees. The board deliberates on the possibility of extending these identical benefits to non-CBA employees. The Board decided to move it to next month.

## **V. Governance**

### **A. Strategic Planning**

Christie has held two meetings with Jesse, during which a preliminary Strategic Plan and a Call to Action were presented to the Governance team. Additionally, Jesse and Kevin from Charter Choices have prepared a 5-year budget plan, tailored to align with the Strategic Plan's objectives, which will be circulated shortly.

The Governance team is set to provide their feedback and suggested modifications on the Plan and Call to Action to Christie by Friday, 6/28. These revisions will then be forwarded to Jesse. The finalized plan is scheduled to be presented by Jesse at the board meeting in August. Furthermore, Jesse will develop and distribute a resource that can be used to give our families an overview in August.

We will continue discussing these matters in our next meeting

### **B. PDE Retal reimbursement returning forms 2023-24**

B. Reyes-Lua made a motion to amend the meeting agenda to add the Rental Reimbursement vote required by PDE.

J. Burmistrova seconded the motion.

The Board approves the submission of the rental reimbursement forms for the 2023-2024 SY to the PA Department of Education when the forms become available.

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

#### **Roll Call**

T. Arias    Absent

J. Lewis    Absent

P. Miller made a motion to Approve the PA Department of Education 2023-2024 Rental Reimbursement forms.

P. Diaz-Parga seconded the motion.

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

#### **Roll Call**

S. Luque    Aye

T. Arias    Absent

P. Diaz-Parga Aye

V. Fonseca    Aye

B. Reyes-Lua Aye

J. Lewis    Absent

L. Rice    Aye

**Roll Call**

P. Miller      Aye  
J. Burmistrova Aye

**VI. Personnel Report**

**A. June Personnel Report**

Elana addresses the recent resignations that have occurred, which involve a number of teachers and the school nurse. However, she provides reassurance that, despite these departures, we anticipate that there will be no shortage of teachers at the commencement of the new academic year.

B. Reyes-Lua made a motion to Approve the Personnel report.

S. Luque seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

P. Miller      Aye  
B. Reyes-Lua Aye  
L. Rice      Aye  
J. Burmistrova Aye  
S. Luque      Aye  
T. Arias      Absent  
J. Lewis      Absent  
V. Fonseca      Aye  
P. Diaz-Parga Aye

**VII. 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 8:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

B. Reyes-Lua