



Namaste Charter School Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 26, 2023, 6:00 PM

3737 S. Paulina
Chicago, IL 60609

Present Board Members: Maricela Herrera, Michel Mahaffey, Jim O'Toole, Jim Scott,

Absent Board Members: none

Present Via Phone: Allison Slade join meeting at 7:40 PM

Guests: Rocio Tovar, Sarah Urban, Fabian Garcia, Tracy Smith Jackson, Linda Boyd, Kathryn Nelson, Tori Bohannon, Micaela Gniech, Drew Staples, Briana Kusch

Agenda

I) **Opening Items**

Jim O'Toole

- A) Call Meeting to Order
- B) Approve Minutes
 - i) August 15, 2023 – Approval of meeting minutes

Mr. O'Toole called the meeting to order at 6:07pm. Mr. O'Toole moved to approve the minutes from August 15, 2023. Ms. Mahaffey **seconded** the motion.

All in favor: 4; Opposed: 0; Abstain: 0

II) **Public Comment/Welcome Guests** (20 minutes)

Maricela Herrera

Ms. Herrera welcomed guests. There were no speakers.

III) **State of School** (60 minutes)

Rocio Tovar

- A) School Update

Ms. Tovar provided update on student enrollment, student transfers and student recruitment. Ms. Urban provided update on staffing and hiring and charter renewal. Ms. Bohannon provided update on leadership development and academic achievement: assessments, PD, curriculum, coaching and 5E next steps. Ms. Smith-Jackson provided an update on Operations/Finance: School Food Nutrition Program, facility update and ongoing audit.

IV) **Finance** (30 minutes)

Michel Mahaffey

- A) Union negotiations update



- B) Pre audit final FY22/23 financial Statements
- C) Updated budget for FY23/24
- D) Revised investment policy – Vote
- E) FY 22/23 audit status

Mr. Scott provided update on collective bargaining, updated budget 23/24 and investment policy.

Proposed use of funds for the benefit of current Namaste students and alumni to further their education. He proposed to develop a timetable and documentation for grant process.

Motion by Mr. Scott: approve revised policy change for Namaste investment policy for the accumulation funds of Namaste Charter School. Michel Mahaffey **seconded** the motion.

All in favor: 4; Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0

- V) **Development** (10 minutes)
- A) Development Update

Allison Slade

Kathryn Nelson gave update of work that is being conducted with the associate board and future work she will be doing with Namaste.

- VI) **Kellogg Board Fellow Presentation** (10 minutes)

Drew Staples

Mr. Staples provided presentation on Namaste Charter School Enrollment Project he is working on.

- VII) **Closed Meeting Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)**

- A) Vote to go in to closed session
- B) Vote to exit closed session.

Jim O'Toole

Mr. O'Toole moved to go into closed session at 7:37 pm pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)

All in favor: 4; Opposed: 0; Abstain: 0

- VIII) **Vote on Matters Discussed in Closed Session** (if necessary)

Jim O'Toole

No matters to vote on.

- IX) **Closing Items**

Jim O'Toole

- A) Adjourn Meeting

Mr. O'Toole to adjourn the meeting at 8:48pm. Ms. Mahaffey **seconded** the motion.

All in Favor: 5; Opposed: 0; Abstain: 0