



## Namaste Charter School Board Meeting

# Namaste Charter School Board Meeting

Tuesday, August 15, 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:** No one.

**Present Via Phone:** Allison Slade, Drew Staples

**Guests:** Rocio Tovar, Sarah Urban, Fabian Garcia, Tracy Smith Jackson, Linda Boyd, Kathryn Nelson, Tori Bohannon,

## Agenda

### I) Opening Items

Jim O' Toole

A. Call Meeting to Order

B. Approve Minutes

1. July 10, 2023, Minutes - Approval of meeting minutes

Mr. O'Toole called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Mr. O'Toole moved to approve the minutes from July 10, 2023. Ms. Mahaffey seconded the motion.

All in favor: 5; 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

Rocio Tovar

Ms. Tovar provided state of the school report on SY 23/24 Student Enrollment Summary K-8. Provided staffing and hiring update, 9 new staff members hired this summer, 3rd grade mono open position, interviews in progress, will hire paraprofessional to accommodate a student. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Science is open, currently position currently being filled by long-term substitute that taught last year.

Ms. Urban gave a report on K1 split will be implemented one classroom per standard, mono and dual, one teacher and one teacher assistant. This program is commonly used by Montessori Schools.

Ms. Smith Jackson provides an update on Charter Renewal. The facilities walkthrough was exemplary, waiting to find out dates for the SPED audit and site visit. EL and SPED



portions of application are completed. Provided an update on School Food Nutrition Program. Student currently enrolled is at 376. With regards to finance, currently going through audit and budget is completed. Insurance increase for BCBS 4%.

#### IV) Finance

A. Revised Budget /ESSER Plans

Tracy Jackson-Smith

Mr. Scott informed us that there have been no bargaining sessions with CTU since the last meeting on June 20. Provided an overview of the areas that need continued discussions with regards to negotiations and CTU Bargaining Status. Mr. Scott provided 23/24 Budget update.

Ms. Tovar provided the report on ESSER funds.

#### V) Development (10 minutes)

Allison Slade

Kathryn Nelson proposed a mixer with the associate board for the next meeting. Also provided an overview of next steps for fundraising events.

#### VI) Closed Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), 5 ILCS 120/2 (C) (2) 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21),

Jim O'Toole

- A. Vote to go into close session.
- B. Vote to exit close session.

Mr. O' Toole moved to go into closed session at 7:05 PM pursuant to **5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), 5 ILCS 120/2 (C)(2), 5 ILCS 120/2(c) (21),**

Jim Scott **seconded** the motion.

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

#### VII) Vote On Matters Discussed in Closed Session

Jim O'Toole

No matters to vote on.

#### VIII) Old Business

A. Charter Renewal

Board members provided updates, feedback and discussion on Charter Renewal and next steps to follow.



**IX) Closing Items –**

**A. Adjourn Meeting**

Jim O'Toole

Mr. O'Toole to adjourn the meeting at 8:37pm. Mr. Scott seconded the motion.

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