



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

i) June 20, 2023 – 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 (60 minutes)

Rocio Tovar

A) School Update

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. 7th and 8th 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 (30 minutes)

Tracy Jackson-Smith

A) Revised Budget / ESSER Plans



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

A) Development Update

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 Meeting Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2), 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21)

A) Vote to go in to closed session

Jim O'Toole

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) Ms. Mahaffey seconded the motion.

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

B) Vote to exit closed session.

Mr. O'Toole moved exit closed session at 8:23PM pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), 5 ILCS 120/2 (C)(2), 5 ILCS 120/2(c) (21) Ms. Herrera seconded the motion.

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

VII) Vote on Matters Discussed in Closed Session (if necessary)

Jim O'Toole

Ms. Mahaffey made motion to approve leaving the closed session minutes *October 2021 to November 15, 2022*, closed as discussed in closed session. The meeting dates are in Exhibit A. Ms. Herrera seconded the motion. All in favor: 5; Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0

Ms. Mahaffey made motion to approve and keep confidential meeting minutes from *January 2023 to June 2023*, as discussed in closed session. The meeting date are in Exhibit B Ms. Herrera seconded the motion. All in favor: 5; Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0

Ms. Mahaffey made motion to approve the destruction of the closed session minutes *from May 2021 to October 2021*, as discussed in closed session. The meeting dates are in Exhibit C. Ms. Herrera seconded the motion. All in favor: 5; Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0

VIII) Closing Items

Jim O'Toole

A) Adjourn Meeting

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

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



Exhibit A – Leaving Closed

November 15, 2022	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2) and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21)
September 27, 2022	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2) and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(8)
August 16, 2022	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)
June 21, 2022	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)
May 10, 2022	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2), and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21)
April 5, 2022	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)
February 22, 2022	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)
October 26, 2021	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), 5 ILCS 120/2(c)2, and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21)

Exhibit B – Approve and Close

June 20, 2023	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(7)
May 16, 2023	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)
May 1, 2023	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(7)
March 21, 2023	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)
January 17, 2023	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)

Exhibit C – Destruction

October 26, 2021	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2), and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21)
August 31, 2021	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)
June 22, 2021	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) and 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21)
May 25, 2021	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)