



Namaste Charter School Board Meeting

Tuesday, January 28, 2025, 6:00 PM

3737 S. Paulina

Chicago, IL 60609

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

Absent Board Members: None

Via Phone: Chris Shue, Allison Slade, Suzzanne Mejia

Guests: Fabian Garcia, Tori Bohannon, Rocio Tovar, Dr. Tasha Green Cruzat, Matt Moeller, Rosie Aleman, Aphrodite Salgado, Linda Boyd

Agenda

I) Opening Items

Jim O'Toole

A) Call Meeting to Order

B) Approve Minutes

i) November 19, 2024 – Approval of meeting minutes

Mr. O'Toole called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

Mr. O'Toole made a motion to approve the November 19, 2024, meeting minutes as presented, and Ms. Mahaffey seconded. The following votes were recorded.

Board Member	Vote
Jim O'Toole	Approve
Jim Scott	Approve
Allison Slade	Approve
Michel Mahaffey	Approve
Maricela Herrera	Approve
Claudia Beltran	Approve

II) Public Comment/Welcome Guests (20 minutes)

Maricela Herrera

There were no public comments.

III) Board Election of Dr. Tasha Green Cruzat (10 minutes)

Jim O'Toole

Jim O'Toole made a motion to elect Dr. Tasha Green Cruzat as a board member as of January 28, 2025, to June 30, 2026 and Mr. Scott seconded. The following votes were recorded.

Board Member	Vote
Jim O'Toole	Approve
Jim Scott	Approve
Allison Slade	Approve
Michel Mahaffey	Approve
Maricela Herrera	Approve
Claudia Beltran	Approve



IV) State of School (60 minutes)

Rocio Tovar

- A) School Update
- B) Financial Report

Ms. Tovar and the leadership team provided a school update. Mr. Chris Shue provided the financial report.

V) Development (10 minutes)

Kathryn Nelson/
Allison Slade

- A) Development Update

Suzanne Mejia provided a development update

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

- A) Vote to go into closed session

Jim O'Toole

I) Mr. O'Toole made a motion to enter closed session at 7:37 pm closed meeting session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2), 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21) Dr. Green Cruzat seconded. The following votes were recorded.

Board Member	Vote
Jim O'Toole	Approve
Jim Scott	Approve
Allison Slade	Approve
Michel Mahaffey	Approve
Maricela Herrera	Approve
Claudia Beltran	Approve
Tasha Green Cruzat	Approve

- B) Vote to exit closed session

Mr. O'Toole made a motion to enter closed session at 8:55 pm Closed Meeting Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2), 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21) Mr. Jim Scott seconded. The following votes were recorded.

Board Member	Vote
Jim O'Toole	Approve
Jim Scott	Approve
Allison Slade	Approve
Michel Mahaffey	Approve
Maricela Herrera	Approve
Claudia Beltran	Approve
Tasha Green Cruzat	Approve



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

Jim O'Toole

Ms. Herrera made a motion to approve leaving the closed session minutes from March 2024 to July 2023 closed as discussed in closed session. Dr Slade seconded the motion. The meeting date are in Exhibit A. The following votes were recorded:

Board Member	Vote
Jim O'Toole	Approve
Jim Scott	Approve
Allison Slade	Approve
Michel Mahaffey	Approve
Maricela Herrera	Approve
Claudia Beltran	Approve
Tasha Green Cruzat	Approve

Ms. Herrera made a motion to approve and keep confidential meeting minutes from November 2024 to May 2024 as discussed in closed session. Mr. Scott seconded the motion. The meeting date are in Exhibit B. The following votes were recorded:

Board Member	Vote
Jim O'Toole	Approve
Jim Scott	Approve
Allison Slade	Approve
Michel Mahaffey	Approve
Maricela Herrera	Approve
Claudia Beltran	Approve
Tasha Green Cruzat	Approve

Ms. Herrera made a motion to approve the destruction of closed session meeting minutes from June 2023 to January 2023 closed as discussed in closed session. Ms Beltran seconded the motion. The meeting date are in Exhibit C. The following votes were recorded:

Board Member	Vote
Jim O'Toole	Approve
Jim Scott	Approve
Allison Slade	Approve
Michel Mahaffey	Approve
Maricela Herrera	Approve
Claudia Beltran	Approve
Tasha Green Cruzat	Approve



VIII) Closing Items

Jim O'Toole

A) Adjourn Meeting

Mr. O'Toole made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:57pm, Ms Beltran seconded. The following votes were recorded.

Board Member	Vote
Jim O'Toole	Approve
Jim Scott	Approve
Allison Slade	Approve
Michel Mahaffey	Approve
Maricela Herrera	Approve
Claudia Beltran	Approve
Tasha Green Cuzat	Approve



Exhibit A - Leaving Closed

March 19, 2024	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)
February 8, 2024	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)
January 16, 2024	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)
November 14, 2023	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)
September 26, 2023	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)
August 15, 2023	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2), 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21)
July 10, 2023	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)

Exhibit B - Approve and Close

November 19, 2024	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)
September 24, 2024	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2),
August 20, 2024	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)
June 14, 2024	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2), 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)
May 29, 2024	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)
May 14, 2024	5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2), 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21), 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)

Exhibit C - Destruction

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)