



Namaste Charter School Board Meeting

Tuesday, August 19, 2025, 6:00 PM

3737 S. Paulina

Chicago, IL 60609

Present Board Members: Maricela Herrera, Allison Slade, Claudia Beltran, Jim Scott

Absent Board Members: Jim O'toole

Board members via Google Meets: Michel Mahaffey, Tasha Green Cruzat,

Guest via Google Meets: Tiara Wheatley, Sharon Stuyck, Lisa Scruggs.

Guests: Fabian Garcia, Tori Bohannon, Rocio Tovar, Linda Boyd, Rosie Alemán, Matt Mueller, Anna Diperna,

Agenda

I) Opening Items

Claudia Beltran

A) Call Meeting to Order

B) Approve Minutes

i) *June 16, 2025* – Approval of meeting minutes

Ms. Beltran called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm.

Ms. Beltran made a motion to approve June 16, 2025, meeting minutes. Dr. Slade seconded. The following votes were recorded.

Board Member	Vote
Tasha Green Cruzat	Approve
Jim Scott	Approve
Allison Slade	Approve
Michel Mahaffey	Approve
Maricela Herrera	Approve
Tasha Green Cruzat	Approve

II) Public Comment/Welcome Guests (20 minutes)

Maricela Herrera

There were no public comments.

III) State of School (30 minutes)

Rocio Tovar

A) School Update - Recruitment and Enrollment

B) School Update - SY 2025- 2026 Goals

C) Financial Report



Ms. Tovar, joined by the leadership team, presented a school update focused on recruitment and enrollment efforts. The school currently has 378 students enrolled and is aiming to stay within the range of 370 to slightly over. Social media presence on Instagram and Facebook has significantly contributed to recruitment efforts. The goals for the 25-26 school year align with previous years, focusing on commendable ratings and student achievement. Collaborative practice, involving families and teachers, remains a key goal, with efforts to strengthen family involvement. Teacher retention and evaluation are prioritized, with goals for proficient and distinguished ratings, alongside meeting enrollment targets and budget.

Mr. Shue followed with the Financial Report. The strategy for enrolling students after the September 15th count date was discussed, emphasizing continued enrollment in certain grades. The finance report highlighted enrollment as a key budget driver, with a target of 370 students.

IV) Development (10 minutes)

Wheatley/

Allison Slade

Ms. Wheatley provided a brief introduction and delivered the development report, outlining key updates and progress.

**V) Closed Meeting Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1),
5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)**

Claudia Beltran

A) Vote to go into closed session

Ms. Beltran made a motion to go into close session at 7:23 PM pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) Personal Matters, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) Litigation

. Mr. Scott seconded the motion. The following votes recorded.

Board Member	Vote
Tasha Green Cruzat	Approve
Jim Scott	Approve
Allison Slade	Approve
Michel Mahaffey	Approve
Claudia Beltrán	Approve
Maricela Herrera	Approve



B) Vote to exit closed session

Ms. Beltran made a motion to exit closed session at 8:32 pm. Ms. Mahaffey seconded the motion. The following votes recorded.

Board Member	Vote
Tasha Green Cruzat	Approve
Jim Scott	Approve
Allison Slade	Approve
Michel Mahaffey	Approve
Claudia Beltrán	Approve
Maricela Herrera	Approve

VI) **Vote on Matters Discussed in Closed Session** (if applicable)

Claudia Beltran

No matters to vote on.

VII) **Closing Items**

Claudia Beltran

A) Adjourn Meeting

Ms. Beltran to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 pm. Mr. Scott seconded the motion. The following votes recorded.

Board Member	Vote
Tasha Green Cruzat	Approve
Jim Scott	Approve
Allison Slade	Approve
Michel Mahaffey	Approve
Claudia Beltrán	Approve
Maricela Herrera	Approve