

New Academy Charter School

Minutes

NEW Academy Charter School Board Meeting

Date and Time

Wednesday October 23, 2019 at 5:00 PM

Location

NEW Academy Canoga Park, 21425 Cohasset St. Canoga Park, CA 91303, 6902 East Greenway Parkway Scottsdale AZ 85254

Public Comment Notice:

Individuals and representatives of organizations are invited to address the Board on any subject that falls within the Board's purview. If the item will be acted on at the Board Meeting, speakers are called on to speak prior to Board action on the item and in the first section of the public comment period. If the speaker's topic will not be voted on at the Board Meeting, their presentation is also made during the Comment portion of the meeting, but after comment on actionable items. Each speaker is limited to a three-minute presentation.

Directors Present

B. Bradley, G. Simpson, M. Arias, P. Didonato, V. Gil

Directors Absent

B. Stotzer

Guests Present

C. Guerrero, Cindy Frantz, D. Martinez, E. Todd, Heather De Revere, Jazmine Estrada, M. Cervantes, M. Sanchez, Navelle Molina, P. McBride

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance and Guests

B. Call the Meeting to Order

V. Gil called a meeting of the board of directors of New Academy Charter School to order on Wednesday Oct 23, 2019 @ 5:20 PM at NEW Academy Canoga Park, 21425 Cohasset St. Canoga Park, CA 91303, 6902 East Greenway Parkway Scottsdale AZ 85254. Board Members received public comment from stakeholders regarding former employees and changes at the school.

C. Approval of the Minutes-August 22, 2019-Action Item

- Request that Ron Solorzano be removed as a board member to Advisory Member

- Cindy Frantz spoke on this item: She explained that she has been meeting with the school administrators every two weeks and going over policies procedures.
 - Has met to discuss salaries and actual pay of staff at both schools
 - Mentioned that there was no change at NACP
 - NASA- As a result of various items that increased these resulted in a net loss. (Dr. Todd went over changes in staff). Member Bradley recommended that Edtec meet with school administrators to get accurate income reports, cash flow, payroll records, rent increases and changes in staff which will yield changes in the financials
- Member Bradley pointed out that the budget is approved in summer without knowledge of what changes will take place in Fall. He recommended that in planning for the budget next year there should be more visibility for review by August. President Gil agreed.

G. Simpson made a motion to approve the minutes.

M. Arias seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

B. Bradley Aye
B. Stotzer Absent
M. Arias Aye
G. Simpson Aye
V. Gil Aye
P. Didonato Aye

II. Finance

A. August-September Financials-Action Item

B. Bradley made a motion to accept the Aug-Sept financials contingent on getting a more accurate update on the actual budget with the assistance of Edtec.

G. Simpson seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

G. Simpson Aye
P. Didonato Aye
B. Bradley Aye
V. Gil Aye
M. Arias Aye
B. Stotzer Absent

B. Edtec Finance Presentation

- Edtec went over the processes used by them that will be ongoing
- Edtec looking at what teachers are actually being paid, and also including unfilled positions as increases.
- At the beginning, Edtec needed to do a payroll reconciliation and did a true review of the actual payroll
- Reviewed the forecast net income for NASA and NACP
- Member Bradley: Cash flow analysis should show positive cash flow at both schools
- Edtec will circle back to include boards concerns

NACP:

- People were hired and showed positive budget due to people being paid at different rates

- Made negative adjustments due to the consultant fees, they were all on one line item and should not be
- Music Program turned out to be comparable to a Music Teacher.

Investment Account: The operating experience is not affected by the investment account. However, we need to adjust the presentation of the account so that it will not be integrated.

NEW Laws:

Ed tech reviewed the new laws: Conflict of Interest: Must be transparent, bids made, board members should not even be perceived as a conflict of interest and Independent Contractors.

Member Bradley: suggests that the Legal counsel review the new laws regarding independent contractors and conflict of interest. Dr. Sanchez will bring these to the legal counsel.

C. Chase Bank Account Closure Resolution

G. Simpson made a motion to approve the Chase Bank account closure resolution.

M. Arias seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

- V. Gil Aye
- B. Stotzer Absent
- M. Arias Aye
- B. Bradley Aye
- P. Didonato Aye
- G. Simpson Aye

D. Investment Account Changes-Action Item

G. Simpson made a motion to move investment account money from the NACP cash account to include the move of \$500M from checking to investment account for NACP.

M. Arias seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

- G. Simpson Aye
- B. Bradley Aye
- P. Didonato Aye
- B. Stotzer Absent
- V. Gil Aye
- M. Arias Aye

E. Investment Account Funds for Professional Development

The Item was tabled pending an a specific budget, condition of the current school budgets, etc.

Member Stotzer: that in a meeting specific objectives were set down to ensure that the schools are implementing these for planned outcomes.

In moving forward on this plan, discussed and agreed to, all 3 organizations need to meet 2 times per year to see how to meet these objectives and ensure clarity for the school to meet the level 3 school culture.

- The schools will be taking different paths to meet the same goals.

- The committee will have at least two full leadership meetings with school site administrators and two with teachers involved in the group.
- Member Stotzer: Described that for 3 meetings and table group with Dr. Jones and Bill Weingartner will be about \$30-40K for the year and maybe a little bit more. The committee needs to review the current amount spent. Should not exceed \$75K from the inception.
- Member Gil brought out the NASA and NACP budget decreases as needing to be considered.
- Dr. Sanchez mentioned that the money at hand was to come from the investment account not the operating regular budgets.
- Member Bradley: Mentioned what that the investment account has yielded. Also, mentioned that the intent to fund the NASA summer school program must be considered if it will be funded out of the same account.
- Member Stotzer: reminded the board that it had already made a commitment.
- The board decided to table the item until there is a firm amount. The subcommittee will meet.

F. CGM Medical Reimbursement Company Update

Member Didonato: Stated that she has not heard from Kathryn Hunter of CGM.

III. Education Committe/Academic Excellence-Information Only

A. CDE Dashboard: Local Performance Indicators-Action Item

Mr. Martinez gave an overview of the Dashboard priority items.

- Indicators and priorities for both schools were reviewed and whether or not these have been met. He also mentioned that the CDE updates and shows either "met or not met" for two years. Mr. Martinez stated that First priority was met by both schools
- Second priority -Academic standards, was met by both schools regarding the standards (ELD standards, next generation science standards).
- Schools are still working on social studies, science and
- Both schools are working on visual and performing arts, health standards, etc.
- Priority Standards 3- Parent Engagement: Creating welcoming environments, Title I survey, culture survey, etc. are used to whether we are doing well. School sites both described their efforts with parent activities and the development of their school site council, CELAC, ELAC,
- Priority 6 School climate: Mr. Martinez reviewed the results of the student and staff surveys. These revealed the perspectives of the students toward safety, respect for them and them for teachers and their feeling about the surrounding community.
- Priority 7-Broad Course of Study-also met.

M. Arias made a motion to Approve the local indicators to be uploaded to the cDE dashboard.

G. Simpson seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

B. Bradley Aye
B. Stotzer Absent
V. Gil Aye
P. Didonato Aye
M. Arias Aye
G. Simpson Aye

B. School Administrator Reports

Dr. Todd presented the rocket news bulleting

Both School Site Administrators gave oral reports regarding activities at the school. Written reports were passed out with details for reference.

C. Test Data Report

- NASA: Have instituted strategies that have moved the scores in reading and math way up. They exceeded the state and LAUSD.
- NACP: Dr. Guerrero, distributed the Dolphin Digest, upcoming events, Mrs. De Revere has a spot here to discuss test data. AP DeRevere went over the SBAC scores in comparison for NACP and LAUSD. and California
- DR. Guerrero and Dr. Todd has been working to coordinate and collaborate their efforts. They have adjusted their PDs on the same day.

D. "Big 3" Meeting Report

This was discussed under item E-Investment Account for Professional Development which was tabled.

IV. Governance and Strategic Planning

A. Audit Committee Appointment on School Board-Action Item

- Audit Committee is responsible for reviewing the results of the annual audit and developing a corrective action plan to address all relevant weaknesses noted by the auditor. The charter school governing board will review and approve the audit no later than December 15.
- Have not had any negative findings thus far. If there were significant issues then it would be sensible for the audit firm to go over with the board member.
- Member Bradley: Recommended that the audit committee include the Finance Committee plus one other board member. Martha Arias was added.
- The board has requested that the audit report come directly to the board, they can send a copy to EdTec.

B. Bradley made a motion to to appoint the audit committee made of of Finance Committee and Martha Arias.

G. Simpson seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

P. Didonato Aye
B. Stotzer Absent
G. Simpson Aye
V. Gil Aye
B. Bradley Aye
M. Arias Aye

B. Fiscal Policy Review-Action Item

Cindy Frantz (Edtech) reviewed fiscal policy and gave suggestions. Also went over technical differences dealing with EdTec's versus ExEd's process.

- The threshold for the capitalization – is low. See it closer to \$5K.
- The bid threshold also seemed low and recommends it be raised. LAUSD has asked for backup to match to the threshold.
- Item tabled for time to review it more in detail.

C. Employee Benefits

Tabled due to time limits.

D. Townhall Planning and Topics

Tabled but announced dates.

E. Board Meeting Schedule Update 2019-2020

Board reviewed and approved the dates with changes.

V. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

G. Simpson made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

V. Gil seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

B. Stotzer Absent

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

V. Gil