

**YINGHUA ACADEMY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

Monday, November 18, 2019, 6:00 p.m.

Yinghua Academy Media Center: 1616 Buchanan St NE, Minneapolis, MN 55413

**Board Members in Attendance:** Lisa Matre (Chair), Amanda Schneider (Treasurer), Nathan Bode (Secretary), Brooke Darrah-Hage, Paul Haller, Kaishan Kong, Cindy Moeller, Suzanne Reider and Jane Steiner (arrived at 6:04 p.m.)

**Board Members Not in Attendance:** Cindy Bursell, Joel Luedtke, Erica Rasmussen and Charles Robinson

**Executive Director in Attendance:** Susan Berg

**YACA Representative in Attendance:** Becky Wright

**Public in Attendance:** None.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Matre called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

II. APPROVALS (12 minutes)

a. 11/18/19 Agenda

Ms. Matre presented the agenda with two additional approval items for a student leave of absence and a staff leave of absence.

**The MOTION by Ms. Schneider to approve the agenda as amended was seconded and passed.**

b. 10/21/19 Regular Meeting Minutes

Ms. Matre presented the minutes for the October Board meeting.

**The MOTION by Ms. Schneider to approve the minutes was seconded and passed. Dr. Kong abstained.**

c. 11/3/19 Board Retreat Meeting Minutes

Ms. Matre presented the minutes for the Board Retreat meeting.

**The MOTION by Ms. Schneider to approve the minutes was seconded and passed.**

d. Gym Use by Third Party Policy YA-004

Ms. Matre presented the policy with no revisions since the last reading.

**The MOTION by Ms. Schneider to adopt the policy was seconded and passed. Ms. Moeller abstained.**

e. Student Leave of absence

Ms. Berg presented a student leave of absence from January 29, 2020 until the end of the school year.

**The MOTION by Ms. Moeller to approve the leave of absence was seconded and passed.**

f. Staff Leave of absence

Ms. Berg presented a staff leave of absence until the end of the school year.

**The MOTION by Ms. Darrah-Hage to approve the leave of absence was seconded and passed.**

III. PUBLIC COMMENT (0 minutes)

None

IV. BOARD RETREAT / ACHIEVEMENT GAP DISCUSSION CONTINUED (3 minutes)

There was a brief discussion regarding continuing the discussion on the school's achievement gap from the Board Retreat meeting. Ms. Schneider recommended deferring the discussion until next Board meeting as several Board members were not present.

V. FINANCE / FACILITIES UPDATE (35 minutes)

Ms. Schneider summarized current financials, which are 33% complete for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. Expenditures are at 33%, revenues are at 34%. Days of Cash on Hand is at 102 days. Fund Balance outside of the committed fund is at 24%, with committed it's 29%. Yinghua Academy current net income is \$108,123.

Ms. Schneider gave an update on the possibility of refinancing the School's Bond issue. The current bonds have a 10-year call option restriction that last until 2022. At this time

the recommendation is to wait until 2022 to see where interest rates are at and see if the school requires addition capital at that time.

The Board has asked the Finance and Facilities committee to update the long-range budget model annually. Ms. Schneider gave an update on the process and explained it includes reviewing several assumptions and drivers. The largest driver of the budget model being student head count. This led to a discussion on how many homerooms the school can support and the size of upcoming kindergarten classes. The enrollment numbers by grade for the next school year will be set at the next Board meeting

VI. GOVERNANCE UPDATE (16 minutes)

a. Cruz-Guzman Lawsuit

Dr. Haller gave an update on the Cruz-Guzman lawsuit. The case claims that persistent school segregation effectively denies Minnesota children an adequate education. The case is currently on going in Hennepin County district court.

b. Upcoming Board Officer Elections

Dr. Haller gave a reminder on the upcoming Board election for three officer positions. Elections will be held at the next Board meeting.

VII. DEVELOPMENT UPDATE (3 minutes)

Ms. Berg gave an update on the Give to the Max contributions. The school received 401 contributions for a total \$32,257 and earned the School Board match.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT (8 minutes)

Ms. Berg summarized her most recent Executive Director's Report. She gave an update on the first Maker Space event held last Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup>. There were over 100 participants. There are five more upcoming Maker Space Saturdays with different themes being planned for each event. First Friday is continuing each to week to help kids with 30 middle schoolers attending last week. There is a High School panel discussion scheduled for Thursday, November 21 with representation from at least 8 high schools.

IX. ADJOURN

Ms. Matre concluded the meeting.

**The MOTION by Ms. Schneider to adjourn at 7:18 p.m. was seconded and passed.**

Minutes drafted by Nathan Bode  
Approved by vote of Board on: 12/16/2019