

YINGHUA ACADEMY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 20, 2020 6:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/93491520659>, Meeting ID: 934-9152-0659

Board Members in Attendance: Amanda Schneider (Chair), Suzanne Reider (Treasurer), Nathan Bode (Secretary), Cindy Bursell, Brooke Darrah-Hage, Paul Haller, Kaishan Kong, Joel Luedtke, Lisa Matre, Cindy Moeller, Erica Rasmussen, Charles Robinson and Jane Steiner

Board Members Not in Attendance: None

Executive Director in Attendance: Susan Berg

YACA Representative in Attendance: Becky Wright

Public in Attendance: Dr. Lien, Abigail Pribbenow, Pamella Stommes, Shannon Hinz (Friends of Education), Samantha Colai, Sarah Kieffer, Vivian Hassel, Erika Coblentz, Erica Drake, Sherry Kempf, Cherry Piersma, Maddie P, Mimi Black, Emily Subialka Nowariak, Casey Piersma, Adam Kieffer, Pamela Beaudry, Hazel Wilson, Belle Khuu, Tanya Hinton and Melissa (no last name)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Schneider called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

II. APPROVALS (6 minutes)

a. 4/20/2020 Agenda

Ms. Schneider presented the agenda.

The MOTION by Ms. Moeller to approve the agenda was seconded and passed.

b. 3/23/2020 Regular Meeting Minutes

Ms. Schneider presented the minutes for the March Board meeting. Several edits were recommended by Board Members and Ms. Berg.

The MOTION by Dr. Haller to approve the minutes as amended was seconded and passed.

III. FINANCE / FACILITIES UPDATE (3 minutes)

a. March Financials

Ms. Reider summarized current financials, which are 75% complete for the 2019-20 fiscal year. Expenditures are at 75%, revenues are at 76%. There is currently a net income of \$91,584 which is expected to come down due to refunds. Revenue should not be impacted by distance learning. The Finance Committee is currently working on the budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

IV. PERSONNEL UPDATE (5 minutes)

Ms. Moeller gave an update on the plan to handle the Executive Director's performance review for this year. The recommendation from the Personnel Committee is for Board Members to give Ms. Berg feedback at the next Board meeting. The change in format this year is the result of distance learning becoming the priority over previously identified goals. There will be information sent to Board Members in advance of the next Board meeting.

V. GOVERNANCE UPDATE (4 minutes)

a. Board Elections

Dr. Haller gave an update on the upcoming Board election. The voting will start this Thursday, April 23rd at the Annual Meeting. The election will run until the following Thursday, April 30th at 6:00 p.m. Ballots can be cast electronically or by mail. The ballots will be counted the following Monday, May 4th to allow time for mailed in ballots to be received.

b. Annual Meeting – 4/23/2020

Dr. Haller provided information regarding the upcoming Annual Meeting this Thursday, April 23rd. Candidates running for the Board will be allowed to give a speech during the meeting. The plan is to record the speeches to share with school community.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND ACADEMIC COMMITTEE UPDATE (48 minutes)

Ms. Berg provided updates regarding distance learning. There is a large learning curve for everyone involved with distance learning. Yinghua Academy is experiencing 100% attendance after three weeks of distance learning as counted by one of three options; students 1) attend morning roll call, 2) partake in any Zoom classes or 3) submit tasks. The school staff recognized that distance learning is a marathon with the goal of helping every kid cross the finish line. A focus has been on student engagement recognizing different approaches are needed depending on the grade level. The goal is no homework with students doing all the tasks during the class period.

Dr. Lien recognized that everyone is working together to make distance learning work. The school has been focused on answering questions from teachers, families, and students. The questions generally are in the following categories: student expectations, technology use, methods to deliver learning and class management.

Dr. Lien explained how the school is making changes based on teacher and parent feedback. The changes include recognizing that communication is key, adjusting the school day, having students' complete tasks during class, and focusing on what is essential at this time.

Ms. Berg gave updates on the distance learning survey, which is open until this Wednesday, April 22nd. There were 237 responses as of last Saturday with representation from parents at all grade levels. The final survey results will be communicated to the school community.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT (9 minutes)

Ms. Wright provided a few updates regarding YACA. The next YACA meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 21st at 6:00 p.m. The discussion will be focused on how YACA can support the school and the upcoming YACA Board election.

Ms. Kempf suggested the school consider a balance between synchronous and asynchronous learning options during distance learning. She recommends the school provide more asynchronous options to support independent learning for middle school students.

Ms. Coblenz mentioned there is a big difference between middle and lower school students. She requested the survey results be split between the two when presenting the results to the school community.

IX. ADJOURN

Ms. Schneider concluded the meeting.

The MOTION by Mr. Luedtke to adjourn at 7:17 p.m. was seconded and passed.

Minutes drafted by Nathan Bode
Approved by vote of Board on: 5/18/2020