

YINGHUA ACADEMY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 25, 2021 6:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/98660208472>, Meeting ID 986 602 08472

Board Members in Attendance: Amanda Schneider (Chair), Suzanne Reider (Treasurer), Nathan Bode (Secretary), Cindy Bursell (arrived at 6:20 p.m.), Eric Foster, Brooke Darrah-Hage, Paul Haller, Joel Luedtke, Cindy Moeller, Joel O'Malley, Evan Owens, Erica Rasmussen, and Charles Robinson

Board Members Not in Attendance: None

Executive Director in Attendance: Susan Berg

YACA Representative in Attendance: Vanessa Beckett

Public in Attendance: Debra Schneider (left at 6:43 p.m), Abigail Pribbenow, Wynnee Igel, K Giddings, Dina Nash, Brian Lam, Amy, Bekki, Brynn, Melissa Wilson, Jennifer Olsen, Erica Drake, Gfrerer, Vichet Chhuon and Emily Ryan

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Schneider called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

II. APPROVALS (7 minutes)

a. 1/25/2021 Agenda

Ms. Schneider presented the agenda.

The MOTION by Dr. Haller to approve the agenda was seconded and passed.

b. 12/21/2020 Regular Meeting Minutes

Ms. Schneider presented the minutes for the December Board meeting. Minor Edits were recommended by Dr. Haller, Ms. Berg, and Ms. Moeller.

The MOTION by Ms. Darrah-Hage to approve the minutes as amended was seconded and passed.

III. VISA/H-1B EDUCATION SESSION (33 minutes)

Debra Schneider is an attorney at Fredrikson & Byron P.A. law firm. She has been an adviser to Yinghua Academy regarding hiring foreign employees for several years. She

gave an overview of the H-1B program and the school's process to hire foreign employees. She also went on to explain the Permanent Residency process.

IV. FINANCE / FACILITIES UPDATE (4 minutes)

a. December Financials

Ms. Reider summarized the current financials, which are 50% complete for the 2020-21 fiscal year. Expenditures are at 48% and revenues are at 48% of the annual budget. There is currently a total net loss of \$88,207 across all funds. The Finance committee is continuing to monitor the financials and will be revisiting the budget during their upcoming meetings.

V. GOVERNANCE UPDATE (7 minutes)

Dr. Haller mentioned the COVID guidance by school's law firm. There will be more to be shared in upcoming meetings.

Dr. Haller went on to mention there have been no changes to the 3rd and 2nd policy readings since the last Board meeting.

a. Polices – 3rd Reading

a. 419 - Tobacco Free Environment

The MOTION by Mr. Luedtke to approve Policy 419 was seconded and passed.

b. Policies – 2nd Reading

a. 430 – Reporting Unethical Illegal Activities

b. 533 – Wellness

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE (53 minutes)

a. 2021/2022 Academic Calendar – FOR APPROVAL

Ms. Berg presented the Yinghua Academy 2021-2022 Academic Calendar. The recommendation is to have the first day of the school year to be Wednesday, September 1, 2021. This puts the last day of school year on June 10, 2022. The Chinese New Year's performance is planned for February 12th, 2022. The rest of the school year

is like past year's school calendar. There was discussion about providing summer school support to students.

The Motion by Ms. Reider to approve the 2021-2022 Academic Calendar was seconded and passed.

Ms. Berg summarized her most recent Executive Director's Report. The total student enrollment count is 848. The school has received 180 applications that including 120 kindergarten applications. Currently there are 34 sibling applications for kindergarten which means there would be up to 78 new families joining the school.

Ms. Berg explained how Equity continues to be a focus with number of activities taking place. She went on to explain the many activities happening for Chinese New Year. Ms. Berg praised the administration and staff on ways there are keeping the students engaged in several activities.

b. Learning Mode Update

Ms. Berg gave an update on the Learning Model. She reminded the factors that administration is looking at to return students to school. The factors include impact of holiday gatherings on COVID numbers, spread of new strain, timing of vaccinations and number of cases in Hennepin county. The school initially received 4 vaccines allotted the in the first week and that number increased to 42 vaccines in the second week. The school administration has also been monitoring impacts in other school districts including St. Paul.

Ms. Berg announced the school has decided to return to the Hybrid model in February for the remainder of Term2. If things go well all students would continue Hybrid at the start of Term 3. In addition, the school will look to bring back Kindergartners and First grades Fulltime starting March 15th. After that they plan to bring back 2nd to 4th graders on March 29th. As required by the state the school will continue to offer an all distance option for those families that opt for that choice.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT (11 minutes)

Ms. Pribbenow requested Board Members to send Thank You notes to individuals who donated during the recent fundraising campaigns.

There was a question from the public around Aftercare during Hybrid. There are still discussions being held on what and how it will be offered.

VIII. ADJOURN (1 minute)

Ms. Schneider concluded the meeting.

The MOTION Ms. Reider to adjourn at 7:59 p.m. was seconded and passed.

Minutes drafted by Nathan Bode

Approved by vote of Board on: 02/22/2021