

**YINGHUA ACADEMY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

Monday, May 16, 2022, 2022 6:00 p.m.

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

**Board Members in Attendance:** Paul Haller (Chair), Charles Robinson (Treasurer), Nathan Bode (Secretary), Ye Cheng, V John Ella, Eric Foster, Esra Kucukciftci, Andrew Lawton, Cindy Moeller, Amanda Schneider, and Yinglu Zeglin

**Board Members Not in Attendance:** Cindy Bursell and Evan Owens

**Executive Director in Attendance:** Susan Berg

**YACA Representative in Attendance:** Janelle Gieseke and Melody Ng

**Public in Attendance:** Dr. Lien

I. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Haller called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

II. APPROVALS (12 minutes)

a. 5/18/2022 Agenda

Dr. Haller presented the agenda with addition of approval of the Annual Meeting minutes.

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

b. 4/18/2022 Regular Meeting Minutes

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

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

c. 4/28/2022 Annual Board Meeting Minutes

Dr. Haller presented the minutes for the Annual Board meeting. Minor edits were recommended by Ms. Schneider and Ms. Berg.

**The MOTION by Mr. Ella to approve the Annual Board meeting minutes as amended was seconded and passed.**

d. MED – IDENTIFIED OFFICIAL WITH AUTHORITY (IOWA)

Dr. Haller recommended that Dr. Lien be Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) Yinghua Academy Identified Official with Authority starting July 1.

**The MOTION by Ms. Moeller to approve Dr. Lien as the Minnesota Department of Education Identified Official with Authority starting July 1, 2022 was seconded and passed.**

III. CHINESE AMBASSADOR VISIT TO YINGHUA (10 minutes)

Ms. Berg and Dr. Lien gave an update on the Chinese Ambassador to the U.S. visit to Yinghua Academy. The update included playing videos on his visit.

IV. GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE (7 minutes)

Mr. Ella gave an update on changes to Policy 534, Unpaid Meal Charges. Ms. Berg added additional background information on the policy. Mr. Ella also mentioned Policy 524, Internet Acceptable Use and Safety, which is the second reading of the policy.

Mr. Ella also gave an update on the School Board election results. The candidates that won were Nathan Bode, Paul Haller, Chi-ping Li, and Charlie Robinson.

V. FINANCE / FACILITIES UPDATE (33 minutes)

Mr. Robinson summarized the current financials, which are 83% complete for the 2021-22 fiscal year. The current student enrollment is 832 students. Expenditures are at 82% and revenues are at 82% of the revised annual budget. There is currently a total net gain of \$70,401 across all funds.

Mr. Robinson also mentioned that Ms. Schneider gave a Finance Education presentation to Yinghua's staff. Ms. Schneider provided an overview of the same presentation to the Board. The overview included a summary of revenue sources and major expense categories.

Mr. Robinson went on to present updated draft Budget for fiscal year 2022-2023. The latest budget draft will continue to be revised to meet a 25% fund balance. He also gave an update on the long-range budget. Ms. Berg explained the student assumption for the five fiscal years.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TRANSITION UPDATE (9 minutes)

Dr. Lien gave provided an update on her transition to the Executive Director role. She presented three transition goals with a summary of what has been done to date and what is upcoming.

VII. HIGH SCHOOL SELECTIONS BY YA GRADUATES (17 minutes)

Ms. Berg gave information on where the current 2022 graduates are going to high school. The list also included a summary of past year graduates. She went on to read a yearend essay from one of the 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

VIII. COVID UPDATE (6 minutes)

Dr. Haller gave an update on recent Covid statistics for staff and students. Ms. Berg provided additional information on request for classes to wear masks depending on current Covid situation.

IX. CHARTER SCHOOL ADVOCACY – WASHINGTON DC (10 minutes)

Ms. Moeller explained background on the Joe Nathan and the Center for School Change. Ms. Schneider provided an update on the trip to Washington D.C. to advocate for Charter Schools. The trip included rallies at the Department of Education main office building and Lafayette square which is across the street from the White House. The Yinghua group also met with representatives from Minnesota U.S. Senators Tina Smith and Amy Klobuchar.

X. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPATE (6 minutes)

Ms. Berg highlighted a few items in her most recent Executive Director's Report. The school climate survey is closed and results are being tabulated. The expectation is results will be lower in these challenging times. The intent to return survey will go out next week. There was Kindergarten roundup last week and currently there are 5 spots open for next year's kindergarten class.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENT (1 minute)

Ms. Ng mentioned there was an YACA in person meeting tomorrow night.

XII. ADJOURN (1 minute)

Dr. Haller concluded the meeting.

**The MOTION by Mr. Robinson to adjourn 7:55 p.m. was seconded and passed.**

Minutes drafted by Nathan Bode

Approved by vote of Board on: 06/20/2022