

YINGHUA ACADEMY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 12th, 2026, 6:00 p.m.

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

Board Members in Attendance: Colleen Ebinger (Chair), Yinglu Zeglin (Secretary), Chris Klisch (Treasurer), Paul Landahl, Bradly Byykkonen, Jessica Griffin, Catherine Wang Yang, Trupti Storlie, Ying Zhang, Bryan Huang, Brian Strahan

Board Members Not in Attendance: Cindy Moeller, Pamella Stommes

Executive Director in Attendance: Dr. Luyi Lien

YACA in Attendance: Mike Wilson

Public in Attendance: Gretchen Nguyen, Julia Dreier, Victoria Harmann, Marlo Henry

I. Call to order (6:00 pm)

Ms. Ebinger called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

II. Approvals (6:00 - 6:06 pm)

A. 1/12/26 Agenda

Ms. Ebinger presented the draft agenda for the January board meeting.

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

B. 12/8/2025 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Ebinger presented the minutes of the December Board meeting.

The MOTION by Ms. Zhang to approve the December meeting minutes was seconded and passed.

C. New Hires & Separations

Dr. Lien shared that there were four new hires and three separations this month, including one nepotism hire.

The MOTION by Ms. Storlie to approve the new hires and separations was seconded and passed.

III. Governance Committee (6:06 - 6:23 pm)

Mr. Landahl brought the following policies up for the first reading:

- Policy 010 – Admissions and Lottery Policy
- Policy 506 – Student Discipline
- Policy 410 – Family and Medical Leave Policy
- Policy 522 – Sex Nondiscrimination Policy

Mr. Landahl brought the following policies up for their second readings:

- Policy 709 – Student Transportation Safety Policy
- Policy 534 – Unpaid Meal Charges Policy

The board engaged in a discussion regarding the potential inclusion of considerations related to discipline policies for students with Individualized Education Plans (IEP).

The MOTION BY Ms. Ebinger to approve Policy 709, Student Transportation Safety Policy, was seconded and approved.

The MOTION BY Ms. Zhang to approve Policy 534, Unpaid Meal Charges Policy, was seconded and approved.

IV. Enrollment: 2026-2027 school year (6:23 - 6:30 pm)

The board discussed staff's proposed 2026-2027 enrollment caps for each grade level. The board discussed the impact of the updated enrollment policy related to sibling and staff priority.

The MOTION BY Mr. Landal to approve the 2026-2027 enrollment plan was seconded and approved.

V. Highlights of Executive Director's Report (6:30 - 6:41 pm)

Dr. Lien emphasized some highlights:

- Projected NWEA Results
- The Alumni Reunion

VI. Safety & Security Discussion (6:41 - 8:05 pm)

Ms. Ebinger led a discussion regarding the actions Yinghua has taken in response to recent ICE activities in the community. At the school level, Dr. Lien presented protocols

and support systems for Yinghua students, staff, and families, including bus safety procedures, pick-up procedures, office check-in systems, immigration resources available on the Yinghua website, and information regarding in-person staff check-ins. Parent volunteers are supporting school safety and the Yinghua community. Dr. Lien also reviewed the school closure policy under various scenarios. Ms. Ebinger also shared findings from the Park Board related to safety protocols and procedures.

VII. Public Comment

Parents explained how parent volunteers have completed online training related to required legal processes, basic protocols, and Yinghua guidelines. They also shared information about the actions taken by parent volunteers in support of the community and additional information related to safety. Parent volunteers and YACA are working together to support the community.

VIII. ADJOURN (8:05 - 8:05 pm)

Ms. Ebinger concluded the meeting.

The MOTION by Ms. Ebinger to adjourn the meeting was seconded and passed.

Minutes drafted by Yinglu Zeglin
Approved by vote of the Board on 2/9/26.