

**YINGHUA ACADEMY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

Monday, February 9th, 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, Cindy Moeller, Pamella Stommies, Brian Strahan

**Board Members Not in Attendance:**

**Executive Director in Attendance:** Dr. Luyi Lien

**YACA in Attendance:** Mike Wilson

**Public in Attendance:** Elise Santa (Friends of Education)

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. 2/9/26 Agenda

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

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

B. 1/29/2026 Meeting Minutes

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

**The MOTION by Mr. Klisch to approve the January meeting minutes was seconded and passed.**

C. New Hires & Separations

Dr. Lien reported that there were no new hires and two separations this month.

**The MOTION by Mr. Landahl to approve the separations was seconded and passed.**

#### D. Leave of absence

Dr. Lien reported that a family previously approved for a leave of absence at an earlier board meeting has requested an extension through February and March 2026, due to family reasons.

**The MOTION by Mr. Landahl to approve the Leave of Absence was seconded and passed.**

#### III. Governance Committee (6:06 - 6:22 pm)

Mr. Landahl brought Policy 414 – Mandated Reporting Policy forward for its first reading. Because it contains only minor changes (e.g., spacing or legal terminology), he asked the board to approve those updates.

**The MOTION BY Ms. Ebinger to approve Policy 414, Mandated Reporting Policy, was seconded and approved.**

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

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

**The MOTION BY Ms. Ebinger to approve Policy 010, 506, 410, and 522, was seconded and approved.**

The board engaged in a discussion regarding whether an Academic Committee was required and the reasons for it being discontinued. Mr. Landahl and Dr. Lien will discuss this topic with Friends of Education and share the results of that discussion with the board.

Mr. Landahl reported that the email regarding Board Elections will be sent out this Friday (2/13) to announce the elections to the public. There will be three seat openings this year.

Ms. Molloer shared that YBC board members will be renewed every year. The YA board needs to approve the YBC members at the March meeting.

#### IV. Fundraising Committee (6:22 - 6:25 pm)

Corey will send out emails for volunteers from the board to attend VIP sessions. The celebration will be held on May 30th. We are adding more capacity to the banquet. We will work on recruiting more volunteers for this event.

V. Finance & Facilities Committee (6:25 - 6:29 pm)

Mr. Klisch shared an overview of the January financials. We are on budget and on track with revenue. We are at 50% of the budget. Lease aid is going to be changed from per pupil to an estimate. YBC will help YA to balance that for now.

VI. Safety & Security Updates (6:29 - 6:46 pm)

Dr. Lien shared that the leadership team and the front office reviewed our safety protocols, which was offered by Friends of Education, and provided training to all the directors. Parents of YA were asking about the security plan for the CNY performance. Dr. Lien will communicate with families with the precautions put in place for safety concerns. We have secured ways to communicate details of the performance with all the families. There are options for families to watch the live show online.

VII. Discussion regarding board positions & communications (6:46 - 7:22 pm)

Ms. Ebinger shared that 150 people came to the community meeting. Dr. Lien, board members, parent volunteers, and YACA members all shared different aspects of the supportive systems we put into place to support our community. The meeting was well received and brought our community together in good ways.

The board discussed the communication points from the board moving forward.

VIII. China travel opportunities (7:22 - 7:35 pm)

Dr. Lien has been sharing with our alumni the resources for students to go to China. The board discussed the liability considerations and the potential alumni resources moving on.

IX. Highlights of Executive Director's Report (7:35 - 8:00 pm)

Dr. Lien emphasized some highlights:

- The current KG Enrollment number surpassed the projected one
- ADSIS
- Chinese New Year
- Friends Of Education Training for Dr. Lien
- Taiwan Student Trip Update
- Recipes from staff make up the Yinghua Cookbook

X. Public Comment

XI. ADJOURN (8:00- 8:00 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 March 23rd, 2026.