

YINGHUA ACADEMY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 18th, 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, Ying Zhang, Trupti Storlie, Brian Strahan, Cindy Moeller

Board Members Not in Attendance: Bryan Huang, Pamella Stommies

Executive Director in Attendance: Dr. Luyi Lien

YACA in Attendance:

Public in Attendance: Gretchen Nguyen, Allison Juhl

I. Call to order (6:02 pm)

Ms. Ebinger called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

II. Approvals (6:02 - 6:05 pm)

A. 5/18/26 Agenda

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

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

B. 4/20/2026 Meeting Minutes

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

The MOTION by Ms. Ebinger to approve the April meeting minutes was seconded and passed.

C. New Hires & Separations

Dr. Lien reported that there were two separations and two new hires this month, for Food Service Assistant and Extended Care Assistant positions.

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

III. Yinghua Board of Directors Election (6:05 - 6:12 pm)

Three candidates, Colleen Ebinger, Chris Klisch, and Gretchen Wang, presented their candidate statements as part of the election process for school board seats.

IV. School Lunch Presentation (6:12 - 7:03 pm)

Based on the discussion at the previous board meeting regarding school lunch, Helen, Yinghua's Food Service Coordinator, presented details about the school lunch program to the board, including information about the vendor, student meal requirements, and daily meal operations.

Yinghua uses CKC Good Food Inc. as its school nutrition provider for breakfast and lunch. Every five years, Yinghua conducts a formal bidding process to evaluate food service vendors. Yinghua's lunch program meets Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) nutrition standards. Helen will work with Dr. Lien to ensure that the necessary information is available on the Yinghua website for families and the public.

V. School Climate Survey (7:03- 7:20 pm)

Dr. Lien shared the final version of the school climate survey, which incorporated feedback and revisions from the board and school leaders. The board discussed the timing of the survey, its format, and the timeline for sharing the survey results along with an action plan.

The MOTION by Ms. Storlie to approve the School Climate Survey was seconded and passed.

VI. 2026-2027 School Board Meeting Calendar (7:20- 7:32 pm)

Ms. Ebinger presented the proposed school board and committee meeting dates to the board. The board discussed a few details behind the logistics.

The motion by Mr. Strahan to approve the 2026–2027 board meeting schedule, with the addition of a July board meeting and other proposed adjustments, was seconded and passed.

VII. 2026-2027 Budget (7:32- 7:56 pm)

Ms. Ebinger and Dr. Lien provided an update on revenue sources and the 2026–2027 school budget. Following the proposed adjustments, the budget will support staff salary increases and maintain a fund balance of more than 25% next year.

The MOTION BY Mr. Klisch to approve the updated FY2027 Budget was seconded and approved.

VIII. Governance Committee (7:56 - 8:16 pm)

Mr. Landahl brought Policy 515 - Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records for first reading.

Mr. Landahl brought the following two policies for second reading:

- Policy 516 - Student Medication
- Policy 006 - Social Media Content Moderation & Response Guidelines

The MOTION by Mr. Strahan to approve Policy 516 and Policy 006 was seconded and passed.

Mr. Landahl provided a brief overview of the election process, as well as an update on the policy review procedures and timeline.

Mr. Klisch provided an overview of the YBC organization and its bylaws, including how YBC secured funding to support the lease agreement.

IX. Fundraising Committee (8:16 - 8:19 pm)

Ms. Yang provided updates on the 20th Anniversary Celebration plans, including the event programs and activities. To date, we have sold 370 guest tickets.

X. Highlights of Executive Director's Report (8:19- 8:22 pm)

Dr. Lien highlighted the 6th Midwest Chinese Bridge Show.

XI. Public Comment (8:22 - 8:22 pm)

Gretchen Nguyen made suggestions on the website to avoid food waste in the future.

XII. Closed Meeting (8:23 -9:10 pm)

XIII. ADJOURN (9:10 - 9:11 pm)

Ms. Ebinger concluded the meeting.

The MOTION by Mr. Strahan to adjourn the meeting was seconded and passed.

Minutes drafted by Yinglu Zeglin

Approved by vote of the Board on June 8th, 2026.