

New Academy Charter School

Minutes

August 30, 2017

Date and Time

Wednesday August 30, 2017 at 3:00 PM

Location

NEW Academy of Science and Arts (NASA), 303 S. Loma Drive, Los Angeles, 90017

NEW ACADEMY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Wednesday, August 30, 2017
3:00 p.m.**

Public comment notice:

Individuals and representatives of organizations are invited to address the Board on any subject that falls within the Board's purview. If the item will be acted on at the Board Meeting, speakers are called on to speak prior to Board action on the item and in the first section of the public comment period. If the speaker's topic will not be voted on at the Board Meeting, their presentation is also made during the Public Comment portion of the meeting, but after comment on actionable items. Each speaker is limited to a three minute presentation.

AGENDA

Directors Present

B. Bradley, B. Stotzer, M. Cervantes, P. Didonato, R. Solorzano

Directors Absent

E. Moreno, V. Gil

Guests Present

D. Martinez, E. Castro, E. Todd, I. Castillo, M. Sanchez

I. Opening Items

A. Public Comment

None

B. Record Attendance and Guests

Guests present: Anita Landecker, Executive Director of ExED was present and was introduced to the board.

C. Call the Meeting to Order

R. Solorzano called a meeting of the board of directors of New Academy Charter School to order on Wednesday Aug 30, 2017 @ 3:00 PM at NEW Academy of Science and Arts (NASA), 303 S. Loma Drive, Los Angeles, 90017.

II. Minutes - June 21, 2017 and Special Meeting June 28, 2017

A. Minutes

B. Stotzer made a motion to Accept the minutes for June 21 meeting.

M. Cervantes seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

V. Gil Absent

B. Stotzer Aye

P. Didonato Aye

R. Solorzano Aye

M. Cervantes Aye

E. Moreno Absent

B. Bradley Aye

B. Bradley made a motion to Approve June 28th meetings.

M. Cervantes seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

M. Cervantes Aye

R. Solorzano Aye

E. Moreno Absent

B. Stotzer Aye

P. Didonato Aye

V. Gil Absent

B. Bradley Aye

III. Financial Report

A. June Financials (Unaudited Actuals)- NASA- action item

- Overview was given by Finance Committee board member Brent for both Schools and The Financial Reports for both schools for June 2017 that included review of the Financial Dashboard, check register and credit card register
- - End of the year report for both schools ended on a positive cash position
 - NASA benefited from the property tax reimbursement
 - One item in NACP check register for \$40,000 for food service was questioned for NACP. Irina explained that they were feeding close to 500 student (meals) and that this is reimbursed through the free meals program
 - Board member Stotzer would like schools to explore the "No Kids Go Hungry" program which would be great especially at NASA

- Board member Bradley indicated NACP Investment account is \$27,000 over the original investment
- Irina from ExED explained that all financials including June are sent to LAUSD with an actual print sheet
- There was a question about the NASA Special Education services: Mr. Martinez explained that we are part of the CO Option 3 and that we currently have a vendor providing services.

B. June Financials (Unaudited Actuals) - NACP -action item

Brent provided an overview for both NACP and NASA
Loan Payments continue to be made by NASA to NACP (350,000 balance)

B. Bradley made a motion to To accept the financials for NACP.

B. Stotzer seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

B. Bradley Aye
R. Solorzano Aye
P. Didonato Aye
M. Cervantes Aye
B. Stotzer Aye
E. Moreno Absent
V. Gil Absent

IV. Academic Excellence

A. NASA Profile

NACP Vice Principal Dr. Guerrero was not able to attend so the school profile presentation was made by NASA Vice Principal Mr. Martinez for both schools.

- Info graphic was passed out (see board packet for info graphic and PowerPoint presentation)
 - Board Chair Solorzano asked how we know family education levels- Mr. Martinez explained that once they are in the school they are asked but parents do not have to respond to the question
 - Vice Principal Martinez gave a detailed overview of the demographics, language proficiency, and parent education levels. Other variables such as homelessness, foster families, free lunch , etc. were also presented
 - NASA- 99% Hispanic- Majority is from Guatemala (47%) Mexico (29%)
 - 83% ELs-Many families from Guatemala speak Quiche
 - Suggestion by the board is that we should reach out to the other schools with the same demographics
 - Vice Principal Martinez stressed that it is important to note that the level of education among parents may range from little to no education.
 - Board member Cervantes expressed the importance of the need to dig deeper into the exact languages that are spoken at home
 - Vice Principal Martinez explained that many NASA students do not speak Quiche-but do speak some Spanish.
 - Board member Cervantes expressed the importance of the need to dig deeper into the exact languages that are spoken at home
 - Vice Principal Martinez stressed that it is important to note that the level of education among parents may range from little to no education.
 - Suggestion by the board is that we should reach out to the other schools with the same demographics

B. NACP Profile

Mr. Martinez covered both schools in the presentation

C. Interim Executive Director Report

Dr. Sanchez highlighted the key elements of the report:

- she was contacted and interviewed by Marlen Gomez as part of the audit
- Met with the Vice Principals to discuss the directive from the board to encourage their leadership development at both schools and to review their job descriptions.
- Performance Data Review: Stressed the need to add an item to regular board meetings to allow School Site Administrators to provide an overview of the academic performance data at each school
- All Staff Meeting (NEW and NEW Academies)-Gave a brief overview of the outcome of the meeting
- Charter Petition Renewal Updates-Reviewed the Charter Renewal process at both schools
- Attended LAUSD: MiSiS Meeting
- EL Master Plan Roll Out-Covered the key meetings to take place and the CEEL Scope of Work (will be presented at the next meeting when dates have been finalized for board approval)

D. School Site Administrator Report:NEW Academy of Science and Arts

E. S.M.A.R.T. GOALS AND ACTION PLAN 2017 - 2018-action item

- Principal Todd gave an overview of the response letter from LAUSD Charter School Division representative Jose Gutierrez.
- He also reviewed the Smart Plan which includes how he will remediate the low scores from the LAUSD Oversight Visitation including the evidence, action steps broken up by the beginning of the year, middle of the year, etc.
- Governing Board meeting agendas will now include a new standing agenda item "Academic Performance Data Review" showing consistent review of academic and internal data by the board
- In working with the principals, the board has established a data dashboard on school profiles and academic performance
- Board member Cervantes recommended that the Education Committee develop a corresponding policy on academic performance and academic data, how the board is using the data. All data reviewed should also be named.

M. Cervantes made a motion to to approve the SMART ACTION PLAN.

B. Stotzer seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

M. Cervantes Aye
R. Solorzano Aye
V. Gil Absent
P. Didonato Aye
B. Stotzer Aye
E. Moreno Absent
B. Bradley Aye

F. School Site Administrator Report:NEW Academy Canoga Park

Assistant Principal was ill and could not attend. Mr. Martinez provided part of her report.

V. Governance

A. All Staff Meeting Report

B. Board Retreat-update and scheduling date for retreat

This item was not covered and is pending until the September 27th meeting

C. By-Law Revisions-action item

Board member Stotzer explained the items to be reviewed include language that would require a revision of the bylaws:

- that the two boards and staff of New Economics for Women and NEW Academy shall meet on an annual basis

B. Stotzer made a motion to to revise the bylaws to include that the shall meet on an annual basis.

B. Bradley seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

B. Stotzer Aye
M. Cervantes Aye
E. Moreno Absent
R. Solorzano Aye
B. Bradley Aye
P. Didonato Aye
V. Gil Absent

D. Safe Haven Policy and Procedures for NEW Academy Schools-action Item

B. Stotzer made a motion to to accept the safe haven and self reflection tools.

M. Cervantes seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

R. Solorzano Aye
V. Gil Absent
B. Bradley Aye
M. Cervantes Aye
B. Stotzer Aye
E. Moreno Absent
P. Didonato Aye

E. Self-Reflection Tools - Implementation of State Academic Standards (Priority 2)-action Item

B. Stotzer made a motion to to accept.

P. Didonato seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

R. Solorzano Aye
E. Moreno Absent
B. Bradley Aye
B. Stotzer Aye
P. Didonato Aye
M. Cervantes Aye
V. Gil Absent

VI. Contract Renewals

A. FY17-18 ExED Contract -action Item

Anita Landecker presented an opportunity for NEW Academy to participate board training. ExED is conducting a pilot program on the matching of new board members and boards with an organization called Charter Board Partners. ExED would meet with us to discuss the needs of the organization and would also make a commitment to help with the addition of 3 new board members.

- They would also conduct two sessions with the board. The cost would be \$1,000. A training sessions on Sept. 19th at California Endowment 12:30-2pm for the 10 groups. All board members can be invited.
- The MOU would go to Charter School Partners.
- The voting will be done at our Sept. 27 meeting

ExED Contract discussion:

- Will only have one contract instead of two for each school
- Lowered the contract by \$500
- New representative will begin working with us in July (Lisa Boulos)
- This contract includes CALPADS
- The board thanked ExED for their services

B. Stotzer made a motion to to accept contract for ExED.

B. Bradley seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

E. Moreno Absent
V. Gil Absent
R. Solorzano Aye
P. Didonato Aye
M. Cervantes Aye
B. Stotzer Aye
B. Bradley Aye

B. Comprehensive Therapy Associates, Inc. Service and Consulting Agreement- action item

- Principal Todd presented a comparison of bids for this service and recommended Comprehensive Therapy Associates as they represent a lower hourly rate. And will provide a saving while serving 30 students.

B. Stotzer made a motion to accept the motion.

M. Cervantes seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

B. Stotzer Aye
V. Gil Absent
E. Moreno Absent
R. Solorzano Aye
P. Didonato Aye
B. Bradley Aye
M. Cervantes Aye

C. Center for Equity and English Learners Contract-action Item

Pending next meeting on September 27th

D. NASA Lease Agreements (revised)-action item

The Executive Director of NEW, Cervantes, recused herself from the vote.

B. Bradley made a motion to to accept leases.

P. Didonato seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

B. Bradley Aye
V. Gil Absent
M. Cervantes Abstain
E. Moreno Absent
R. Solorzano Aye
P. Didonato Aye
B. Stotzer Aye

VII. Closed Session

A. Staff Performance Evaluation Criteria

Staff performance when it comes to working with a student's family was discussed. New criteria for staff performance will be established with this in mind.

B. Interim Executive Director Evaluation (CEO)

Item will be discussed at the next board meeting on September 27th.

VIII. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

R. Solorzano

R. Solorzano made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

B. Stotzer seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

V. Gil Absent
R. Solorzano Aye
M. Cervantes Aye
P. Didonato Aye
B. Stotzer Aye
E. Moreno Absent
B. Bradley Aye