

**Board Meeting Minutes  
NYOS Charter School, Inc.  
August 12, 2021**

THIS MEETING WAS CONDUCTED BY VIDEO CONFERENCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GOVERNOR'S AUTHORIZATION CONCERNING SUSPENSION OF CERTAIN OPEN MEETING LAW REQUIREMENTS FOR THE COVID-19 DISASTER.

**Call to Order**

1. Upon determining the presence of a quorum, Dr. David Molina called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Name	Office	Present	Absent	Arrived Late	Departed Early
David Molina, Ph.D.	Community Member & Chair	X			
Kari Honea, Esq.	Secondary Parent Member & Vice Chair	X			
Jennifer L. Chidsey	Community Member & Parliamentarian	X			
Kim Cavett	Elementary Teacher Member & Secretary	X			
Alyssa Moore	Community Member	X			
Joann Jordan	Community Member			X	
Jonathon Kniss	Community Member		X		
Nina Loehr	Elementary Parent Member	X			
Sarah R. Gonzalez	Elementary Parent Member	X			
Matthew Wester	Elementary Teacher Member	X			
Vibha Montiero	Secondary Parent Member	X			
Penola "Pen" Edwards	Secondary Teacher Member	X			
Peter Erickson	Secondary Teacher Member	X			
Elif Painaik '23	Student Member	X			
Kathleen Zimmermann	Executive Director	X			
Joey Thompson	Director of Operations	X			
Julie Atchley	Director of Academics	X			
Hweilu Chen	Director of Finance	X			
Will Jamarillo	Secondary Principal	X			
Terry Berkenhoff	Elementary Principal	X			

**General Session**

2. Approval of Agenda: The Board discussed the agenda for the meeting. [Strike 5d, 5e, 5h, 6b, Move Executive Session to before public comment, Move 5i to after public comment.]

Kari made the motion to accept the agenda as amended.  
Jennifer seconded.  
The motion passed unanimously.

3. Consent Agenda: The Board discussed and approved the consent agenda items:  
Item a: Minutes from meeting on July 8, 2021.  
Item b: Charter School Governance policy- review bylaws  
Item c: Committee Updates  
Item d: Resolution to approve contracts

Kari made the motion to accept the consent agenda as presented.  
Alyssa seconded.  
The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session<sup>1</sup> (Moved to before Public Comment)

In accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act §551.071 Tex. Govt. Code, the board entered Executive Session at 6:04 p.m. to consult with attorney specifically to seek and receive advice on a legal matter. The Board returned from Executive Session at 7:10 p.m.

4. Public Comment:

Joshua Green (Parent/Guardian) addressed the Board regarding enforcing a mask mandate and sharing his and his wife's position.

Julie Meyer (Parent/Guardian) addressed the Board regarding enforcing a mask mandate and asked the Board to schedule a meeting to vote on one. She also shared concerns regarding sending her child to our school without proper precautions.

Leslie Guerrero Collins (Parent/Guardian) addressed the Board regarding enforcing a mask mandate and creating a COVID-19 ad hoc committee.

Marisa Perryman (Parent/Guardian) addressed the Board regarding enforcing a mask mandate. She also shared concerns with students eating inside and lack of communication from the school.

Andrew Bohan (Parent/Guardian) addressed the Board regarding not enforcing a mask mandate and shared information from Austin Public Health.

Maria Harte (Parent/Guardian) addressed the Board regarding enforcing a mask mandate and her experience as a volunteer at NYOS.

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<sup>1</sup> In accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act Subchapters D and E of Ch. 551, Tex. Govt. Code, the board may enter a closed meeting to deliberate any subject listed on the agenda and authorized by Subchapter D. Any final action, decision, or vote on a subject deliberated in a closed meeting will be taken in an open meeting held in compliance with the Texas Open Meetings Act.

Ketan Patel (Parent/Guardian) addressed the Board regarding enforcing a mask mandate and that the Board needs to take action.

Marc Page (Parent/Guardian) addressed the Board regarding not taking away student and parent choice to wear a mask and looking into alternatives to protect our children such as doing virtual school.

Steven Brown (Faculty) addressed the Board regarding the state of our new school building and how the retention of NYOS students and teachers is at risk.

Mariette Hummel (Parent/Guardian) addressed the Board regarding enforcing a mask mandate and follow the local order. She also shared she is speaking on the behalf of other parents.

Elizabeth Zimmermann (Parent/Guardian) addressed the Board regarding the worry of our school culture changing and disappointment in the planning of the new building. She shared her experience with NYOS first as a former staff member and then as a parent.

Amy Hayes (Parent/Guardian) addressed the Board regarding enforcing a mask mandate. She shared disappointment in the planning of the building and how it is intensified by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Kelli Huff (Parent/Guardian) addressed the Board asking why the phone system is not set up on the elementary campus because parents cannot reach the school along with her concerns with state of the new soccer field.

Elizabeth O'Connor (Parent/Guardian) addressed the Board regarding enforcing a mask mandate. She also shared her fear over the children's safety at our school.

Carmen Bliss (Parent/Guardian) addressed the Board regarding taking her children out of school each day attendance. She also encouraged us to consider doing a virtual option.

## 5. New Business

i. (Moved to after public comment) Plan to Reduce Spread of COVID. Kathleen presented on the plan to reduce COVID-19 at NYOS. The plan is very similar to our plan from last year unless laws have changed such as enforcing masks. The plan is accessible on the school website and a living document. Kathleen asked for anyone with questions to contact her. She shared what the school is currently doing and asked for anyone with other ideas to contact her.

a. Amendment Updates: The Board discussed and voted on non-expansion amendment to change address of campus id 227804102.

Alyssa made the motion to accept the policy as presented.

Matt seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

- b. Resolution Updates: The Board discussed and voted to approve the resolution for Hertz furniture purchase. Kathleen shared that this is in regards to buying furniture to replace old furniture in the high school building.

Kari made the motion to table the resolution until our next meeting .

Matt seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

- c. Resolution Updates: The Board discussed and voted to approve the resolution for ABC Longhorn moving. Kathleen shared we need continued support in moving within the high school building.

Jennifer made the motion to accept the resolution as presented.

Kari seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

- d. ~~Resolution Updates: The Board discussed and voted to approve the resolution for NR Painting.~~

- e. ~~Policy Updates: The Board discussed and voted to approve the policy to manage parent grievances per HB 4545.~~

- f. Policy Updates: The Board discussed and voted on new banking account. Hweilu shared that it was recommended we transfer our account to a new FICA accounts.

Kari made the motion to accept the policy as presented.

Alyssa seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

- g. ESSER II grant application: Julie Atchley presented on the ESSER II grant. The funds are focused on accelerated learning and enhancing safety for the campus. She also presented on how NYOS plans to use the funds.

- h. ~~Elementary CIP: Terry Berkenhopp discussed and reviewed CIP presnetation for Elementary.~~

- j. School Start Update: Kathleen presented an update on the start of school. The gym is still on schedule to be finished on time by the end of August. The playground is expected in mid-September and the field should be completed around the same time. NYOS has completely moved out of the Kramer campus. Some challenges including the dismissal and drop off and traffic flow. The builders are still on campus so they are available to help us fix issues on our building. The phone line was cut and is causing the current issues with parents unable to reach the school. There is a google voice number available. She also shared that a FAQ document can be created about the new buildings. She shared there was an 87% staff retention rate for staff (not including brand new hires). Our waitlist is just under 2,000 which is up around 200 from May.

k. Executive Director's Update: Kathleen presented information regarding the approval of our new bylaws. She also shared that we need to go back into in-person board meetings after September 1, 2021. She shared NYOS was featured in an interview and our elementary principal, Terry Berkenhoff and assistant principal, Samantha Gladwell were interviewed. She also shared that Joey Thompson will be leaving NYOS and recognizing his 14 years of service to our school.

6. Committee Updates

- a. Jennifer presented on behalf of the Board Development Committee.  
i. The Board discussed and voted on Board Handbook, which is a guide that will be reviewed every year.

Joann made the motion to continue to adopt the handbook as presented.  
Alyssa seconded.  
The motion passed unanimously.

- ii. The Board discussed TPSCA Conference, which will be at the end of October. Our board will be presenting on our OnBoarding process. This conference will be hybrid (some virtual sessions and some live sessions). The live options are available but not required. The presenters are asking for volunteers for a live audience to hear their presentation that will be recorded. Jenn will be sending out a survey on who would like to participate along with another survey for new board members and their experience with onboarding.

- ~~b. Julie Atchley presented on behalf of the Academic Oversight Committee.  
i. Grade 3 STAAR data~~

7. The Board discussed items for the agenda for the September 9, 2021 meeting including all tabled items and CIP from both elementary and secondary.

**Adjournment**

Kari made the motion to adjourn the meeting.  
Jennifer seconded.  
The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

**Certification:**

These minutes represent a true and accurate account of the regular Board Meeting of NYOS Charter School held on August 12, 2021.

*Kim Cavett*

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Kim Cavett  
Secretary



