

**North Star Academy Charter School of Newark  
Board of Trustees Meeting**

Monday, November 16, 2020 | 6:00 pm

**Video:** <https://uncommonschoools.zoom.us/j/94998243848>

**Phone:** (646) 558 8656 | Meeting ID: 949 9824 3848

*The Trustees in attendance: Rick Rieder, Bob Howitt, Ezdehar Abuhatab, Scott Sleyster, Trisha Scipio, Nicole Bearce, Lawrence Evans, Paul Bambrick-Santoyo, Ravi Bellur, Steven Creekmur, Doug McNeely, Jamey Verrilli.*

*Absentee Trustee: Thomas Redburn*

*Also present: Juliana Worrell, Karin Gerald, Courtney McTeer, Barbara Martinez, Christine Carvalho, Denisse Rodriguez, Michael Mann, Na'Jee Carter*

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. by Rick Rieder, who noted that the meeting had been duly publicized, as required by law, in the Star Ledger and El Coqui with updated teleconference information posted on the North Star Academy website.

It having been moved and duly seconded, the trustees voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the October 14, 2020 board meeting.

Alexander St. Elementary School Principal, Na'Jee Carter, provided an overview on how elementary schools are tackling community building virtually via zoom. Board members had a chance to see how scholars engage during virtual learning.

Mr. Rieder opened the floor to public comments. No public comments were made.

A motion was made to move to executive session. It having been moved and duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:06 pm.

Ms. Gerald gave a brief External Affairs update on the Charter Renewal Application and Newark Enrolls processes.

Ms. Gerald presented the personnel report.

After declaring a desire to return to open session, it having been moved and duly seconded, the Board voted unanimously to reconvene to open session at 7:39 pm.

Ms. Gerald presented the new personnel hires: Whitney Cort, Shashawn Graham for Alexander Street Elementary School; Olubunmi Oshodi for Fairmount Elementary; Tataliyah Hollins for Liberty Elementary School; Devon Barrett, Taniyah Montes for Vailsburg Elementary; Destiny Christopher-James, Tanazia Jenkins for Central Avenue Middle School; Dennis Leonard, Charles Assare, Lenny Mattocks, Sean Romano, Maryam Abdur-Rasheed for Lincoln Park Middle School; Malcolm Minor, Christian Quiroz, Chaz Wyche Espinal-Wyche for Washington Park High School. After discussion, it having been moved and duly seconded, the board voted unanimously to approve all new hires at the stated salaries.

Mr. Bellur shared updates from the Finance and Facilities Committee and presented the Financial Report. The following items were presented to the Board for approval:

- Approval of Check Register and Purchase Orders
- Approval of Budget, Balance Sheet and Treasurer's Report
- Resolution to approve of Amended FY21 Salaries for Federal Grants (ESSA, IDEA, CARES, CSP)
- Resolution to approve FY21 Coronavirus Relief Funds
- Resolution to approve Drawdown Policy and Procedure for Use of Federal Grant Funds
- Resolution to approve the Refinance of Property 559 Broad St.

It having been moved and duly seconded, the trustees voted unanimously to approve the aforementioned resolutions and reports.

Ms. Gerald presented the resolution to approve Submission of Revised 2020 Charter Renewal Maximum Enrollment, it having been moved and duly seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution.

Ms. Gerald presented the Resolution to approve NJ State Interscholastic Athletic Association Membership, it having been moved and duly seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution.

Ms. Gerald presented the Memorandum of Understanding with Newark Enrolls for 2021-22 for approval, it having been moved and duly seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution.

Ms. Gerald presented the Essex Regional Educational Service Commission Contract for Special Education Services, it having been moved and duly seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution.

Ms. Gerald presented the HIB Self-Assessment Report, it having been moved and duly seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the report.

Ms. Gerald presented the Memorandum of Agreement with Law Enforcement Officials, it having been moved and duly seconded, the Board voted unanimously to approve the resolution.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

THE NEXT BOARD MEETING will be held on Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup>.  
Location will depend on status of closure but is tentatively scheduled to take place via zoom.