

APPROVED



# The Rosalyn Yalow Charter School

## Minutes

### April Board Meeting

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**Date and Time**

Tuesday April 12, 2022 at 7:30 PM

**Location**

Via GoToMeeting

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Mission Statement

The Rosalyn Yalow Charter School will eliminate the learning achievement gap for economically disadvantaged urban children—including special needs students and English language learners—by using engaging and demanding education; a team teaching model, linking an experienced teacher with a licensed social worker in grades K-2 and with a teaching fellow in later grades; rich extracurricular activities (fencing, arts, chess) to educate the whole child; and family support counseling—all in order to graduate our students at or above grade level in literacy and math.

Vision

Yalow's goal: Developing the whole child, encouraging each young student to excel.

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**Trustees Present**

G. Feliciano (remote), I. Lee (remote), L. Howard (remote), M. Balbuena, M. Rosen (remote)

**Trustees Absent**

B. Yalow, R. Lyon, S. Hayes

**Guests Present**

A. Diacou, Yalow Charter Parents

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**I. Opening Items****A. Record Attendance and Guests****B.**

### **Call the Meeting to Order**

M. Balbuena called a meeting of the board of trustees of The Rosalyn Yalow Charter School to order on Tuesday Apr 12, 2022 at 7:34 PM.

### **C. Background: charter revision application**

Tabled.

M. Balbuena made a motion to Table item until full board returns.

I. Lee seconded the motion.

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

### **D. Charter revision recommendation and vote**

Tabled.

M. Balbuena made a motion to Table item until full board returns.

I. Lee seconded the motion.

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

### **E. Board recognition of Yalow teachers and staff**

Tabled.

M. Balbuena made a motion to Table item until full board returns.

I. Lee seconded the motion.

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

## **II. Chairman updates**

### **A. Miscellaneous**

1. Mr. Balbuena acknowledged Ms. Rodriguez the translator who will be assisting in tonight's board meeting. In addition, Mr. Balbuena acknowledge Ms. Feliciano, Mr. Lee, Ms. Howard, Mr. Rosen and himself as the Board tonight.

2. On April 5, 2022 there was a complaint made by parents that was submitted to the state towards the Executive Director and 3 board members. Legal counsel from Mr. Paul O'Neil has been obtained to investigate the matter. There will be no further discuss regarding the matter until the investigation has been concluded and any discussion or commentary should be to Mr. O'Neil.

3. Lakiesha will work on diligently to get the outstanding board minutes submitted by next week.

## **III. Finance report**

### **A. Cash flow forecast**

Cash balances April 6, 2022: \$5,065,710.

**Remaining cash after Hayes construction costs paid: \$2,135,533.**  
(includes \$175,000 increase in electric switchgear estimate to \$875,000)

Yalow's cash position benefits from state ARP and federal CRRSA grant revenues, and fewer administrator and teacher hires than originally budgeted.

- Estimated June 30, 2022 cash balance **of \$1,926,436.**

## **B. Breakeven enrollment: 2022–2023 & 2023–2024**

Current enrollment: 458

### **2022–2023**

FY23 breakeven enrollment 461 with a 7% inflation rate.

### **2023–2024**

FY24 breakeven enrollment 498 with a 10% inflation rate.

## **IV. Principal report**

### **A. Hiring updates**

**Yalow has a very strong student-to-teacher ratio of 9:1, which exceeds the schools objective of an 11:1 student teacher ratio.**

The school has 53 teachers: 46 general education and response to intervention team teachers, plus 7 chess and fencing instructors supporting 458 students.

The school continues to hire for budgeted positions:

- 3 teacher-social workers
- 5 RTI team members (reading interventionists)
- CKLA coordinator
- assistant principal

### **B. Year-to-date-attendance 2021-2022**

**September 7, 2021–April 8, 2022**

**Average attendance rate: 89.6%**

**Chronic absenteeism: 38.4% (176 students)**

**Perfect attendance: 2.0% (9 students)**

#### **Chronic Absentees by Grade:**

Kindergarten: 38 students out of 74 (51.4%)

1st-grade: 33 students out of 83 (39.8%)

2nd-grade: 32 students out of 85 (37.7%)

3rd-grade: 33 students out of 82 (40.2%)

4th-grade: 26 student out of 76 (34.2%)

5th-grade: 14 students out of 58 (24.1%)

Mr. Balbuena stated the board requested for Ms. Smaw to create a tier and attendance committee to see where the issues are and to provide intervention.

## V. Executive Director report

### A. Updates: major CHHS building issues impacting Yalow

Four building renovation issues need to be addressed by Cardinal Hayes:

1. replacement of electrical switches
2. installation of dunnage on parapet to support HVAC compressors
3. replacement of parapet roofing

Two separate RFAs are being prepared for Archdioceses approvals, as follows:

**Replacement of electrical switches:** No update. Waiting for Con Ed to send engineer to inspect evaluate the Con Ed "curb" connection from the street to CHHS. Following Con Ed's evaluation, a load letter will be submitted requesting to increase amperage provided to CHHS by Con Edison to 4,000 amps.

**Installation of dunnage on parapet to support HVAC compressors:** Archdioceses is preparing a *Request for Authorization* (RFA) to approve installation of dunnage. The Archdioceses owns Cardinal Hayes High School. Installation of dunnage and roof replacement cannot proceed until Archdioceses approves RFA.

After the RFA for installation of dunnage is approved, Yalow will work with our contractor, Kel-Mar, to determine whether or not the dunnage and HVAC compressors can be installed on weekends when students are not in schools. Otherwise, installation will need to wait until July.

Bottom line: air conditioning will not be available prior to end of school year.

### B. Update: replacement of 2 classroom ceilings

Ceilings in the two rooms which are water-damaged will be removed over the spring break when students are not in school. (Those classrooms were previously relocated to the music and art rooms.)

Investigating whether or not those ceilings can be replaced on weekends when students are not in the building. If not, replacement will take place in July.

Replacement costs to be paid by Catholic Mutual insurance, and will determine schedule for ceiling replacement.

### C. Cardinal Hayes additional work

Construction punch list scheduled to be completed over spring break. Chief among these: installation of grease trap beneath new kitchen sink.

### D. 2022–2023 lottery completed Saturday, April 2, 2022

#### Accepted (as of April 8)

kindergarten:	178
1st grade:	15
2nd grade:	12

**Total: 205**

- We continue to receive new enrollment applications. All new applicants will be accepted.
- Goal is to convert accepted applicants into enrolled students in September.

Historical student enrollment success rate—those who show up in September—is c. 40%. We need to increase student enrollment success rate to at least 70%.

We will commence:

- marketing campaign to attract transfer students for 2021–2022

New 4' x 8' student "transfer" signage to be placed in front of Cardinal Hayes High School.

#### **E. In-house chess tournament**

50 k-6 students participated in Yalow's chess tournament Saturday, April 9:

- 6 kindergarten
- 4 1st grade
- 15 2nd grade
- 5 3rd grade
- 13 4th grade
- 5 5th grade, plus
- 2 alumni (graduates)

#### **F. Concourse Village-Melrose v. citywide COVID-19 infection rates**

2 in-school infections occurring within Yalow in prior 14 days. Yalow COVID-19 report card attached, dated April 8, 2022

Concourse Village-Melrose v. citywide COVID-19 infection rates:

See attached citywide map and NYCDOH COVID-19 data report from April 9, 2022.

- zip code **10451: 1.72%** (March 30–April 5)
- **NYC: 3.30%**

### **VI. 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 9:14 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
L. Howard

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#### **Documents used during the meeting**

- Watson-2.23.22-Rosalyn Yalow Charter School Schedule.pdf
- Data\_All\_220408 (1).pdf
- Data\_All\_220408 (1).pdf
- Data\_All\_220408.pdf
- Construction Cash Flow forecast\_040622.pdf
- RYCS Breakeven General Enrollment Budgets FY23 -7 percent inflation 4.5.2022.pdf
- RYCS Breakeven General Enrollment Budget FY24 - 10 percent inflation respectively- done on 4.5.2022.pdf
- Board Meeting Graphs.pdf
- Board Meeting Aggregated Student Attendance SY 21\_22.pdf
- Roster Breakdown.pdf
- Rosalyn Yalow Sign 1 (PDF).pdf
- Rosalyn Yalow Sign 2 (PDF).pdf
- CLASS ENROLLMENT ATTRITION.pdf
- NYC COVID map 4-9-22 at 8.16 PM-1.pdf
- School COVID Report Card 4.9.22.pdf