

APPROVED



The Rosalyn Yallow Charter School

Minutes

Board Meeting

Date and Time

Tuesday May 17, 2022 at 6:30 PM

Location

650 Grand Concourse, 4th fl Cafeteria

Mission Statement

The Rosalyn Yallow 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

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

Trustees Present

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

Trustees Absent

B. Yallow, R. Lyon

Guests Present

A. Diacou, K. Smaw, Yallow Charter Parents

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 May 17, 2022 at 7:02 PM.

C. Background: charter revision application

D. Charter revision recommendation and vote

E. FY2022–2023 budget review

Student enrollment drives revenue one-for-one, while most costs for running the school cannot be easily scaled up or down to match enrollment fluctuations.

4 enrollment scenarios:

1. steady enrollment—461 students.
 1. Revenue: \$12,738,340
 2. 6/30/2023 cash surplus: **\$7,739**
 3. 6/30/2023 ending cash: **\$2,007,779**
2. 10.7% summer student attrition—443 students (based on current lottery applications)
 1. Revenue: \$12,275,150
 2. 6/30/2023 cash deficit: **(-\$455,411)**
 3. 6/30/2023 ending cash: **\$1,544,589**
3. 15% summer student attrition—418 students
 1. Revenue: \$11,650,887
 2. 6/30/2023 cash deficit: **(-\$1,079,674)**
 3. 6/30/2023 ending cash: **\$920,326**
4. 25% summer student attrition—378 students
 1. Revenue: \$10,596,631
 2. 6/30/2023 cash deficit: **(-\$2,133,930)**
 3. 6/30/2023 ending cash: **(-\$133,920)**

The (4) FY2022–2023 budgets incorporate the following assumptions:

- Per pupil state aid: \$17,633/student (4.7% increase from 2021–2022)
- ARP funds: \$689,400
- remaining CHHS construction costs are paid from cash
- 7.7%–12.7% increases for teachers

F. 2022–2023 budget vote

M. Balbuena made a motion to approve scenario #3 noted below with the intent to aim to staff up to 418.

G. Feliciano seconded the motion.

1. 15% summer student attrition—418 students
 1. Revenue: \$11,650,887
 2. 6/30/2023 cash deficit: **(-\$1,079,674)**
 3. 6/30/2023 ending cash: **\$920,326**

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

G. Approval of April Board Minutes

II. Finance report

A. Cash flow forecast

Cash balances May 10, 2022: \$5,730,653.

Remaining cash after Hayes construction costs paid: \$3,189,045, (excludes potential ARP for 2021–2022).

(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.**

III. Executive Director report

A. Updates: major CHHS building issues impacting Yalow

B. Update: replacement of 2 classroom ceilings

C. Update: Cardinal Hayes construction punch list

D. 2022–2023 new student applications

108 families have completed enrollment applications for 2022–2023, including 89 kindergarten students, 8 1st-grade, 9 2nd-grade, and 2 siblings entering the 3rd and 5th grades.

- 44% yield from 233 lottery applicants, up from 140 in 2021.
- in 2021, 77% of those families who completed applications showed up in September 2021—expectations of 83 new students (as of May 11).
- marketing campaign underway to attract transfer students to Yalow.

Based on historic analysis, student attrition over the summer of 2022 likely to be 10.7%, or 43 students. Yalow also needs to replace 58 graduating 5th-grade students.

Current enrollment expectations for 2022–2023:

May 13, 2022 enrollment: 460

5th-grade graduates: **(58)**

Starting point 6/30/22: 402

10.7% summer attrition: **(43)**

77% of 108 completed
enrollment packets: 83

resulting enrollment: 442

E.

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

No in-school infections. Yalow COVID-19 report card attached, dated May 13, 2022

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

Notification went out to families today, May 17, 2022 on Citywide map and NYCDOH COVID-19 data report from May 13, 2022

- Bronx County: **1.83%** (May 4–May 11)
- zip code **10451: 6.26%**
- NYC: **8.04%**

F. Historic 2015–2022 Yalow Student Retention

- Yalow's 7-year average student retention rate is 82.0%—a low of 75% in 2015-2016, and a high of 87% in 2016-2017, when Yalow had half as many students (247).
- Student retention last year (2020–2021) was 80.6%, prior to moving to Cardinal Hayes High School.
- This year to date—September 17, 2021-May 5, 2022—retention is 90%. The final percentage will not be known until we know how many students do not re-enroll to Yalow in September 2022.

Student retention is comprised of two components: students who leave during the school year and students who do not re-enroll the next school year. These two components for Yalow are:

- Students who leave during the year: 7.82%
- Students who do not re-enroll following year: 10.67%

The peak percentage of students leaving during a school year was 11.43% in 2015–2016—Yalow's first year.

The peak percentage of students not re-enrolling the next year was 13.37% in 2015–2016—Yalow's first year.

3 graphs follow, which I have divided into two sections—the pre-COVID-19 period, 2015–2019, and the COVID era, 2019–2022.

What's different? During the COVID-19 pandemic the number of prospective elementary school students has declined precipitously throughout NYC, particularly among the population of K-3 students, as families left NYC in droves. (Refer to excerpts from January 28, 2022 *Chalkbeat* article.) Pre-COVID-19, Yalow successfully recruited between 120-140 new K-2 students each year—a number sufficient to offset annual student attrition of 18%—while growing the school from 210 students in 2015 to 528 in 2020.

G. May 15 chess tournament

18 Yalow students competed with 110 players in the *Right Moves* tournament at Roberto Clemente State Park. No team awards are being given due to COVID-19 restrictions limiting total numbers of competitors.

Significant individual accomplishments:

Under-1300 division

- 2nd place

Under-900 division

- 14th place
- 20th place

Under-500 division

- 1st place
- 2nd place
- 5th place
- 7th place
- 12th place
- 14th place

Under-300 division

- 1st place
- 2nd place
- 6th place
- 7th place
- 8th place
- 9th place
- 12th place
- 14th place

In-house tournament at Yalow May 21.

IV. 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 9:34 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
L. Howard

Documents used during the meeting

- FY23 BUDGET SCENARIOS - FOR BOARD - PREPARED ON 5.13.2022.xlsx
- Board Meeting Graphs.pdf
- Board Meeting Aggregated Student Attendance SY 21_22.pdf
- NYPost 4.2.22 Chronic absenteeism in NYC public schools hits alarming 40%.pdf
- NYC COVID-19 Map 5-14-22.pdf

- Table-RYCS Student Retention 2015-2022.pdf
- Abridged Chalkbeat NYS Enrollment Declines 1.31.22.pdf