

APPROVED



# The Rosalyn Yalow Charter School

## Minutes

### Monthly Board Meeting

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#### **Date and Time**

Tuesday September 20, 2022 at 6:30 PM

#### **Location**

4th floor cafeteria  
Rosalyn Yalow Charter School  
650 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY 10451

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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**

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

#### **Trustees Absent**

*None*

#### **Guests Present**

A. Diacou, K. Smaw

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### **I. Opening Items**

**A.**

## Record Attendance and Guests

### B. Call the Meeting to Order

G. Feliciano called a meeting of the board of trustees of The Rosalyn Yalow Charter School to order on Tuesday Sep 20, 2022 at 7:05 PM.

## II. Outstanding Items for Board approval

### A. Cancel or pay previously allocated bonuses for 2020–2021

Approved at the September 11, 2022 Executive Session meeting.

### B. Proposal to increase BAE budget

Increase budget for Bronx Arts Ensemble (BAE) classes from \$164,230 to \$333,230 for the 2022–2023 academic year. This is an increase of \$169,000 from our June budget. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Yalow did not have violin classes. BAE informed the school they are finally able to provide violin instruction for 2022-2023, which is why we are asking for the budget increase at this time.

Violin instruction requires two instructors, rather than one instructor for each classroom of students. The increased budget will pay for 38 weeks of violin instruction for all 9 classrooms of 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders. This represents 3 violin classes per week for 9 classrooms—27 violin classes per week—enabling 3rd graders to become proficient violinists by 5th grade.

The hourly cost paid to BAE for their teaching artists remains unchanged at \$85/hour from 2021–2022. The proposed budget represents a substantial increase in weekly number of classes being taught, from 44 to 101—an increase in classes taught of 230%.

BAE's budget is based on the number of classes taught, not the number of students. Nothing has been agreed to. Leadership is making this proposal to the school board because violin instruction is one of the arts making Yalow unique among all public elementary schools.

If the proposal is denied, the school will offer only visual arts instruction.

S. Hayes made a motion to Approve.

R. Lyon seconded the motion.

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

#### Roll Call

|              |         |
|--------------|---------|
| M. Rosen     | Aye     |
| L. Howard    | Aye     |
| R. Lyon      | Aye     |
| B. Yalow     | Aye     |
| G. Feliciano | Abstain |
| I. Lee       | Aye     |
| M. Balbuena  | Aye     |
| S. Hayes     | Aye     |

## III. Finance report

### A. 2021–2022 audit

Mengel Metzger Barr, the school's auditors, are completing their work on the June 30, 2022 audit report, and need a board decision on the status of the 2020–2021 bonuses being held in accounts payable.

**B. FY2022–2023 cash forecast**

**Unchanged from August 2022 report. Forecast won't change until 2022–2023 student enrollment numbers stabilize.**

- Yalow ended the 2021–2022 year with \$4.1 million cash on hand (excluding reserves).
- Yalow will end 2022–2023 with less than \$1.8 million in cash after Hayes construction costs paid, which is insufficient to open the school in 2023–2024.,

Yalow will need to close at the end of the 2022–2023 school year or merge with another school.

**C. 2022–2023 enrollment by grade**

461 students are registered to Yalow in official ATS enrollment (excluding students being pulled by other schools)

Of the 144 new families who completed enrollment applications for 2022–2023, 111 have been in attendance (78.7%).

See attached grade-by-grade attendance from September 16, 2022.

**IV. Principal report**

**A. Attendance as of September 16, 2022**

**1st week attendance:**

|                         |     |                                    |
|-------------------------|-----|------------------------------------|
| Tuesday, September 6:   | 352 | No school buses                    |
| Wednesday, September 7: | 364 | No school buses/Wednesday half day |
| Thursday, September 8:  | 383 | No school buses                    |
| Friday, September 9:    | 382 | No school buses                    |

No Buses 1st week. Remote instruction was available. Students brought to school by their parents.

**2nd week attendance:**

|                          |     |                         |
|--------------------------|-----|-------------------------|
| Monday, September 12:    | 397 | 1st day of school buses |
| Tuesday, September 13:   | 423 |                         |
| Wednesday, September 14: | 373 | Wednesday half day      |
| Thursday, September 15:  | 420 |                         |
| Friday, September 16     | 411 |                         |

Busing began on Monday, September 12.

Attendance includes 10 newly arrived migrant students, (primarily from Venezuela); kindergarten (1), 1st grade (6), 3rd grade (3).

**B. Hiring**

Yalow is only hiring essential personnel for 16 k-5 classrooms.

**C.**

## **2022–2023 student assessment calendar**

### **V. Executive Director Report**

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

**Air conditioning will not be available prior to summer 2023.**

**No update since August 18, 2022.**

Winston van Buitenen prepared the attached summary for Zubatkin Owner Representation LLC, which oversees Archdioceses properties requesting Zubatkin's help arranging a meeting with ConEd to relocate power distribution to the room adjacent to the existing CHHS electric switch room.

The architect representing the Archdioceses filed his inspection report about roof repairs and playground subsidence on September 13. No public information available.

### **VI. Closing Items**

#### **A. Adjourn Meeting**

S. Hayes made a motion to Adjourn.

R. Lyon seconded the motion.

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

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
L. Howard

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

- Rosalyn Yalow Cost Analysis.pdf
- Yalow Proposal 22-23.pdf
- Construction Cash Flow forecast 9.7.22.pdf
- Attendance Breakdown 9.16.22.pdf
- Testing Schedule 2022-2023.pdf
- Electrical Panel Upgrade Summary.pdf