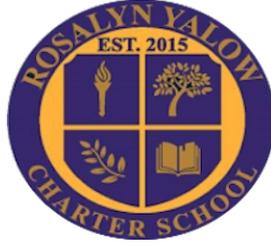


APPROVED



# The Rosalyn Yalow Charter School

## Minutes

### Board Meeting

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#### **Date and Time**

Tuesday January 18, 2022 at 6:30 PM

#### **Location**

650 Grand Concourse, 4th fl Cafeteria

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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, M. Balbuena (remote), R. Lyon (remote), S. Hayes

#### **Trustees Absent**

M. Rosen

#### **Guests Present**

A. Diacou, K. Smaw

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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 Jan 18, 2022 at 6:30 PM.

## **II. Items for Board approval**

### **A. Vote: teacher salary tiers for FY 2022–2023**

B. Yalow made a motion to move to approve the teacher salary tiers as noted in the agenda.

S. Hayes seconded the motion.

1. Tier I: \$115k
2. Tier II: \$95k
3. Tier III: \$78k
4. Tier III uncertified: \$73k

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

#### **Roll Call**

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

### **B. Prospective 2022–2023 budget impact analysis**

Using a 7% inflation assumption for all costs other than the proposed teachers salary tiers produces the following conclusions: 1. Yalow breaks even with enrollment of 476 students v. today's 464 students 2. at 464 students, Yalow has a projected deficit of \$262,402 3. breakeven with 464 students can be achieved by reducing the number of classrooms since the school would have fewer students (2 classrooms).

## **III. Finance report**

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

Cash balances January 12, 2022: \$5,861,758.

Remaining cash after Hayes construction costs paid: \$3,079,449.

(excludes \$160,000–\$300,000 increase in electric switchgear proposal)

Forecast reflects 464 students, a 13.4% decrease from charter cap of 536. See student attrition report, below.

## **IV. Principal report**

### **A. Baseline student data–fall 2021–2022**

STEP Literacy assessment status for Cycle 1 (fall 2021) Cycle 1 results: • 12.4% of students in the school are meeting or exceeding grade-level benchmarks. • 87.6% of the students in the school are performing below grade level benchmarks. Targeted skill deficits to be addressed by teachers and RTI team: • Most

Kindergarten students were struggling to understand print concepts and phonemic awareness (onset-rime).

Large numbers of 1st- and 2nd-grade students are struggling with word solving while maintaining comprehension. • 3rd through 5th grade students are challenged with reading stamina, as well as and comprehension in stories involving multiple characters and subplots.

#### **B. School-wide achievement goals based on data**

In order to push towards growth, teachers will implement purposeful instruction during guided reading (small group instruction) as well as CKLA to close the gap and meet the needs of all students. School-Wide Goals 1. Students move 3+ reading levels 2. Purposeful CKLA Instruction 3. Purposeful Guided Reading instruction Kindergarten Phonics focus: letter identification, sound blends, digraphs, segmentation, and onset rhymes 1st Grade Accuracy, and verbal comprehension 2nd Grade Verbal comprehension, and silent comprehension 3rd, 4th, & 5th Grades Retelling, silent comprehension, and understanding key concepts.

#### **C. Hiring updates**

Yalow maintains a strong student-to-teacher ratio of 10:1. The school has 41 general education and response to intervention team teachers, plus 6 chess and fencing instructors supporting 464 students. Hiring for the following budgeted positions: • 2 chess positions that had been placed on hold, pending resumption of in-person chess tournaments • 3 teacher-social workers • 1 general ed teacher • 7 RTI team members (reading interventionists)–job description attached • CKLA coordinator that had previously placed on hold–job description attached The following budgeted position was eliminated for 2020-2021: • social worker supervisor position eliminated • 2 fencing instructors (2nd class eliminated due to physical space limitations) The following budgeted position has been out on disability leave: assistant principal. Some hiring shortfalls have been offset with temporary replacements, e.g., Robert Half and Bronx Arts Ensemble.

#### **D. 333 E. 181st. fire impact on Yalow families**

• 2 student families displaced • 1 student's extended family displaced.

Teachers created a GoFundMe page on behalf of families, raising almost \$10,000 for these families. Yalow's partner, Montefiore School Health Program, has contacted families to offer mental health support services.

#### **E. Saturday Academy resumes January 29, 2022**

Two student groups prioritized: • grades k-2 students: phonemic awareness • grades 3-5 students: reading comprehension.

#### **F. Family engagement**

Middle school parents workshop.

### **V. Executive Director report**

#### **A. Police crossing guard assigned to Yalow**

The 44th Precinct has assigned a crossing guard, effective Thursday, December 16, 2021.

#### **B.**

### **Replacement of CHHS electrical switches**

No cost update. Completion date not yet available. • on January 12, A. Diacou met with Michael Carey, President of Hayes, and Wm. Lessa, principal to review all prior communication with Hayes board about the replacement of electrical switches, installation of HVAC units, and the need for replacement of plumbing waste pipes, including the June 4, 2021 letter outline Yalow's cost-sharing proposal for the electrical switch replacement Since new bids were just received on January 13, the goal of finishing the switch project by April seems highly unlikely. A great deal of planning and coordination with Con Ed will need to take place prior to switch replacement, not to mention developing a realistic plan for replacing electrical switches while avoiding CHHS going dark with students in session.

### **C. Cardinal Hayes additional work**

Kel-Mar continues working architect's punch list, plus the following additional work:  
• installation of new 3rd floor water fountains to be completed by Saturday, January 22  
• additional tiling in new 4th floor student bathrooms  
• polycarbonate dividers continue being installed on 3rd floor classrooms to replace separated tri-part desk partitions.

### **D. Student attrition 2021–2022 from 2020-2021**

Please refer to attached graphic analysis. Over the years, many Yalow have resided far from our two previous school locations—some students living 9 miles from the 169th St. campus. As Yalow moved from CSD9 to CSD7, 70 students left Yalow prior during fall 2021:  
• Accepted at a preferred School 2  
• Busing Concerns 2  
• Didn't want to disclose the reason 1  
• Distance too far 8  
• Moved out of state 14  
• No response 43 (20 days on ATS WARN Screen).

The DOE Office of Pupil Transportation implemented a new policy in 2021–2022. Students living more than 5 miles from Yalow were denied yellow bus services. As shown on the various bar charts, many of the students who left Yalow enrolled in DOE schools closer to their homes in CSD9, CSD10, and CSD11 in the north Bronx. Please refer to the 2020–2021 map of student residences. 29 students enrolled in charter schools that are also closer to their district of residence.

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

No in-school infections occurring within Yalow. See attached citywide map and NYCDOH COVID-19 data report from January 14, 2022.  
• zip code 10451: 29.7%  
• NYC: 27.7%.

## **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 7:57 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
L. Howard

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

- Teacher Salary analysis 22 versus 2023- \$115k.pdf
- STEP Cycle 1 Data Analysis.pdf
- Director of Literacy Curriculum & Instruction 2021.pdf
- Student Attrition 2021-2022-by CSD.pdf
- Student Attrition 2021-2022-by type of school.pdf
- Student Attrition 2021-2022-No Response by Residence.pdf
- Student Attrition 2021-2022-No Response by grade.pdf
- Bronx Map-COVID-19 1.14.22.pdf
- Citiwide COVID-19 1.14.22.pdf