BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, Sept. 30th, 2026 @ 6:00 PM
Location of Meeting: Zoom Meeting

Call to order: Salad called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm.

Board Members & Others - Present or Absent:

#	Name	Present or Absent
1	Salad Abagira (Community member) – Board Chair	P
2	Reem Zeman (Parent) – Vice Chair	A
3	Sahra Tobe - (Teacher) – Secretary	P
4	Yadata Borana (Parent) – Treasurer	P
5	Zachary Etter (Teacher) – Board member	P
6	Arif Bakar (Ex-Officio) – School Director	P
7	Shannon Benalshaikh (Finance Manager)	P
8	Community members / Authorizer: Wendy Swanson Choi - NEO	P

Agenda:

Subject	**Sept. 30th, 2026 Board Meeting Agenda**						
Motion	Approve agenda business for **September 30th, 2026**						
Made by	Sahra		Seconded		Zachary		
Discussion	No discussion						
Vote	4	Yea	4	Nay	0	Abstain	0
Decision	The motion passed unanimously.						

Previous Minutes:

Subject	**Approve minutes from the previous September meeting.**						
Motion	Motion to approve previous meeting minutes for meeting held on September 9th, 2026.						
Made by	Yadata		Seconded		Sahra		
Discussion	The board reviewed and approved previous September meeting minutes.						
Vote	4	Yea	4	Nay	0	Abstain	0
Decision	Motion passed unanimously						

Conflict of Interest:

Subject	**Conflict of Interest**
Discussion	Salad discussed and inquired about conflicts of interest. No conflicts of interest were disclosed.

Payment Register:

Subject	**Financial Report for the month of August 2026**
Discussion	Shannon gave a financial report for the month of August 2026.

Financial Report:

Subject	**Financial Updates for the month of August 2026**						
Motion	Approve payment register and financials for **August 2026.**						
Made by	Zachary			Seconded	Yadata		
Discussion	None						
Vote	4	Yea	4	Nay	0	Abstain	0
Decision	Motion passed unanimously						

New Business:
Approve Designation of Depository of Associated Bank

Subject	**Approve Designation of Depository**						
Motion	Approve the Designation of Depository of Associated Bank						
Made by	Salad			Seconded	Zachary		
Discussion	To acknowledge the merger with the American National Bank as the schools' depository account. The merger will take place in October. The motion was to approve the transition to the Associated Bank from the American National Bank.						
Vote	4	Yea	4	Nay	0	Abstain	0
Decision	Motion passed unanimously						

2026-2027 EFT Approvals

Subject	**Approve the 2026/2027 EFT approvals (2)**						
Motion	Approve MKGD as designated to make payroll transfers and payroll liability payments (IRS, MNDOR, PERA, TRA, etc)						
Made by	Zachary			Seconded	Yadata		
Discussion	None						
Vote	4	Yea	4	Nay	0	Abstain	0
Decision	Motion passed unanimously						

School Leadership Wire Transfer and Vendor Payment Approvals

Subject	**Approve Arif / Abas to make wire transfers and vendor payments**						
Motion	Approve Arif / Abas to make wire transfers and vendor payments (Medica, Lincoln Life, Credit Card, etc.)						
Made by	Sahra			Seconded	Salad		
Discussion	None						
Vote	4	Yea	4	Nay	0	Abstain	0
Decision	Motion passed unanimously						

ED's Report: Included in the board packet
Announcement: None
Public Comment:
Procurement Policy Compliance: Wendy Swanson Choi expressed appreciation to the Board for its work and suggested incorporating a procurement compliance checklist into future Board meeting minutes.
Literacy Reporting and Testing: Required kindergarten testing is upcoming at the beginning of next year. End-of-year literacy plan reporting will also be required to document how literacy funds were utilized throughout the year.
Training Opportunity: Wendy Swanson Choi shared information via email regarding a training opportunity offered through NEO.
Charter Renewal: The school's charter renewal is scheduled for June 2027. The school remains on track to continue outperforming its resident district, Columbia Heights, by the time of renewal.
Adjournment: Salad adjourned the meeting at 6:51 pm
Minute Submitted by Sahra Tobe