

NOVA ACADEMY

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – May 23, 2019, 6 PM
500 W Santa Ana Blvd, Santa Ana, CA 92701

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: 6:00 PM

The meeting was called to order by Board Chairman, Dr. Sanford Otsuji.

Members Present:

Dr. Sanford Otsuji, Chairman

Dr. Susan Garrett, Co-Chair

Norm Lester, Secretary

Karen Lester, Treasurer

Gloria Grana, Member

Rick Weir, Member

Members Not Present

None

Staff Present

Renee Lancaster, CEO/Founder

Karin Schaefer, Business Services Advisor

Angie Dillon, Executive Assistant

Members Present via Conference Line:

None

Staff Present via Conference Line:

Lisa Hernandez, Principal

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Consent Calendar was presented for approval. The Consent Calendar contained the following matter:

- Minutes from the 4-25-2019 Board Meeting

Motion to approve the Minutes from the April 25, 2019 Board Meeting.

Motion: Susan Garrett

Second: Karen Lester

Vote	Yes	No	Abstain	Conference Line
S. Otsuji	X			
S. Garrett	X			
N. Lester	X			
K. Lester	X			
G. Grana	X			
R. Weir	X			

CLOSED SESSION

Conference with Legal Counsel, Anticipated Litigation (§ 54956.9)

Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: 1 potential case

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

In the closed session board meeting held on March 28, 2019 related to agenda item Conference with Legal Counsel, Anticipated Litigation (§ 54956.9) Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9, a motion was made and seconded to authorize legal counsel, Young, Minney & Corr, LLP to initiate litigation against Santa Ana Unified School District on its demands for payment of special education encroachment expenses. The motion was passed by unanimous vote with no abstentions by Board members Dr. Sanford Otsuji, Dr. Susan Garrett, Norm Lester, Karen Lester, Gloria Grana, and Rick Weir.

The authorized litigation was filed on May 10, 2019 in the Orange County Superior Court, Case Number 30-2019-01069196-CU-MC-CJC.

EXECUTIVE REPORT

Lisa Hernandez, Principal, presented updates on the Coachella campus. She reported that Coachella’s preliminary CAASPP scores came in. The scores jumped 30 points in English and 16 points in math. Students had put in extra effort to prepare, such as attending test-taking workshops on Saturdays. Dr. Sanford Otsuji, Board Chairman, and the rest of the Board congratulated Ms. Hernandez on this accomplishment.

Lisa Hernandez went on to report that the Coachella campus recently had their Senior Exit Interviews, a Teacher Appreciation event, and Prom. She presented a slide show with pictures from the events. She said the students are happy about a recent donation from a local flooring company. The company donated outdoor flooring to the campus so students can play soccer. Ms. Hernandez reminded the Board that Coachella’s graduation ceremony is coming up on May 29.

Renee Lancaster, Chief Executive Officer, reported on recent updates for the Santa Ana campus. She said Santa Ana received its preliminary CAASPP scores and there was an increase in math. The Santa

N. Lester	X			
K. Lester	X			
G. Grana	X			
R. Weir	X			

SCHOOL FOOD PROGRAM CONTRACT

For Board approval, Renee Lancaster presented the Preferred Meals food program contract for NOVA Academy-Coachella. This will be the first year Coachella will use Preferred Meals as they are switching from Revolution Foods.

Motion to approve Preferred Meals contract for NOVA Academy-Coachella with final approval from Renee Lancaster.

Motion: Susan Garrett

Second: Karen Lester

Vote	Yes	No	Abstain	Conference Line
S. Otsuji	X			
S. Garrett	X			
N. Lester	X			
K. Lester	X			
G. Grana	X			
R. Weir	X			

RATIFICATION OF BOARD RESOLUTION

Dr. Sanford Otsuji presented the agenda item to ratify the Board Resolution to update Authorized Individuals on NOVA Academy Bank Accounts. In the new Board Resolution, Karin Schaefer is authorized to sign checks for Associated Student Body (ASB) purchases.

Motion to Ratify Board Resolution to update Authorized Individuals on NOVA Academy Bank Accounts.

Motion: Susan Garrett

Second: Norm Lester

Vote	Yes	No	Abstain	Conference Line
S. Otsuji	X			
S. Garrett	X			
N. Lester	X			
K. Lester	X			
G. Grana	X			
R. Weir	X			

RESIGNATION OF NOVA ACADEMY BOARD OF DIRECTOR

Dr. Sanford Otsuji presented Board Member Brenda Gonzalez’s resignation letter. He recommended that the Board send Ms. Gonzalez a thank you card in appreciation of her many years of service.

Motion to approve Resignation of Brenda Gonzalez from NOVA Academy Board of Directors.

Motion: Susan Garrett

Second: Norm Lester

Vote	Yes	No	Abstain	Conference Line
S. Otsuji	X			
S. Garrett	X			
N. Lester	X			
K. Lester	X			
G. Grana	X			
R. Weir	X			

REVIEW FORM 990

Dr. Sanford Otsuji presented the agenda item to review NOVA Academy's annual IRS Form 990, which is a tax filing for non-profit organizations. The accounting firm, Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co., LLP, prepared the form. The Board reviewed the document and there was no discussion.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.



Norm Lester