BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
The Academy Charter School 2 (Wyandanch)
October 2026

Date: Thursday, October 22, 2026
Time: 8:11 pm – 8:18pm
Facilitator: Robert Stewart, Chairman of the Board of Trustees

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Robert Stewart, Chairman
Marie Graham, Trustee
Claudette Harrison, Trustee
Carol Beckles, Trustee
Dale James, Trustee

OTHERS PRESENT: Wayne Haughton, President
Nicholas Stapleton, Chief Academic Officer
Tameka Pierre-Louis, Deputy Chief Academic Officer of Innov. & Integration
Alexis Bradley, Deputy Chief Academic Officer of Middle Schools
Sandrea Oneil, Chief Legal & Compliance Officer
Alwayne Burke, Group Chief Financial Officer
Shankay Walker, Deputy Chief People
Yuriy Barskiy, Director of Human Capital Operations
Bishop Barrington Goldson, Chief Executive Officer and Founder
Darrel Thomas, Executive Director of Operations

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME**
   Meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Stewart at 8:11pm.

2. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**
   The Minutes of the last meeting was reviewed and approved.

3. **MOTION TO ACCEPT ALL REPORTS**
   There was a motion to accept all reports as is.

4. REPORTS

The following reports were presented:

a) President's Report

Presenter: Mr. Wayne Haughton, President

The Board received an update on development and organizational performance:

- Mr. Haughton reported completing the K–8 beginning-of-year assessments and beginning academic intervention and after-school programming. He discussed broadly about academic priorities, the improvement in school attendance, college preparation, ongoing recruitment, the fiscal audit, staffing, charter litigation, and construction progress.
- Mr. Haughton described an automotive electric-vehicle apprenticeship pilot for ninth-grade students; the Academy's fourth year in the Northwell MedVoyage partnership and a possible Academy-specific cohort next year; a culinary program pilot with LIJ Valley Stream Hospital; digital media opportunities involving Kent State University and Microsoft; and prospective Vaughn College pathways in aviation, drones, mechatronics, and flight training.
- Mr. Haughton reported favorable financial performance and completion of the audit, continued recruitment of qualified teachers including international educators, and ongoing Brentwood and Central Islip litigation with oral argument scheduled for November 12, 2026.
- Mr. Haughton commended participation in the Wyandanch Charter renewal hearing. He noted Charter School Growth Fund engagement and a Da Vinci Schools visit. He also reported on the steel erection and pursuit of interim financing for the Brentwood project.
- Mr. Haughton elaborated on the Papine High School project in Jamaica and the plans to shipped 100 refurbished laptops upon Board approval.
- Mr. Haughton reported on the September device rollouts and indicated that testing support was completed, and network and printing issues have been resolved.

Presentation: Student Records

Presenter: Vishwanath Maraj, Director of Student Records

- Mr. Vish Maraj reported on year-round recruitment coordinated with marketing, monitoring no-shows and withdrawals, replacing vacant seats, and continued alignment with enrollment targets and budget assumptions. The Retention Department had begun collecting parent exit-survey responses, approximately 40 at the time of the meeting, and conducting individualized follow-up calls. The emerging reasons for withdrawal included family relocation, immigration-related circumstances, and changing community demographics. He further emphasized that findings remained preliminary and would be analyzed to improve retention.

b) Chief Academic Officer's Report

Presenter: Dr. Nicholas Stapleton, Chief Academic Officer

The Board received an update on the academic performance and instructional initiatives:

- Dr. Stapleton announced the Academy had received notice of a favorable Cognia system-wide accreditation decision, with written confirmation anticipated in 45 days following the international governing-board ratification. He reported a six-year accreditation period.
- Dr. Pierre-Louis was invited to speak and described the year-long evidence collection, site review, and involvement of staff, scholars, families, executives, and trustees. Dr. Stapleton characterized the achievement as especially significant for the Charter sector.
- Dr. Stapleton recognized Hempstead Middle School for its reported U.S. News & World Report ranking of 33rd among the referenced New York schools and second on Long Island, based on 2023–2024 data.
- Ms. Bradley was invited to speak and thanked the school community and reported approximately 97 percent attendance in the preceding school year.
- Dr. Stapleton reported that Hempstead has approximately 2,095 enrolled students. Attendance rates were approximately 94 percent in Lower Elementary, 93.7 percent in Upper Elementary, 95 percent in Middle School, and 93.5 percent in the High School. Uniondale enrollment increased from approximately 1,763 to 1,773. The Academy continued to address English language learner needs, including a substantial kindergarten population.
- Dr. Stapleton reported that the K–8 beginning-of-year assessments were complete. Instructional teams were using results to assign academic interventions and monitor progress, including NWEA MAP assessments in the early grades. After-school interventions ran four days weekly for Grades 3–12; high school programming began October 5 to prepare students for January Regents examinations. PSAT/SAT preparation, college readiness, and a November 19 National Honor Society ceremony were also discussed.
- Dr. Stapleton informed that he reviewed New York State's evolving graduation requirements and stated the importance of maintaining rigorous academic expectations and an appropriate Academy graduate profile. Cambridge coursework in English as an Additional Language and Global Perspectives and Research was being introduced at both high school campuses.

c) Chief Legal & Compliance Officer's Report
Presenter: Sandrea Oneil**,** Chief Legal & Compliance Officer

The Board received an update on legal, compliance, and community relations matters:

- Mrs. Oneil reported approximately fifteen active legal matters and no new cases. She summarized ongoing construction, property, easement, employment, student, uniform, and tax-assessment proceedings. In the consolidated Brentwood and Central Islip charter litigation, opposition papers were due October 27, reply papers November 6, and oral arguments November 12, 2026. She reported amicus filings supporting SUNY by the New York Charter Schools Association and National Association of Charter School Authorizers.
- The Compliance Unit continued revising the Accounting Policies and Procedures Manual, developing the Mobile Phone Policy, providing artificial intelligence governance training, and submitting 2027–2028 student applications. The Unit tracked required Minutes and Certificates of Occupancy. Campus compliance visits took place in October, with a comprehensive Risk Assessment Report under development.

- Family and Community Relations supported Hispanic Heritage Month, breast cancer awareness, PTO development, and an Academy Ambassadors event.
- Mrs. Oneil outlined a certification improvement initiative, particularly relevant to Wyandanch, including review of individual teacher credentials, reciprocity opportunities, testing and coursework support, and partnerships with higher education institutions.

Additional Presentation

- Mrs. Oneil discussed the strong turnout of parents, students, and staff at the Wyandanch Charter renewal public hearing. She played a recorded excerpt of testimony by Elder T. Gordon, identified as a Middle School PTO president, who praised the Academy's individualized student support, inclusive educational practices, uniform expectations, and family involvement.
- Mrs. Oneil also commended Dr. Stapleton for responding to statements at the hearing about graduates' higher education outcomes.

The Trustees welcomed the visible community support and recognized the contributions of families and staff.

d) Group Chief Financial Officer's Report
Presenter: Alwayne Burke, Group Chief Financial Officer

The Board received a financial update:

- Mr. Burke reported that there were a favorable fiscal year 2026 audit results, with an unmodified opinion expected and a teacher-certification finding requiring corrective action.
- The Academy satisfied its audited-year financial covenants.
- Financial results through September 30, 2026, were positive, and the Academy met most current-period covenants.
- Cash on hand was temporarily below target because of timing delays in district P1/P2 payments.
- Receivables more than 90 days old accounted for approximately 6 percent of total accounts receivable.
- Mr. Burke discussed possible defined certification timelines for newly hired teachers.

e) Chief People & Operations Officer's Report
Presenters: Shanakay Walker, Deputy Chief People
Yuriy Barskiy, Director of Human Capital Operations

The Board received an overview of the Academy's operational and recruitment report.

- The Mrs. Felicia Barracks, Chief People & Operations Officer was absent.
- Ms. Walker presented on her behalf and reported on the ongoing recruitment challenges in special education, integrated co-teaching, and English as a New Language position.
- Ms. Walker further reported that the international teacher recruitment advanced through additional H-1B approvals, with outstanding applications under review.
- She also provided an update on employee relations stating that the figures were: three open and five closed cases in Hempstead, and one open and three closed in Uniondale.

- Mr. Barskiy also reported on the mandatory training completion rates of approximately 43 percent for workplace harassment, 88 percent for Educating All Students, and 95 percent for mandated reporter training. He also shared that Academy U Learning Pathways launched October 13 with approximately 200 staff participating in rollout activities and a nearly 50 percent increase in platform visits.
- Mr. Barskiy stated that the Frontline Performance evaluation module was being implemented.
- Mrs. Walker shared that The Academy reported 16 new hires (six Hempstead, nine Uniondale, one Shared Services), 11 active leaves (seven Hempstead and four Uniondale), and 11 employee accommodations, including one pending.
- Ms. Walker further reported approximately 34,000 Academy Day views across Facebook and Instagram, a 295 percent increase in impressions, 147 percent growth in Instagram engagement, approximately 210 percent YouTube growth, and 47.7 percent higher website traffic against the cited 2025 comparison.
- She informed that adult education drew more than 420 interested applicants for approximately 30 funded LPN and EMT seats.

f) Chief Executive Officer's Report

Presenter: Bishop Barrington Goldson, Chief Executive Officer

The Board received an update on leadership development and organizational initiatives.

- Bishop Goldson thanked the Trustees for their Cognia participation, committee service, and preparation for the Board Retreat. He reported that the Charter School Growth Fund support would cover the Board Retreat travel, accommodations, and meals rather than Academy operating funds.
- Bishop Goldson emphasized that growth in enrollment and campuses requires corresponding investment in leadership, staff, and organizational systems.
- Executive Director of Operations Darrel Thomas was invited to speak, and he read an excerpt on healthy dietary fats, which Bishop Goldson used as an analogy to caution against excessive cost-cutting and understaffing during organizational expansion.
- Bishop Goldson reported continued collaboration with Papine High School in Jamaica, including instructional leadership support, teacher development, work with the University of the West Indies, a planned donation of 100 refurbished computers, and Microsoft-related network infrastructure support.
- Bishop Goldson further described preliminary planning for Pre-kindergarten and credit-recovery programs, two tentative Brentwood bridge-financing proposals, ongoing construction, and recruitment of Brentwood and Central Islip advisory Boards by year-end.

Following the second-portion roll call, the Board considered a motion to accept all reports as submitted. Moved by Trustee Graham and seconded by Trustee Beckles. Motioned passed unanimously.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a) Resolution No. 10001-2026 – Financial Statements

A Resolution to approve the Financial Statements for the three months ending September 2026.

The Roll Call vote was conducted as follows:

- Chairman Stewart - Yes
- Marie Graham, Trustee - Yes
- Claudette Harrison, Trustee - Yes
- Carol Beckles, Trustee - Yes
- Dale James, Trustee - Yes

The Resolution was passed unanimously.

b) Resolution No. 10002-2026 – Audited Financial Statements

A Resolution to approve the Audited Financial Statements for the year ending June 30, 2026.

The Roll Call vote was conducted as follows:

- Chairman Stewart - Yes
- Marie Graham, Trustee - Yes
- Claudette Harrison, Trustee - Yes
- Carol Beckles, Trustee - Yes
- Dale James, Trustee - Yes

The Resolution was passed unanimously.

c) Resolution No. 10003-2026 – Authorization for Bridge Financing for School Construction

A Resolution to approve Bridge Financing in an amount up to $50,000,000.

The Roll Call vote was conducted as follows:

- Chairman Stewart - Yes
- Marie Graham, Trustee - Yes
- Claudette Harrison, Trustee - Yes
- Carol Beckles, Trustee - Yes
- Dale James, Trustee - Yes

The Resolution was passed unanimously.

7. ADJOURMENT

With no further business, the Board Chairman Stewart requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion to adjourn the meeting was moved by Trustee Harrison and seconded by Trustee James. Motion was passed unanimously. The meeting ended at 8:18pm.

ATTACHMENT TO 2026
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions hereafter were given a document number and voted on by the Board of Trustees accordingly.

- **Resolution No. 10001-2026 – Financial Statements**
  Unanimously passed by the Board of Trustees.
- **Resolution No. 10002-2026 – Audited Financial Statements**
  Unanimously passed by the Board of Trustees.
- **Resolution No. 10003-2026 – Authorization for Bridge Financing for School Construction**
  Unanimously passed by the Board of Trustees.