

Governing Board Meeting Minutes
NEW MILLENNIUM SECONDARY SCHOOL
1301 W 182nd St. Gardena, Ca 90248
Monday, August 25, 2025, 6:00 pm Zoom Meeting

Attendees:

Board Members Present: K. Holloway, A. Booker, T. Mozia, B. McCauley, A. Bradford, K. Lewis, B. Coleman

Staff Present: Principal Darrick Rice; C.O.O. Nichole Sims; Nick Miller, CSMC; A. Carrethers

Guest Present: Kary Pounders

OPENING ITEMS

1	Call to Order Meeting called to order by A. Booker at 6:11 pm	Meeting called to order
2	Approval of Agenda Motioned by A. Booker, seconded by B. McCauley Unanimous Approved	Approved Agenda
3	Approve Minutes The board members reviewed June 23, 2025 board meeting minutes. Board members agreed to approve June 23, 2025 meeting minutes. A. Booker called for motion to approve June 23, 2025 Minutes. A. Booker motioned, Second T. Mozia. Unanimous approval. Board meeting minutes, Unanimous approval.	Approved Meetings Minute for June 23, 2025

SCHOOL SITE REPORTS

4	<p>Principal’s Report: Academic and Operational Updates</p> <p>I. Charter Renewal and Compliance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LAUSD Petition Timeline: The Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) has adjusted the renewal petition submission window to September 19, 2025, with the public hearing scheduled for November 16, 2025. • Pre-Intake Review: A pre-intake meeting with LAUSD is set for September 10, 2025, to ensure all submission guidelines are met according to District standards. <p>II. LAUSD Annual Performance-Based Oversight Report (2024-2025) The school received its annual oversight results from the LAUSD Charter Schools Division. The report evaluates the school across four critical categories using a scale of 1 to 4 (4 being the highest).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Achievement & Educational Performance: 2 (Developing) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Summary:</i> The school is meeting most internal growth targets but shows a need for continued focus on statewide standardized testing outcomes to align with District averages. • Governance: 3 (Proficient) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Summary:</i> The Board of Directors demonstrates effective transparency, Brown Act compliance, and proactive oversight of school operations. 	Information Sharing - Accepted
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizational Management: 3 (Proficient) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Summary:</i> The school is well-managed, maintaining a safe campus environment, compliant student records, and 100% teacher credentialing. • Fiscal Operations: 3 (Proficient) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Summary:</i> NMSS maintains "Proficient" fiscal health with sound internal controls and a positive fund balance, though the Board noted the impact of lower ADA on future projections. <p>III. Instructional Design and Schedule Enhancements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master Schedule Changes: The school has transitioned from a 7-period day to an 8-period daily schedule and introduced an optional Zero Period. This modification ensures that Advisory periods across all grade levels now meet A-G requirement standards. • AP and Honors Expansion: Launching the AP-Honors Academy with increased College Board training for staff. The goal is to introduce one to two new academic pathways annually. <p>IV. Career Readiness and Partnerships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • College and Career Tools: Implementation of School Links for internship seeking and career-building advice. • Vocational Partnerships: Finalizing a partnership with SCROC-ROP in Torrance for career development and developing a Zero Period program for performing arts and fashion design. <p>V. Independent Study Initiative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program Expansion: Focus on opening a specialized independent study high school under the charter, allowing NMSS to offer on-site independent study options to any student requiring flexibility. 	
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BUSINESS ITEMS

5	<p>New Board Member</p> <p>D. Rice introducing Kary Pounders, teacher with 30+ years’ experience. Has worked as administrator and director too.</p> <p>A. Booker asks K. Pounder: “What knowledge, in your opinion, is most worth knowing?”</p> <p>K. Pounder: Most knowledge is worth knowing. Making yourself a better person and society a better place. All knowledge is good knowledge as long as you use it for good and try to better yourself and others.</p> <p>AB: Is there something you’ve learned during your time in education that you want to impart to your students?</p> <p>KP: Being a better thinker. Teach students to think, don’t be afraid to think and don’t be afraid to fail. No one’s perfect. Don’t be afraid to make a decision. Fear is the mind killer. You’ve got to be willing to move forward and try. Do your best.</p> <p>N. Sims asks: We are going through renewal. We’re a small school and we need someone involved. Can you tell us how involved you can be?</p>	<p>Approved for New Board Member - Tabled</p>
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	<p>KP: Not retired from teaching. Can't guarantee attending every meeting but understands the time commitment this is.</p> <p>Kevin Lewis intro. Graduated NMSS in 2013. Six years in the Air Force as a linguist translating Arabic.</p> <p>Belinda McCauley intro. Graduated NMSS in 2012. Works in finance and admin.</p> <p>A Booker motioned to table new board member voting until all current board members are available. T. Mozia seconded. Unanimous approval.</p>	
6	<p>Organization Charter 2025-2026 a. NMSS Calendar & Bell Schedule 2025-2028</p> <p>N. Sims walks the board through the schedule, prepared three years out for district approval with the charter renewal petition.</p> <p>A. Booker motioned to approve. T. Mozia seconded. Approved unanimously.</p>	<p>Approved Organization Charter 2025-26, Calendar, Bell Schedule 2025-2028</p>
7	<p>Prop 39 Over-Allocation</p> <p>N. Sims presented a formal request for the approval of a mandatory \$60,154.50 reimbursement to the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) due to Proposition 39 over-allocated space at the Gardena High School site for the 2024-2025 school year. Following a District audit which determined the school's actual Average Daily Attendance (ADA) was lower than initial projections, the Board reviewed state-mandated invoice #26-1009 and the associated calculations required by California Education Code Section 47614.</p> <p>A. Booker motioned to approve the one-time payment to settle the balance in full, which was seconded by B. McCauley and passed with unanimous approval.</p>	<p>Approved Payment Prop39 Over-Allocation</p>
8	<p>Southwest College Partnership "Los Angeles Southwest College is offering a new partnership. It is with great enthusiasm that Invite your high school students to join our free Intro to Psychology course on the campus of New Millennium Secondary School. The course will be taught twice a week by a professor from Los Angeles Southwest College. The opportunity will allow students to earn not only high school credit, but 3 units of college credit as well."</p> <p>Our first day of class will be Wednesday, August 27th. The Fall 2025 semester begins on August 25th, 2025. However, the classes will start on August 27th. If you would like to partner with our college or simply send a couple of your students or parents to take our courses.</p> <p>Other free courses include English as a second language, computer literacy, high school equivalency preparation, citizenship preparation, building and construction, custodial technician, phlebotomy technician, and more. Our college's noncredit department offers free courses for all (regardless of age or legal status) to achieve their personal, academic, and civic goals. Feel free to peruse our website (lasc.edu/NACES) for a detailed description of what we do and offer at the Noncredit Adult & Continuing Education Services Department.</p>	<p>Information Sharing</p>

	<p>NMSS offered two college courses on site for the students per semester. Southwest provide the instructor and the school is responsible for purchasing the student textbooks.</p> <p>(Still in information sharing mode, no vote needed yet.)</p>	
9	<p>Approval of UA – Unaudited Actuals N. Miller presented the Unaudited Actuals to the board members, focusing on financial items not included in the Audited Actuals for the 2024-2025 school year. presented the 2024-2025 Unaudited Actuals, providing a comprehensive review of the school’s year-end financial standing, including all realized revenues and expenditures not previously captured in the audit. The report detailed a total revenue of \$2,373,463.55 against total expenses of \$2,758,361.95, resulting in a net decrease in fund balance of \$384,898.40 due to specific shortfalls in state revenue and increased operational costs. Following a detailed discussion of the areas impacted by this deficiency and a review of the \$1,887,313.95 ending net position.</p> <p>A. Booker called for motion to approve Unaudited Actuals. A. Booker called for motion. A. Booker motioned, B. McCauley Second. Unanimous approval.</p>	Approved for Unaudited Actuals
10	<p>Finance Report N. Miller presented the financial summary to the board members. This report will cover the Actual to Budget, which is as of. This is compared against our board-approved 2nd interim budget.</p> <p>YTD Revenues through 6/30/25 are \$2,373,484, or 6.2% over current budget due to: -All other state revenues being over by \$149k mainly due to a STRS on behalf payment -Local revenue being \$38k over -LCFF revenues were under by \$64</p> <p>YTD Expenses through 6/30/25 are \$2,758,362</p> <p>A. Booker called for motion to approve Financial Report, A. Bradford seconded. Unanimous approval.</p>	Approved for Financial Report
CLOSING ITEMS		
11	<p>Public Comment A. Booker asked for public comment. None</p>	
12	<p>Meeting Adjournment A. Booker called motion to adjourn meeting at 7:07pm. A. Booker motioned. B. McCauley 2nd. Unanimous approval.</p>	Approved Adjournment