**NVA Board Meeting Update 6/24/23**

**Financing/Funding Update**

***Finance****:*

First Tryon Associates will represent us to get the best possible financing package to build our building.

Civic Builders is going to consider taking us on as a development project - this is a reach but would be amazing. They are a non-profit, and would DO the entire build-out, rent back to us and allow us to take over the debt and lease once we are able to qualify on our own (3-4 years?)

Meetings with local developers have helped us get a sense of the risks and benefits of the Mall. Jim Lighthizer, Steve Shaw, and Eric Devito have all weighed in.

***Grants***:

New Schools Venture Fund money should come through by the end of the summer. Darius and Romey gong to Oakland for launch of the the yearlong mentorship first week in August.

Romey is participating in Z-Combinator Fellowship in NYC - 10 days in July, 3 more weeks during the year. Big time commitment but hopefully good preparation and possible funding connections.

Marcus is stepping up to research additional grants. He could use additional support for finding local grants.

***Fundraising***:

Proposed Launch of Capital Campaign in early October in conjunction with enrollment event and unveiling of building design - at Mall. Food trucks, music, etc.

A series of elegant house parties to court bigger donors.

Overall [Buildout Funding Streams](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1TDBCXnduMkEYckfvMdJ9T7biv6SroaCGR1j20lP2icg/edit?usp=sharing).

**Facility Update**

***Negotiations with the Mall:***

LOI has been signed and sent to us, but their finance team still wants to meet with us to verify that we can actually pull off the construction and rent costs.

We will begin lease negotiations soon to be ready to sign once the Charter is approved, so we don’t risk losing it. Need to hire a lawyer for this.

***Estimated Construction Costs:***

If we only build out what we need:

30,000 ft2 x $120/ft2 = **$3.6 million**

If we build out the entire space:

51,000 ft2 x $120/ft2 = **$6.12 million**

***Possible Space-Sharing Options:***

**Total Health Care:** They would sublet from us and build out the 20,000 themselves. We proposed to charge them $25/ft2 annual rent. We will meet with them again on July 17th to continue negotiations.

**Other Nonprofits:** We would build out the whole space and rent to possible wraparound partners or other compatible uses, probably at a similar rate ($25/ft2).

**Government Agencies:** Unlikely that they would be willing to sublet from us. More likely that they would want to take over the whole lease and sublet to us. But they probably can’t move very quickly so this would be a multi-year project.

***Design Process:***

Sam Chaltain (educational design facilitator and Advisory Board member) and Trung Le (architect), partners at [180 Design](http://www.thisis180.com), are willing to facilitate a community design process and create concept drawings (floor plan and elevations, not construction drawings) for $25,000 (and would be flexible about payment timing - could come from Charter Start-Up Grant in October). Proposal coming soon. See possible design process below.

**Outreach Update**

***Materials:***

Brochures, bookmarks, stickers, T-shirts - come and get’em!

***Juneteenth****:*

Great day! - New tent, banner, and tablecloth felt professional - great turnout, lots of interest. Kathy, Cheryl, Mari, were there, along with Nakiyah, James, and Gerard from the YAB. A lot of work! It would be great to have a point person/organizer who is not Romey for future events.

***Petition****:*

Currently \_\_\_\_ signatures. Need help with launching Change.org online petition and continued work with paper petitions.

***Social Media:***

Launched Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn pages and just created a Twitter page (latent). We need more followers! Please ask your friends to follow! Bizzy and Nakiyah are helping with social media off and on. We could use more help with posts and creating buzz.

***News Media*:**

[Baltimore Banner article](https://www.thebaltimorebanner.com/opinion/column/new-village-academy-romy-pittman-joanna-tobin-PW4A7SNKGNEQ3ETVKM4SRNWRXM/): Some positive buzz, and a few anti-charter rumblings.

***Talking with others, online and in person:***

If you see anti-charter conversation, here are some talking points:

* Charters ARE public schools and part of AACPS, not taking anything away - actually bringing additional funding INTO district.
* Whether or not you agree with charter schools as a POLICY, they are the only way, right now, to create innovative schools that are not private and inaccessible to the kids who need them most.
* Charters can serve as incubators to try new ideas for the larger schools system:
  + Blueprint calls for LOTS more Career-Technical Education but big high schools don’t know how to make that happen.
  + Competency-based assessment is something educators know needs to happen, but its too risky to implement it on a whole district level. We can pilot it.
  + Getting Advisory and Social-Emotional learning right - Crew!
* SOME charters siphon off the “cream of the crop” but NVA will do the opposite - we are reaching students who are falling through the cracks.
* Annapolis High is overcrowded and NVA will take pressure off that problem, just like Monarch Annapolis did for Annapolis area elementary schools.

**Upcoming Needs**

* A database for tracking interested potential staff and families (Mailchimp!)
* A system to bring on and engage people who want to help, but not as Board members
* A team to take the lead on event planning

**Proposed Timeline for Design**

1. ***3-4 Summer community meetings*** hosted by community organizations to share info about the school and get input:

*Input on:*

*Competencies (profile of a graduate)*

*Space Design*

*Community Action Projects and Partnerships*

1. ***Late August*** - Curate community input, Same creates a “Manifesto” of community input
2. ***Sept 9*** - Board Retreat - translate community input into Building Design
3. ***Sept - early October*** *-* Concept Drawings
4. ***Early October*** Launch Party at Mall - Music, food trucks, all stakeholders, registration support for lottery, potential donors, etc.

**Windows for possible summer public input meetings:**

July 10,11,12 Kathy, Romey, no Sam

July 16 Romey, Sam, no Kathy

July 29 Kathy, Romey, Sam

July 30 Kathy, Romey, No Sam

August 14-16 - Kathy, Romey, and Sam all here