

Charter School Board Member Information Form

Note: To be completed individually by each proposed founding charter school board member. Please include a **one-page** resume with this form and sign by hand.

Serving on a public charter school board is a position of public trust and as a board member of a North Carolina public charter school; you are responsible for ensuring the quality of the school's entire program, competent stewardship of public funds, and the school's fulfillment of its public obligations and all terms of its charter.

As part of the application for a new charter school, the State Board of Education requests that each prospective board member respond individually to this questionnaire. Where narrative responses are required, brief responses are sufficient.

The purpose of this questionnaire is twofold: 1) to give application reviewers a clearer introduction to the applicant team behind each school proposal in advance of the applicant interview, in order to be better prepared for the interview; and 2) to encourage board members to reflect individually as well as collectively on their common mission, purposes, and obligations at the earliest stage of school development.

School Information

Name of charter school

Virtual Active Learning Academy of North Carolina (VALA-NC)

Board Member's Information

Board Members

Full name: **Abdelilah Choukri**

Home Address: **6100 Underwood Ave. Charlotte NC 28213.**

Business Name & Address: **Wells Fargo – Corporate & Investment Banking**
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Board Member Application	
Have you previously served on a board of a school district, another charter school, a non-public school, or any non-profit corporation?	No: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Educational History	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B.S. in Computer Technologies, Excelsior University (2016) • B.S. in Mathematics (2008)
Employment History	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive Director, Corporate & Investment Banking – Wells Fargo (2015–Present) • Over 10 years leading enterprise data, risk, and governance platforms supporting capital, stress testing, and regulatory oversight
How were you recruited to join this Board of Directors?	I was invited to join the board through community and education-focused networks aligned with VALA NC’s mission.
Why do you wish to serve on the board of the proposed charter school?	I wish to serve because I strongly believe in expanding equitable access to high-quality education through innovative virtual models that are accountable,

	inclusive, and grounded in strong governance. VALA NC's statewide reach and learner-centered approach align closely with my professional and community values
What is your understanding of the appropriate role of a public charter school board member?	A charter school board member is responsible for governance, not day-to-day operations. This includes setting strategic direction, ensuring academic quality, overseeing financial stewardship of public funds, holding school leadership accountable, and ensuring compliance with all charter, legal, and ethical obligations
Describe any previous experience you have that is relevant to serving on the charter school's board (e.g., other board service). If you have not had previous experience of this nature, explain why you can be an effective board member.	My professional role requires board-level accountability, regulatory oversight, and stewardship of large-scale, high-impact systems in highly regulated environments. Additionally, my nonprofit involvement with NAFIS and Pillars has provided hands-on experience in governance, community engagement, and mission-driven leadership. These experiences equip me to be an effective and responsible charter school board member
Describe the specific knowledge and experience that you would bring to the board.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance and accountability frameworks • Data-driven oversight and performance measurement • Financial and operational risk management • Scalable digital and technology platforms • Community engagement and family-centered transparency

School Mission and Program	
What is your understanding of the school's mission and guiding beliefs?	VALA NC's mission is to redefine virtual education by providing accessible, high-quality, and engaging learning experiences for students across North Carolina, regardless of geography or circumstance, grounded in active learning, accountability, and inclusion
What is your understanding of the school's proposed educational program?	VALA NC offers a statewide K–12 virtual model that combines daily live instruction, AI-powered adaptive learning, project-based experiences, strong advisory and SEL supports, and real-time mastery-based progress monitoring, aligned with the VALA 5A Learning Framework

What do you believe to be the characteristics of a successful school?	A successful school demonstrates strong academic outcomes, student engagement, family trust, effective educators, sound governance, fiscal responsibility, and a culture of belonging and continuous improvement
How will you know that the school is succeeding (or not) in its mission?	Success will be measured through student mastery and growth data, engagement metrics, family and student feedback, retention, graduation outcomes, and the school's ability to serve diverse learners equitably across the state

Governance

Describe the role that the board will play in the school's operation.	The board will provide governance and oversight across academics, finance, compliance, leadership performance, and strategic planning, while empowering school leadership to manage daily operations effectively
How will you know if the school is successful at the end of the first year of operation?	By evaluating early academic progress, enrollment stability, operational readiness, financial controls, family satisfaction, and the successful execution of the school's instructional and support models
How will you know at the end of five years of the schools is successful?	By sustained academic outcomes, strong governance practices, financial sustainability, positive community impact, consistent compliance, and evidence that the model can scale responsibly while maintaining quality.
What specific steps will the charter school board need to take to ensure that the school is successful?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish clear goals and success metrics • Hire and support strong school leadership • Monitor academic and financial performance regularly • Ensure transparency and compliance • Make timely, data-informed course corrections when needed
How would you handle a situation in which you believe one or more members of the school's board were acting unethically or not in the best interests of the school?	I would address the issue promptly through established governance processes, ensure facts are clearly understood, involve appropriate oversight bodies if necessary, and prioritize the best interests of the school, students, and public trust

Certification

I, **Abdelilah Choukri** , certify to the best of my knowledge and ability that the information I am providing to the North Carolina State Board of Education as a prospective board member for **Virtual Active Learning Academy of North Carolina (VALA-NC)** Charter School is true and correct in every respect.

Board Member's Signature

Signature

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Date

12-22-2025

**If you responded within the application that disciplinary action has been taken against any past or present professional licenses, provide a detailed response below outlining the disciplinary action and the license validity.*