As a board member of Yu Ming Charter School, I understand that, along with other board members:

1. I am morally responsible for the health and well-being of Yu Ming Charter School. As a member of the board, I have pledged myself to carry out the school’s mission. I am fully committed and dedicated to this mission.

2. I am morally responsible for ensuring the instructional program of the school is effective and is focused on rigorous goals for student performance.

3. I am responsible for carrying out the terms of the charter that was granted on November 9, 2010 to Yu Ming Charter School by the Alameda County Board of Education, and for ensuring results leading to renewal of that charter after 5 years.

4. I am fiscally responsible for Yu Ming Charter School. It is my duty to know and understand the school’s budgets and to take an active part in planning and executing the budget, and implementing the fundraising to meet it.

5. I am legally responsible for Yu Ming Charter School. I am responsible to know and approve all policies and programs and to oversee the implementation of such policies and programs. I know that if I fail in my tasks, and if the organization becomes the subject to a suit by a private person or of the federal or state government, I may be held personally liable for the debts incurred.

6. I will give what is for me a significant financial donation to support the operation of the school. I will set a fundraising goal each year and will do my best to raise funds for Yu Ming Charter School in whatever ways are best suited to me.

7. I understand that serving on this board will involve a significant time commitment. I will attend and be fully prepared for twelve (12) regular board meetings every year, the annual Board retreat, scheduled committee meetings, applicable training sessions, and important school events. I will read and respond to internal correspondence in a timely manner (typically within 72 hours) and will be available by phone or email as needed. I will fully participate in or chair at least one Board committee. When asked to prepare Board pre-reading materials, I will provide complete and accurate information to enable the Board to make effective decisions.

8. I am responsible for the effective governance of the school and will always act with the school’s best interest in mind. I understand that the Board’s responsibility is governance to ensure the long-term success of Yu Ming Charter School, not day-to-day management which is the responsibility of the school principal. I understand that as a Board member I must represent the interests of all stakeholders (which include students, staff, parents, charter school board, volunteers, ACOE, donors and funders and other community members) in my decision-making. I am committed to a cooperative decision-making approach, to providing honest input, and listening to and respecting different opinions. I will also respect and support decisions of the Board, once made, through my actions and communications.
9. I understand that every other board member is trusting each other to carry out the above agreement to the best of our ability, each in our own way, with knowledge, approval, and support of all. I know that if I fail to act in good faith I must resign or will be asked to resign.

10. I understand that Yu Ming Charter School is a public entity and that I am prohibited from using my Board role to benefit myself or my business interests. I will bring any personal conflicts of interest to the attention of the Board Chair as soon as possible, recuse myself from deliberations, and recuse myself from voting in connection with the conflicts.

11. I am responsible for being a role model for the kinds of behavior and traits that we want Yu Ming students to exhibit: ethical, resilient, compassionate and wise. I know that the Board sets the tone for interactions across all areas of the school, and I commit to foster openness and trust among the Board and all stakeholders and to manage all relationships with professionalism, respect and collaboration.

In turn, Yu Ming Charter School is responsible to me in a number of ways:

1. I will be sent, without request, regular student and school performance data and financial reports that allow me to meet the “prudent person” section of the law.

2. When appropriate and when in the context of board business, I can call the school principal to discuss programs and policies and the goals and objectives of the school.

3. Board members and the school principal will respond in a straightforward and thorough fashion to any questions that I may have that I feel are necessary to carry out my legal, educational, financial, and moral responsibilities to this organization.

_____________________________________  ___________________
Board Member Signature      Date

Printed Name

Address      City     Zip

Phone Number

2012-13 Fundraising Goal

I will do my best to raise the following amounts for the school by June 30, 2013.

My personal contribution will be:  $__________

I will raise an additional $ ____________ for the school. In order to raise these funds, I will... Circle all that apply

Invite friends, colleagues, and acquaintances to YMCS events
Participate in an annual letter writing campaign
Secure in-kind gifts
Approach foundations and corporations on behalf of the school
Network the school with relevant individuals (through tours, invitation to events, etc.)