ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 22, 2015
6:30 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER: 7:05 PM

This meeting has been publicized in accordance with Section 5, Ch 231, PL 1975, and Open Public Meeting Law by notification of the Home News Tribune and at the Academy for Urban Leadership Charter High School within the legal time required. Time may be allotted for public comment at this meeting.

II. FLAG SALUTE

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under god, indivisible with liberty and justice for all.

III. MISSION STATEMENT

To employ an educational design and experience that merges the highest standards of academic excellence while fostering convictions and commitment to social and economic justice. The school acknowledges that both family and community involvement are integral to the student's academic achievement level, and will focus on fostering strong relationships between the school, family and community. Through these partnerships, the school will strive to create a nurturing environment by providing each student with the five resources deemed necessary for healthy child development by the President's Summit for America's Future. These include: a one-on-one relationship with a caring adult, a safe place to learn and grow, a healthy start, a marketable skill through effective education, and a chance to give back to peers and the community.

In order to provide a quality education, the curriculum offered will involve rigorous academics with a holistic approach to education. Special emphasis will be placed on service learning and espousing the importance of civic and social responsibility. The development of character, leadership skills, conflict resolution abilities, and community responsibility will be stressed to provide the students with the necessary tools to become contributing members of a democratic society.

ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 22, 2015
6:30 PM

IV. ROLL CALL

Board Members	
Eloisa Hernandez (President)	Present
Robert Fink (Vice President)	Present
Edgardo Galleno (Secretary)	Absent
Hector Bonilla	Present
Luis Vargas	Present
Claudine Bishop	Present
Noelia Colon	Present
Tashilee Vazquez	Present
Eleni Glykis	Absent
Additional attendees:	
Nestor Collazo (Lead Person)	Absent
Christine Lopac (Vice Principal)	Present
Patricia Bombelyn (Board Solicitor)	Present
Gil Berrios (Board Secretary)	Present
Munira Jamali (Teacher Representative)	Present

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the **Regular Board Minutes** dated **November 24, 2015** for the **FY2015-2016.**

Motion: Robert Fink, Second: Luis Vargas, Roll Call: Eloisa Hernandez Yes, Robert Fink Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Luis Vargas Yes, Tashilee Vazquez Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Noelia Colon Yes.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

None

ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 22, 2015
6:30 PM

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT #1

None

VIII. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

A. Ricky Aviles and Lissette LeBron – Presentation will be rescheduled for a later date when Dr. Collazo will be available to hear the presentation.

B. Munira Jamali, Mathematics Teacher at AUL, presented the results of the PARCC 2015 testing.

Mrs. Jamali stated that the PARCC test scores were received from the state. Mrs. Jamali explained that the state had promised much, however, very little information was received. For example, the test scores do not explain how many questions the student got correct nor any comparison of test results to other districts.

Mrs. Jamali explained the results for the Class of 2018 (currently these students are Sophomores; these students took the test as Freshmen). Regarding the ELA (English Language Arts) section, eighty-six students took the PARCC test, sixteen students opted out of taking the test and six students were absent. If the student scored in either the fourth or fifth percentile, the student met the graduation requirement as far as the PARCC test requirement was concerned. Regarding the ELA scores for the Class of 2018, 40% of them fell in the fourth (36%) or fifth (4%) percentile.

Mrs. Jamali explained the results for the Class of 2018 in the Math section (Algebra) of the PARCC test. Seventy-eight students took the test, twenty-four students opted out of taking the test and six students were absent. Twelve percent of the students fell in the fourth (12%) or fifth (0%) percentile.

Class of 2017 (currently these students are Juniors) – Regarding the ELA section, seventy students took the PARCC test, twenty students opted out of taking the test and five students were absent. Twenty-three percent of the students fell in the fourth (22%) or fifth (1%) percentile. Regarding the Math section (Geometry), sixty students took the PARCC test, thirty-two students opted out of taking the test and five students were absent. Zero percent of the students fell within the fourth or fifth percentile.

Class of 2016 (currently these students are Seniors) – Regarding the ELA section, thirty-three students took the PARCC test, twenty-three students opted out of taking the test and twenty-nine students were absent. Twenty-nine percent of the students fell in the

fourth (23%) or fifth (6%) percentile. Regarding the Math section (Algebra II), twenty-four students took the PARCC test, thirty-one opted out of taking the test and thirty students were absent. Zero percent of the students fell within the fourth or fifth percentile.

Board members recognized the importance of educating parents regarding the PARCC testing. Students simply cannot opt out of taking the PARCC test. Mrs. Lopac suggested having a school policy making the PARCC test mandatory for students to take. Mr. Vargas advised such a policy would have to be researched to meet state requirements. Mr. Vargas also stated it is possible that funding available to the school may be affected if students are not taking the test.

Mrs. Lopac advised Board members that twenty-one Seniors have still not yet met Graduation requirements. Mrs. Lopac stated that these twenty-one Seniors have been assigned mandatory tutoring, they have been meeting with their guidance counselors and letters and telephone calls have gone out to each family. Lastly, each of these twenty-one Seniors must register for at least one of the following tests: the January SAT or the February SAT or ASVAB. Ms. Vasquez asked if AUL would be able to pay for the cost of the test, as some students may not be able to afford the test fee. Mr. Vargas suggested this should be further discussed in committees and brought back to the Board for consideration.

Mrs. Lopac advised in communicating with parents and students there has been a limited sense of urgency; it will be okay, I'm taking the test in January. Ms. Hernandez recommended taking a stronger approach with the parents. Ms. Hernandez stressed the importance of working as a team from administrator, to teacher, to counselor, to student, to parent. Mr. Bonilla questioned how did we get to this point with these students being Seniors? Mrs. Jamali suggested using Scantron going forward as it has the ability of tracking students throughout the year. Ms. Hernandez asked Mrs. Jamali to present Scantron to the Curriculum Committee.

ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 22, 2015
6:30 PM

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee chairperson(s) will provide a brief overview of pertinent items discussed during the last committee meeting.

- **Finance:** Items in Agenda. The committee is in the process of looking for a new Treasurer of School Moneys, as the present Treasurer is retiring at the end of this month. A RFP (Request For Proposal) ad must be placed in the newspaper.
- **Facilities:** Regarding the Rectory, presently there is a lighting issue. The pump will be checked next week on either Monday or Tuesday. The swipe system to get into the building has been added. It will be necessary to look into contractual agreements, such as with FDU, if they will have access to the use of the new swipe system. Board members were concerned with the liability issue of granting others usage of the swipe system, for example, if the swipe key was given out to someone that did not belong in the school building. Also, it will be necessary to determine if the High Street facility can be sublet to FDU when AUL students return back to the Main Campus.
- **Personnel:** Item in Agenda.
- **Curriculum:** Items in Agenda. The Academies continue to be discussed in committee meetings. Mr. Bonilla noted that high school students are only tested on English Language Arts and Math; they are not tested across the entire curriculum spectrum to include subjects such as Social Studies, Science, etc.
- **Outreach:** None. The first lottery for incoming Freshmen will be the first week of January. Mr. Vargas suggested having the first January lottery during the second week of the month, giving students a chance to participate in the lottery after just having returned from winter break. Ms. Vasquez stated that flyers advertising the lottery in January could have been distributed at many functions during the town's holiday festivities. Ms. Hernandez stated that AUL needs to have a group of student ambassadors. Mrs. Jamali agreed that the greatest advertisers are our students. Mr. Fink noted that there are currently ninety-four 11th grade students; there are six months left to fill this class, as AUL cannot fill the 12th grade by lottery.
- **Governance:** None. The committee has had a conversation with Dr. Collazo regarding a review of the policy manual. The committee also requests input from each committee.
- **Athletics:** (Remove from Committee Reports going forward) Mr. Fink suggested getting a quarterly report on extra-curricular activities, which would include athletics. Ms. Hernandez suggested the athletic report could perhaps become a part of the Lead

Person's Report. Ms. Vasquez advised the Board that there is a paid Sports Director that could handle the reporting.

- **Ad Hoc Committee:** None.

At the conclusion of the committee reports, Mr. Fink asked the Board to help recruit new Board members. Any new member would become a mid-year appointment until the election process in June.

X. LEAD PERSON'S REPORT

Lead Person, Nestor Collazo, will give details of his report to the Board. This report was presented by Christine Lopac, Vice Principal, in Dr. Collazo's absence.

- Professional Development continues for administration and teaching staff.
- Midterm assessments are being discussed during PLC meetings.
- Discipline has remained on par this month.
- Student enrollment is down by two since the last report.
- The Governor's Educator of the Year nominations are in the process of being collected.
- Regarding student activities, the Fashion Show and International Dinner were held at AUL. Both activities were very successful.
- There was a trip to Berkeley College on December 18, 2015.
- Preparations for Founder's Day continue. Founder's Day is scheduled for January 15, 2016. Many AUL alumni are coming back to speak with students during their afternoon classes. It has also been discussed having a ribbon cutting ceremony with the Mayor for the opening of the new building; also, a dedication ceremony of the Rectory for Mr. Smoyak, a founding Board member.
- There is a policy recommendation to amend AUL grade promotion/graduation requirement to add PARCC as a requirement.
- PICCS meetings between Pauline Frank and Dr. Collazo and Mrs. Lopac continue.

XI. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

None

ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 22, 2015
6:30 PM

XII. PARENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

None

XIII. TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Mrs. Munira Jamali, AUL Mathematics Teacher, asked the Board to consider taking out the clause from the contract regarding taking days off before the holidays. Mrs. Jamali explained that in traveling to visit her family, she could lose up to three days in travel one way. So if she was to take off one week, she would only be able to spend one day with family. Mrs. Jamali explained that this affects other staff members as well.

XIV. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Board President, Eloisa Hernandez

- Ms. Hernandez advised that she attended the New Jersey School Boards Association meeting in Trenton. There is a Google Docs Calendar available so Boards will have information as to when reports will need Board approval. Also, there is an opportunity for the New Jersey School Boards Association to facilitate a Board Retreat for January. It could be held either one day or two evenings. The Association would be able to assist with the strategic plan.
- Ms. Hernandez stated that she has been having conversations with committee chairs regarding agendas for their committees. Such as the Finance Committee planning the budget for next year; Governance Committee working on policies; Curriculum Committee continuing with the Academy structure. Ms. Hernandez advised she will be forwarding this information to provide guidance and for all Board members to be a part of the process.

XV. OLD BUSINESS

None

ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 22, 2015
6:30 PM

The Lead Person recommends the following items for approval:

XVI. MOTIONS – Consent Agenda

Motion Items #1 - #14 with amendments to Motion #4 and Motion #6

Motion #4 – at a cost of (25 students @ $2.85 per unit x 3 units) in the amount not to exceed $250.00

Motion #6 – remove letter (b) under Literature since it is a duplicate and letter (f) should read World Language Caribbean & Mexico not World Literature Caribbean & Mexico

Motion: Robert Fink, Second: Hector Bonilla, Roll Call: Eloisa Hernandez Yes, Robert Fink Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Luis Vargas Yes, Tashilee Vazquez Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Noelia Colon Yes.

Personnel

1. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the **Teacher's HEDI Increase ($4,413.56) FY 2014-2015** pro-rated September 1, 2015 thru November 30, 2015 at a total amount of **$1,169.64** (as shown below)

Number	Teacher's Name	HEDI Increase	HEDI Increase Pro-Rate September 1,2015 thru November 30, 2015	New FY 15-16 Plus new % based on HEDI scale
1	Anju Chhibber	$3,088.56	$772.14	$54,564.56
2	Dominique Russell	$1,325.00	$397.50	$54,325.00
	Total	**$4,413.56**	**$1,169.64**	

Curriculum

2. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the **Professional Development for Johanna Wylde** February 16, 2015, "Motivating the Unmotivated" at the Holiday Inn 4701 Stelton Rd South Plainfield NJ at a cost of **$239.00**.

3. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the **Giselle Nunez Professional Development from Rutgers Cooperative Extension (Assistance Program Education (NJ SNAP-Ed) and Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (NJ EFNEP)** at free cost.
4. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the **ACCUPLACER as a Graduation Requirement** (25 students @ $2.85 per unit x 3 units) in the amount not to exceed **$250.00**.
5. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the **book Microbiology 11th Edition ISBN#9780321733603 quantity of 30 books** at a cost ($171.00 x 30 = $5,130.00 + $384.75 Shipping) = **$5,514.75**.
6. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the following **amendment to the Curriculum** for **FY2015-2016** as **per description below**:
    1. Literature
        a. African Literature
        b. DUPLICATE ITEM REMOVED
        c. South American Literature
        d. World Lit African American
        e. Independent Project-World Literature
        f. World Language Caribbean & Mexico
        g. Final World Literature Asia
    2. Astronomy
    3. Math for Financial Markets
    4. Digital Art
    5. Philosophy 1

Finance

7. Move that the Board of Trustees approve Fund 10 General Warrants List for November 28, 2015 – December 15, 2015 in the amount of **$50,377.67**.
8. Move that the Board of Trustees approve Fund 10 General Warrants List for December 16, 2015 – December 21, 2015 in the amount of **$123,464.02**.
9. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Payroll Report for November 30, 2015 in the amount of **$151,366.79**.
10. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Payroll Report for December 15, 2015 in the amount of **$168,175.79**.

11. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Adjustment & HEDI Increase Payroll Report for December 15, 2015 in the amount of **$35,254.23**.
12. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Board of Trustees' Monthly Certification of Financial Status: Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:23-2.11 (a)4, the members of the Academy for Urban Leadership Board of Trustees certify that as of **November 30, 2015** after review of the secretary's monthly financial reports (appropriation section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, that to the best of our knowledge, no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11 (a)3 and that sufficient funds are available for the remainder of the fiscal school year **FY2015-2016**.
13. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the **Transfer Report** for the month of **November 30, 2015 FY2015-2016**.
14. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the **Treasurer's Report** for the FY2015-2016 as of **November 30, 2015**.

Other Motions

1. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Security Officer **Gregory Roque** 12 month employee starting date January 11, 2016 salary pro-rated at a total amount of **$46,000.00**.
   Motion: Luis Vargas, Second: Robert Fink, Roll Call: Eloisa Hernandez Yes, Robert Fink Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Luis Vargas Yes, Tashilee Vazquez Abstain, Claudine Bishop Yes, Noelia Colon Yes.
2. Move that the Board of Trustees approve **Gaggle** ending services as of December 31, 2015 for the transfer of documents to the google vault in the amount of **$1,000.00**.
   Motion: Robert Fink, Second: Tashilee Vazquez, Roll Call: Eloisa Hernandez Yes, Robert Fink Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Luis Vargas Yes, Tashilee Vazquez Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Noelia Colon Yes.
3. Move that the Board of Trustees approve **Better Cloud** to monitor google activity of the account in the amount of ($8,400.00 - $5,400.36=) of **$2,999.64**.
   Motion: Robert Fink, Second: Luis Vargas, Roll Call: Eloisa Hernandez Yes, Robert Fink Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Luis Vargas Yes, Tashilee Vazquez Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Noelia Colon Yes.

4. Move that the Board of Trustees approve **Parette & Somjen** for the **Feasibility Study** for the Academy for Urban Leadership in the amount no to exceed **$8,800.00**.
   Motion: Robert Fink, Second: Luis Vargas, Roll Call: Eloisa Hernandez Yes, Robert Fink Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Luis Vargas Yes, Tashilee Vazquez Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Noelia Colon Yes.

XVII. NEW BUSINESS

None

XVIII. PUBLIC COMMENT #2

None

XIX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Public bodies may meet in closed session when the matters under discussion are: (1) Matters made confidential by state, federal law or rule by court. (2) Disclosure would result in an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy, unless the person affected consents in writing. (3) Disclosure would impair the body's right to receive federal or state funds. (4) Collective bargaining. (5) Lease or acquisition of property, setting of banking rates, investment of public funds if disclosure would harm the public interest. (6) Investigations into violations of law. (7) Strategies to protect public security. Pending, ongoing or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation, including attorney-client privilege. The threat of litigation must be more than theoretical for this exemption to apply. (8) Personnel matters affecting employees of the public bodies, unless all parties request or consent to a public hearing. Prior to discussion of personnel, affected employees must be given notice, known as a Rice notice, which gives the employee the right to request a public hearing. (9) Proceedings that could result in a suspension, civil penalty, or loss of a license or permit.

Close Executive Session: 10:03 PM

ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 22, 2015
6:30 PM

Unanimous Vote: Motion: Robert Fink, Second: Luis Vargas, Roll Call: Eloisa Hernandez Yes, Robert Fink Yes, Luis Vargas Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Tashilee Vazquez Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Noelia Colon Yes.

Discuss: Personnel Matter
Two Student Issues

Return from Executive Session: 10:03 PM (Needed to add another item for discussion)

Unanimous Vote: Motion: Robert Fink, Second: Luis Vargas, Roll Call: Eloisa Hernandez Yes, Robert Fink Yes, Luis Vargas Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Tashilee Vazquez Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Noelia Colon Yes.

Discuss: Personnel Matter
Two Student Issues
Attorney-client Privilege

Close Executive Session: 10:04 PM

Unanimous Vote: Motion: Robert Fink, Second: Tashilee Vazquez, Roll Call: Eloisa Hernandez Yes, Robert Fink Yes, Luis Vargas Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Tashilee Vazquez Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Noelia Colon Yes.

Return from Executive Session: 12:25 AM

Unanimous Vote: Motion: Robert Fink, Second: Hector Bonilla, Roll Call: Eloisa Hernandez Yes, Robert Fink Yes, Luis Vargas Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Tashilee Vazquez Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Noelia Colon Yes.

Upon returning from Close Executive Session, Patricia Bombelyn, Board Solicitor, advised Gil Berrios, AUL Business Administrator, the Board has decided not to rescind the motion of November 24, 2015 for contract and salary increase. Mr. Berrios should be getting his contract shortly.

ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 22, 2015
6:30 PM

XX. ADJOURNMENT 12:27 AM

Motion: Luis Vargas, Second: Robert Fink, Roll Call: Eloisa Hernandez Yes, Robert Fink Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Luis Vargas Yes, Tashilee Vazquez Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Noelia Colon Yes.