

**ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 28, 2018
6:30 PM**

I. CALL TO ORDER: 6:59 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 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
FEBRUARY 28, 2018
6:30 PM**

IV. ROLL CALL

Board Members

Robert Fink (President)	Present
Edgardo Galleno (Vice President)	Present
Claudine Bishop	Absent (Excused)
Hector Bonilla	Present
Michelle Roman	Absent (Excused)
Stephanie Valdiviezo	Absent
Jesenia Vargas	Present

Additional attendees:

Nestor Collazo (Lead Person)	Present
Roberto Reyes (Principal)	Present
Shanesia Davis-Clyburn (Vice Principal)	Present
Jeannie Paz (Vice Principal)	Absent
Patricia Bombelyn (Board Solicitor)	Present
Johnny Rosa (Board Secretary)	Present
Munira Jamali (Teacher Representative)	Present
Johanna Rodriguez (Parent Representative)	Present

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Move that the Board of Trustees approve the **Regular Board Meeting Minutes** dated January 31, 2018.

Motion: Edgardo Galleno, **Second:** Jesenia Vargas, **Roll Call:** Robert Fink Yes, Edgardo Galleno Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

None

VII. PRESENTATION

None

**ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 28, 2018
6:30 PM**

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT #1

Board President invites members of the public to present any comments to the Board.

Ms. Damaris Isales, parent of a 7th grade student, explained to Board members that her child has been performing for a very long time and would like to take her daughter's acting to the next level. Ms. Isles' daughter currently has a permit from New York which will be expiring shortly. In order for the permit to be extended, Ms. Isales needs to get clearance from the child's school and physician. Ms Isales asked if her daughter was to be absent from school, how would she be able to make up the work? Mr. Galleno asked if this had been proposed to administration and Ms. Isales said that it had. Dr. Collazo advised that the amount of absences must be taken into account, per state law guidelines. Mr. Fink suggested Ms. Isales provide examples, such as school policies from other districts and the Board would be glad to work with her. Mr. Galleno stated that the Board wishes to see our students have their dreams realized, however, the school must be compliant with state rules.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

- **Academic Excellence Team:** Motions in agenda.
- **Human Resources and Recognition Team:** The open positions include: a Computer Science teacher, a Biology teacher, a French teacher, a Math teacher, a Physical Education teacher, a Science teacher, an Art teacher, a School Nurse and a Custodian.
- **Finance and Facilities Planning Team:** Motions in agenda. Discussion in Executive Closed Session.
- **Executive Team:** The team will be proposing a Corporate Secretary later in the meeting.

X. LEAD PERSON'S REPORT

Lead Person, Nestor Collazo, will give details of his report to the Board.

- Dr. Collazo advised that during the month of February Professional Development centered on mathematics and improving student problem solving skills. There was also a team building event for staff to improve the climate and the culture of AUL.
- Dr. Collazo presented curriculum writing to the Board, some already approved, and others in the final draft ready to be approved. Dr. Collazo noted that curriculum is the DNA of education. Dr. Collazo explained that for the past three years he has been working with the support and leadership of administration to map out the small learning

**ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 28, 2018
6:30 PM**

communities, the academies, and the elective course work, including the advanced tracks relating to all four academic themes.

Mr. Galleno noted that the Board was challenged at the last Board meeting about the academies. Mr. Galleno stated that this is a public response which ties into the foundation of the academies.

- Dr. Collazo advised that Understanding by Design has been used for curriculum writing at AUL. This particular framework is a cutting edge tool to design curriculum. Ms. Davis explained that the goal is to increase the rigor in a problem based curriculum and to reduce learning by memory. Ms. Davis advised that it is necessary for students to have these skills to help them succeed in life. Ms. Davis noted that scores have been improving yearly on skills based tests.
- Mr. Galleno asked how the monthly activities in February were executed into the interdisciplinary studies. Ms. Jamali advised that the Black History month activities were a bit diminished due to the shooting in Florida and the lockdown at AUL a few days later. Students needed guidance and Ms. Jamali advised that teachers needed to have conversations with their students. Mr. Fink asked what we can do as a school; perhaps partner with the city and have an organized demonstration. This would be a positive way to channel the hurt and uncertainty of our students. Mr. Galleno advised that a memo was sent to local law enforcement thanking them on their immediate response time during the last lockdown.

XI. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

None

XII. PARENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Johanna Rodriguez is the parent representative.

Ms. Rodriguez advised that the PTO held a meeting on February 12, 2018. There was discussion at this meeting to help some students with the cost of a prom ticket. Ms. Rodriguez asked that Dr. Collazo and Mr. Reyes advise the PTO of any help students may need to enable them to attend the prom. Ms. Rodriguez advised that the PTO would like to sponsor a carwash, with all of the proceeds going to the senior prom. Mr. Galleno suggested Ms. Rodriguez inquire about partnering with a car wash company in the community. Ms. Rodriguez noted that the next PTO meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2018.

**ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 28, 2018
6:30 PM**

XIII. TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Ms. Munira Jamali, Math teacher at AUL, is the teacher representative.

Ms. Jamali thanked administration for the new chairs in the teacher's room.

XIV. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Robert Fink, President of the Board, will give his report.

- Mr. Fink stated that the charter, the founding document of AUL, is our constitution. Our charter is goal oriented. Mr. Fink noted that space issues and building issues were not a part of our charter. The charter did not mention the seventh or eighth grades. Mr. Fink advised that AUL must continue to work through the issues, take the challenge, and make decisions as a Board. Mr. Fink stated that the four academies are career centered, per our charter. It is necessary to have curriculum, professional development, and PLC's to form these academies. AUL's course catalog is centered on our academies. Mr. Fink stated that all of our endeavors have been years in the making to get to where we are today.

Mr. Galleno noted that while watching the Olympics you see the obstacles that athletes must face and the stories of inspiration and triumph. The Academy for Urban Leadership Charter School is doing great things and we care about our students. The groundwork has been laid over the past years. Mr. Galleno advised that we want nothing less than the best for our kids. Mr. Galleno stated that we would like to see The Academy for Urban Leadership Charter School be the best option for the kids in Perth Amboy.

- Mr. Fink advised of advocacy for safer schools along with our community.
- Mr. Fink gave a reminder that good is not good enough. This statement is a driving force to continue to improve ourselves.

XV. OLD BUSINESS

None

The Lead Person recommends the following items for approval:

XVI. MOTIONS – Consent Agenda

Motion Items #1-7 under Academic Excellence; Motion Items #1-5 under Human Resources and Recognition; Motion Items #1-8 under Finance and Facility Planning.

**ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 28, 2018
6:30 PM**

Motion: Edgardo Galleno, Second: Jesenia Vargas, Roll Call: Robert Fink Yes, Edgardo Galleno Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes.

Academic Excellence

1. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Professional Development for Alex De Los Santos to attend the "Directors of Athletics Conference" on March 13, 2018 thru March 16, 2018 for an amount not to exceed \$375. (11-402-100-800-000-049)
2. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Professional Development for Nicholas Critelli to attend the "Practical Strategies/Positive Mindset" on May 16, 2018 for an amount not to exceed \$239. (11-000-223-500-000-066)
3. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Professional Development for Olesia Parmar to attend the "NJTESOL Spring Conference" on May 30, 2018, May 31, 2018, and June 1, 2018 for an amount not to exceed \$434. (11-000-223-500-000-066)
4. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Professional Development for Dr. Nestor Collazo to attend the "NJCSA Board Institute" on April 14, 2018 for an amount not to exceed \$100. (11-000-230-890-000-063)
5. Move that the Board of Trustees approve Suvilla Johnson to complete 25 hours as Student Teacher Intern by April 25, 2018.
6. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Professional Development for the following staff members to attend the "Arts Integration Workshop" on March 7, 2018 for an amount not to exceed \$80:
 - a. Alexis Gruenfeld
 - b. Christine Dorantes
 - c. Munira Jamali
 - d. Roberto Reyes
7. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the attached field trips for the 2017-2018 school year.

Human Resources and Recognition

1. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the following resignations:
 - a. Alexander Gurvits (8th Grade Science Teacher) effective April 9, 2018.
 - b. Marcy Madden (Middle School Art Teacher) effective April 16, 2018.
 - c. Patrix Vargas (Custodian) effective February 15, 2018.
 - d. Julio Marte (Custodian) effective February 21, 2018.
2. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the following staff members to work the Zero and 11th period for the Credit Recovery Initiative at an individual rate of \$40 per hour:

**ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 28, 2018
6:30 PM**

- a. RoseAnn Berberich
 - b. Bernadette Gioia
 - c. Hala Morcos
 - d. Ariel Fernandez
 - e. James Ennis
 - f. Saad Syed
 - g. Kyle Fisher
 - h. Munira Jamali
 - i. Adam Taha
3. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the following staff members to work on the Academy for Urban Leadership Charter School Promotional Commercial Advertisement for 45 hours at an individual rate of \$40 per hour in an amount not to exceed \$1,800.00:
 - a. Christine Dorantes
 - b. Douglas Frost
 4. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the following staff members to work with Dr. Neale Godfrey under the PNC Financial Literacy Grant for a total of 2 hours each at an individual rate of \$40 per hour:
 - a. Robert Berentes
 - b. Syed Munem
 - c. Yudelka Collado
 - d. Xiomara Armogan
 5. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the following security guards to be eligible to work up to 4 hours per game (1 Security Guard per game) for the Spring Sports on a rotating schedule (25 Softball games and 19 Baseball games) for an amount not to exceed \$4,700 @ the following individual contractual rate (11-000-266-100-001-066):
 - a. Reme Barber - \$23.80/hr
 - b. Ronald Puntiel - \$26.22/hr
 - c. Stephanie Rojas - \$25.99/hr
 - d. Shavina Eupha - \$25.60/hr
 - e. Derrick Eatman - \$25.90/hr

Finance and Facility Planning

1. Move that the Board of Trustees approve Fund 10 General Warrants List for February 1, 2018 – February 20, 2018 in the amount of \$92,320.61.
2. Move that the Board of Trustees approve Fund 10 General Warrants List for February 21, 2018 – February 27, 2018 in the amount of \$96,186.79.

**ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 28, 2018
6:30 PM,**

3. Move that the Board of Trustees approve Fund 10 General Warrants List for February 28, 2018 in an amount of \$81,685.13.
4. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Payroll Report for January 30, 2018 for \$252,347.10.
5. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Payroll Report for February 15, 2018 for \$253,141.21.
6. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the payment to Sodexo for December for an amount of \$16,446.37.
7. Move that the Board of Trustees accept the Treasurer's Report for January, 2018.
8. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Monthly certification of Financial Status: Pursuant to NJAC 6:23-2.11(a)4, the members of the Academy for Urban Leadership Board of Trustees certify as of January 31, 2018 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 FY 2017-2018.

Executive Team

Other Motions

Motion amended to read:

1. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the following field trip for the 2017 – 2018 school year pending council's review of the contract and empowering the Executive Committee for approval.

<u>Faculty</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Transportation Cost</u>	<u>Entry Cost</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
Krystal Hargrave	May 18-19 2018	Pine Forest Camp Greeley 195 Pine Forest Road Greeley, PA 18425	7:30am – 3:00pm	\$1,970	65 Students And 7 Chaperones (Paid thru Student Activity)	\$1,970

**ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 28, 2018
6:30 PM**

Motion: Edgardo Galleno, Second: Jesenia Vargas, Roll Call: Robert Fink Yes, Edgardo Galleno Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes.

2. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the submission of a waiver for the SEMI (Special Education Medicaid Initiative) for the Fiscal Year 2018 school year.

Motion: Edgardo Galleno, Second: Jesenia Vargas, Roll Call: Robert Fink Yes, Edgardo Galleno Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes.

3. Move that the Board of Trustees approve Miriam Rodriguez to attend the Teacher Job Fair on April 12, 2018 for a cost not to exceed \$200.

Motion: Edgardo Galleno, Second: Jesenia Vargas, Roll Call: Robert Fink Yes, Edgardo Galleno Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes.

4. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the nomination of Jesenia Vargas for Corporate Secretary.

Motion: Edgardo Galleno, Second: Hector Bonilla, Roll Call: Robert Fink Yes, Edgardo Galleno Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes.

XVII. NEW BUSINESS

None

XVIII. PUBLIC COMMENT #2

Board President invites members of the public to present any additional comments to the Board.

Dr. Natasha James-Waldon, JRF Director of Educational Services, stated that she oversees the Step-Up Program. Dr. James-Waldon recommended that Ms. Rodriguez, the parent representative, contact Cinderella's Closet for prom items such as tuxes, dresses, and shoes. Upon planning for next year, Dr. James-Waldon would like AUL to keep the space needed by the Step-Up Program in mind. At the beginning of this school year, Step-Up had space at the high school and was moved to the seventh grade building. Dr. James-Waldon noted that this move has impacted the services of the Step-Up Program.

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

**ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 28, 2018
6:30 PM**

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: 9:02 PM

Unanimous Vote: Motion: Edgardo Galleno, Second: Hector Bonilla, Roll Call: Robert Fink Yes, Edgardo Galleno Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes.

Discuss: Attorney-client Privilege – Item #7 (Pending, ongoing litigation and contract negotiation)

Finance/Facilities – Item #5 (Potential Lease or Purchase or Property)

Public Security/Safety – Item #7 (Public Security)

Return from Executive Session: 10:11 PM

Unanimous Vote: Motion: Hector Bonilla, Second: Edgardo Galleno, Roll Call: Robert Fink Yes, Edgardo Galleno Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes.

XX. ADJOURNMENT 10:12 PM

Motion: Hector Bonilla, Second: Jesenia Vargas, Roll Call: Robert Fink Yes, Edgardo Galleno Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes

Academy for Urban Leadership Charter School
 Board Meeting Field Trip Approval
 February 28, 2018

AE: M # 7
 2/28/2018

Date of Trip	Destination Name	Teacher Responsible	Grade	# of Chaperones	# of Students	Admission Cost	Transportation Cost	# of Buses	Grand Total	Departure Time	Return Time
March 3, 2018	Model UN St. Peters 46 Glenwood Avenue Jersey City, NJ 07306	Ariel Fernandez	9-12	1	12	\$700	\$495	1	\$1,195	7:30 AM	4:30 PM
March 7, 2018	College Fair Bishop Ahr High School 1 Tingley Lane Edison, NJ 08820	Luisanny Ortiz	11	6	60	None	Free	2	\$0	9:00 AM	11:00 AM
March 21, 2018	Westminster Choir College 101 Walnut Lane Princeton, NJ 08540	Christine Dorantes	9-12	5	45	None	\$412.50	1	\$412.50	8:30 AM	3:00 PM