

**ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 30, 2019  
6:30 PM**

**I. CALL TO ORDER: 6:56 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.

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**IV. ROLL CALL**

**Board Members**

|                                      |                              |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Edgardo Galleno (President)          | Present                      |
| Robert Fink (Vice President)         | Present                      |
| Jesenia Vargas (Corporate Secretary) | Present                      |
| Claudine Bishop                      | Present                      |
| Joshua Bishop                        | Present – Arrived at 7:41 PM |
| Hector Bonilla                       | Present – Arrived at 9:00 PM |
| Elba Ceballo                         | Present                      |
| Michelle Roman                       | Present                      |
| Stephanie Valdiviezo                 | Present                      |

**Additional attendees:**

|                                          |         |
|------------------------------------------|---------|
| Margaret Morales (Acting Lead Person)    | Present |
| Shanesia Davis (Principal)               | Absent  |
| Barbara Morcos (Vice Principal)          | Present |
| Patricia Bombelyn (Board Solicitor)      | Present |
| Johnny Rosa (Board Secretary)            | Present |
| Eloisa Hernandez (Parent Representative) | Present |

**V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Move that the Board of Trustees approve the **Regular Board Minutes** dated March 27, 2019.

**Motion:** Robert Fink, **Second:** Michelle Roman, **Roll Call:** Edgardo Galleno Yes, Robert Fink Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo Yes. (Joshua Bishop and Hector Bonilla had not yet arrived for the meeting.)

**VI. CORRESPONDENCE**

Mr. Galleno, Board President, read a citation from Mayor Wilda Diaz representing the ribbon cutting ceremony held at the Barclay Street campus on April 15, 2019.

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**VII. PRESENTATION**

Motion made to amend the agenda on the order of the presentations and moving the Human Resources and Recognition Motion #2 to this portion of the meeting.

**Motion: Robert Fink, Second: Jesenia Vargas, Roll Call: Edgardo Galleno Yes, Robert Fink Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo Yes. (Joshua Bishop and Hector Bonilla had not yet arrived for the meeting.)**

Margaret Morales, Lead Person, will recognize staff with perfect attendance for the month of March, 2019. The formal Board resolution was read by Mr. Galleno, Board President.

**Human Resources and Recognition**

2. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the attached resolution in recognition of the following staff members for having perfect attendance in March, 2019.

- |                       |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| a. Ian Askins         | Teacher     |
| b. Remee Barber       | Security    |
| c. Albert Bozzo       | Teacher     |
| d. Yudelka Collado    | Teacher     |
| e. Joseph Kotulak     | Teacher     |
| f. Jose Lopez-Segarra | Maintenance |
| g. Joseph Luckenbill  | Teacher     |
| h. Margaret Morales   | Lead Person |
| i. Evelyn Santiago    | Lunch Aide  |
| j. Rafael Puntiel     | Maintenance |

**Motion: Michelle Roman, Second: Elba Ceballo, Roll Call: Edgardo Galleno Yes, Robert Fink Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo Yes. (Joshua Bishop and Hector Bonilla had not yet arrived for the meeting.)**

Motion made to return to the Presentation portion of the meeting.

**Motion: Michelle Roman, Second: Jesenia Vargas, Roll Call: Edgardo Galleno Yes, Robert Fink Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo Yes. (Joshua Bishop and Hector Bonilla had not yet arrived for the meeting.)**

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Perth Amboy Student Art Showcase

Mrs. Susan Spiecker, Middle School Art teacher, introduced a few of her students that had their art work on display at the art showcase held in Perth Amboy, NJ. The students shared their art work with Board members and spoke about their projects. Mrs. Spiecker advised that she had received a citation from Mayor Diaz for participating in the art showcase. The students that had art work displayed received a citation from the Mayor as well.

Mr. Galleno told the students that we are all very proud to have had you represent AUL with your beautiful art work and also thanked the students for sharing their work with everyone at the meeting this evening.

Motion made at 7:12 PM to amend the agenda to go into Executive Closed Session to discuss Personnel matters.

**Motion:** Robert Fink, Second: Elba Ceballo, Roll Call: Edgardo Galleno Yes, Robert Fink Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo Yes. (Joshua Bishop and Hector Bonilla had not yet arrived for the meeting.)

Motion made at 7:46 PM to return from Executive Closed Session.

**Motion:** Robert Fink, Second: Michelle Roman, Roll Call: Edgardo Galleno Yes, Robert Fink Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Joshua Bishop Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo Yes. (Hector Bonilla had not yet arrived for the meeting.)

Motion made to amend the order of the agenda to have the Lead Person's report next.

**Motion:** Michelle Roman, Second: Jesenia Vargas, Roll Call: Edgardo Galleno Yes, Robert Fink Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Joshua Bishop Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo Yes. (Hector Bonilla had not yet arrived for the meeting.)

**X. LEAD PERSON'S REPORT**

Lead Person, Ms. Margaret Morales, will give details of her report to the Board.

- Ms. Morales noted that it was a very short month, but a very busy month. At the end of March, Ms. Morales and Mrs. Howlett, AUL guidance counselor, attended the Unsung Hero Awards. Two AUL students were honored at these awards, Maya Orsini and Vanessa Mendoza. Ms. Morales advised that she will be attending an event this coming Saturday at the Pines Manor in Edison, NJ where two AUL students will be receiving scholarships through the Leaf Foundation.

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- Ms. Morales mentioned the ribbon cutting ceremony that took place at the Barclay Street campus on April 15, 2019. The seventh and eighth grade students are now together under one roof.
- The Guidance department advised that ninety-two percent of the senior class has applied to a college. Ms. Morales advised that she will have an acceptance rate next month, as students are still waiting to hear back from colleges.
- Ms. Morales advised that Phase 3 of the construction has begun at Barclay Street to renovate the third floor. The construction appears to be on target for completion over the summer. Mr. Rosa is supervising the construction process.
- Ms. Morales stated that last week an ESL parent meeting was held at AUL. There were twenty-three parents in attendance. Ms. Eloisa Hernandez advised that this meeting gave the parents an opportunity to discuss matters and express themselves.
- Ms. Morales advised that student discipline continues to be monitored. The Saturday detention program at the high school continues.
- Ms. Morales advised that student attendance for the month is ninety-three percent. Staff attendance for the month of April is seventy-four percent. This is a drop from the previous year which was ninety-one percent.
- Ms. Morales stated that there was one HIB investigation which was unfounded.

**XIV. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Edgardo Galleno, President of the Board, will give his report.

- Mr. Galleno thanked everyone that attended the ribbon cutting ceremony at the Barclay Street facility, including the Mayor of Perth Amboy, Wilda Diaz. Mr. Galleno noted that the speeches given by some of AUL students and stakeholders were very moving. Staff and students moved into another home, not just another school.
- Mr. Galleno advised that Ms. Morales has been the Lead Administrator since the 1<sup>st</sup> of April, 2019. Mr. Galleno thanked Ms. Morales for doing a great job in carrying out the mission and goals of AUL. Mr. Galleno also stated that the data being provided to the Board is very informative and useful to guide the school. Mr. Galleno mentioned that working the last few months with Ms. Morales has been wonderful.

**VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT #1**

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

Ms. Melanie Fabian, a senior student at AUL, and two fellow senior classmates advised the Board that the senior class does not have a half a day on the day of prom, May 23, 2019. Ms.

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Fabian advised that the senior prom is being held again this year at the Radisson in Freehold, NJ. If seniors were dismissed at 3 PM, they would not have time to get ready for the prom and get to the Radisson when the prom begins. Mr. Galleno told the students that their request would be taken under advisement and thanked the students for bringing this matter to the attention of the Board.

Ms. Rose Ann Berberich, AUL Social Studies teacher and AULEA President, began reading a prepared statement submitted by members of the Academy of Urban Leadership Education Association expressing their dissatisfaction with the current Lead, Ms. Margaret Morales and their "Vote of No Confidence" in her ability to run our school. Ms. Berberich advised that forty-six of the sixty members voted in favor, with twelve agreeing to the vote but abstained due to fear of losing their jobs, and two abstained due to other reasons.

Staff members Mr. Ariel Fernandez, Mr. Christopher Mell, Ms. Brittany Morgan, Mr. Robert Berentes, Mr. Mohammad Siddiqi, Ms. Jilian Rise, and Mr. James Ennis read further excerpts from the prepared statement on matters including student issues, collaboration, observation issues and timeline, investigations and union activity, and closing remarks regarding the no confidence vote.

Mr. Ted Tympanick, NJEA field representative, advised that not long ago there was a very close union vote with twenty-six in agreement and twenty-five opposed. This vote of no confidence was driven by membership. There are now many more individuals on board for a union. Mr. Tympanick stated that the non-tenured staff are fearful. Ms. Berberich had tried to deal with these matters discreetly, but was unsuccessful. Mr. Tympanick stated that the success of AUL is because of these individuals. The AUL community is going to be concerned as well. Mr. Tympanick stated that the Board of Trustees must learn to play ball with us. You will begin to take them seriously. This is only the first step.

Motion made to close Public Comment #1.

**Motion: Robert Fink, Second: Claudine Bishop, Roll Call: Edgardo Galleno Yes, Robert Fink Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Joshua Bishop Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo Yes. (Hector Bonilla had not yet arrived for the meeting.)**

## IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee chairperson(s) will provide a brief overview of pertinent items discussed.

- **Academic Excellence Team**: Motions in agenda.
- **Human Resources and Recognition Team**: Interviews are being conducted. Motions in agenda.

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- **Finance and Facilities Planning Team**: Construction has begun on the third floor at the Barclay Street facility which should be completed by September. AUL's Board has acted in a responsible manner with any construction projects undertaken, including going out to bid. Instead of construction costs in charter schools being taken from a portion of the budget, the AUL community should rally that such facility costs be funded. With facility costs being funded, the budgeted money can be used in the classrooms. In conclusion, Mr. Fink stated that it is a privilege to serve on AUL's Board of Trustees, as well as it is a privilege to work at AUL.
- **Executive Team**: No report.

**XI. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT**

None

**XII. PARENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT**

Ms. Eloisa Hernandez, parent of an AUL student, is the parent representative.

- Ms. Hernandez stated that she is excited for the opening of the Barclay Street campus. Ms. Hernandez noted that she understands the pain that the teachers and students endured the last few years.
- Ms. Hernandez stated that she was very happy to get AUL's first newsletter in an email and appreciated this communication from administration.
- Ms. Hernandez advised that Ms. Morales has not yet been at AUL for one hundred days. Some things cannot be fixed overnight. Speaking as a parent, Ms. Hernandez advised what is going on between staff and administration is affecting the students. There has been much change in administration over the last few years. Ms. Hernandez advised that we are all here for the students and we need to work together to come to a resolution.
- Ms. Hernandez asked how AUL can reach parents that need to be involved. Many times the parents that attend the meetings are those that you necessarily do not need to see.
- Ms. Hernandez stated that respect, honesty, and collaboration are in the best interests for our students.
- Mr. Galleno thanked Ms. Hernandez for her perspective as a parent and the concern for our students. Mr. Galleno noted that students are not seeing their teachers in the classroom because of staff absences. Mr. Galleno asked Ms. Morales to further investigate this matter.

**XIII. TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT**

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None

**XV. OLD BUSINESS**

None

The Lead Person recommends the following items for approval:

**XVI. MOTIONS – Consent Agenda**

Motion Items #1-8 under Academic Excellence; Items #1 and #3 under Human Resources and Recognition; Items #1-16 under Finance and Facility Planning; and Item #1 under Executive Team.

Motion: Robert Fink, Second: Jesenia Vargas, Roll Call: Edgardo Galleno Yes, Robert Fink Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Joshua Bishop Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo Yes. (Hector Bonilla had not yet arrived for the meeting.)

**Academic Excellence**

1. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Professional Development for Maria Elena De La Jara to attend “AP Spanish Language and Culture” course from July 22, 2019 – July 25, 2019 for an amount not to exceed \$2,225.00 (\$1,025 for course fee and \$1,200 for Compensation). *In the event a change of date should occur and provided that only the date is changed, the administration can approve the date change after informing the Executive Committee.*
2. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Professional Development for Silvia Ramales, Josephine Cutietta, and Jenna Frisch to attend the “SEL Forward: NJDOE Conference on Social and Emotional Learning” workshop on May 23, 2019 at no cost to the Board of Trustees. *In the event a change of date should occur and provided that only the date is changed, the administration can approve the date change after informing the Executive Committee.*
3. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the purchase of SAT resources in Math, Reading, and English for an amount not to exceed \$6,898.00 (paid through Title I funds).
4. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the additional following staff members for the Title I Afterschool Program:
  - a. Ariel Fernandez
  - b. Saad Syed
  - c. Momtaz Shirin
  - d. Penelope Vlastaras

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- e. Diana Collazo
- f. Maria de la Jara
- 5. Move that the Board of Trustees approve a Saturday School Program for the Middle School from May 4, 2019 – June 22, 2019 at a rate of \$30 per hour and 4 hours per day for an amount not to exceed a total of \$840.00.
- 6. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the attached summer academic program for 2019 for an amount not to exceed \$54,080.00 (*subject to student enrollment and attendance*).
- 7. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the following curriculum writing assignments for a total amount not to exceed \$1,600.00:
  - a. Middle School ESL - \$800
  - b. Middle School Art - \$800
- 8. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the following field trips for the 2018 – 2019 school year (*In the event a change of date should occur and provided that only the date is changed, the administration can approve the date change after informing the Executive Committee*):

| <u>Faculty</u>   | <u>Date</u>  | <u>Location</u>                                                                                                                                           | <u>Time</u>           | <u>Transportation Cost</u> | <u>Entry Cost</u>                                                    | <u>Total Cost</u> |
|------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Bernadette Gioia | May 15, 2019 | 2019 Annual Colloquium<br>(Human Rights and Genocide Student Conference)<br><br>Brookdale Community College<br>765 Newman Springs Road Lincroft, NJ 07738 | 8:00am<br>–<br>1:30pm | \$250                      | 18 Students<br>(Juniors and Seniors<br>And 2 Chaperones<br><br>\$140 | \$390.00          |

**Human Resources and Recognition**

- 1. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the appointment of the following staff member, subject to timely receipt of satisfactory disclosures, required by N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.6 et. seq., from the applicant's previous public school district employers, for the 2019-2020 school year:
  - a. Robyn Cybulski for a 12 month position as a School Certified Nurse with a salary of \$68,000.00 pro-rated to such a date as to when Ms. Cybulski's current employment

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with another employer ceases and her work at AUL commences. (*Pending satisfying the requirements of the New Jersey Criminal History Background Check*).

3. Move that the Board of Trustees approve Margaret Morales to be the Affirmative Action Officer for the 2018 – 2019 school year.

**Finance and Facility Planning**

1. Move that the Board of Trustees approve Fund 10 General Warrants List for March 1, 2019 – April 17, 2019 in the amount of \$104,267.54.
2. Move that the Board of Trustees approve Fund 10 General Warrants List for April 18, 2019 – April 29, 2019 in the amount of \$66,391.34.
3. Move that the Board of Trustees approve Fund 10 General Warrants List for April 30, 2019 in an amount of \$181,386.20.
4. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Payroll Report for March 29, 2019 for \$283,613.57.
5. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Payroll Report for April 15, 2019 for \$276,484.58.
6. Move that the Board of Trustees accept the Treasurer's Report for March, 2019.
7. 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 March 31, 2019 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 2018-2019.
8. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the payment to Sodexo for March in the amount of \$30,906.85.
9. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the payment of \$9,283.50 to Genova Burns (AULCS Labor Attorney).
10. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the initiation of a donation initiative, "AUL Giving Program".
11. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the payment of \$81,340.00 to JG Drywall, Inc. and Capital Funds Management, LLC as certified by our architect (EI Associates).
12. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the School Food Authority to School Food Authority shared Vended Meals Contract with Piscataway Township Schools with Sodexo for the 2019 – 2020 school year.

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13. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the transfer of \$800,000 from the fund balance to the Capital Outlay construction account for construction cost at Barclay Street in the 2018 – 2019 school year.
14. Move that the Board of Trustees approve Eugene Brown to work as a consultant administrator for an additional 5 days at a rate of \$275 per day for an amount not to exceed \$1,375.00.
15. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the attached Memorandum of Agreement with the Jewish Renaissance Foundation for the 2019 – 2020 school year.
16. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the following out of district instructional cost for the following students for a cost not to exceed \$6,760.00:
  - a. NS (Professional Education Services, Inc.) - \$1,600.00
  - b. DMS (KEEPS Program Partial Care) - \$1,760.00
  - c. KV (KEEPS Program Partial Care) - \$1,840.00
  - d. AL (KEEPS Program Partial Care) - \$1,560.00

**Executive Team**

1. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the second reading and adoption of the following policy updates:
  - a. P0141.1 – Board Member and Term – Sending District (Revised)
  - b. P0141.2 – Board Member and Term – Receiving District (Revised)
  - c. P2422 – Health and Physical Education (M) (Revised)
  - d. P2431.3 – Practice and Pre-Season Heat-Acclimation for School-Sponsored Athletics and Extra-Curricular Activities (Revised)
  - e. P2610 – Educational Program Evaluation (M) (Revised)
  - f. P4219 – Commercial Driver’s License Controlled Substance and Alcohol Use Testing (M) (Revised)
  - g. P&R5111 – Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students (M) (Revised)
  - h. P5330.04 – Administering an Opioid Antidote (M) (Revised)
  - i. R5330.04 – Administering an Opioid Antidote (M) (New)
  - j. P5337 – Service Animals (Revised)
  - k. P5756 – Transgender Students (M) (Revised)
  - l. P&R7440 – School District Security (M) (Revised)
  - m. P8561 – Procurement Procedures for School Nutrition Programs (M) (Revised)
  - n. P8860 – Memorials (Revised)
  - o. P2415.06 – Unsafe School Choice Option (M) (Revised)

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- p. P2460.08 – Special Education – Free and Appropriate Public Education (M) (Revised)
- q. P5530 – Substance Abuse (M) (Revised)
- r. P&R5600 – Student Discipline/Code of Conduct (M) (Revised)
- s. P&R5611 – Removal of Students for Firearms Offenses (M) (Revised)
- t. P&R5612 – Assaults on District Board of Education Members or Employees (M) (Revised)
- u. P&R5613 – Removal of Students for Assaults with Weapons Offenses (M) (Revised)
- v. P&R8461 – Reporting Violence, Vandalism, Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying, Alcohol, and Other Drug Offenses (M) (Revised)

**Other Motions**

1. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Professional Development for Abraham Williams to attend the “Future Ready Schools” workshop on May 2, 2019 at no cost to the BOT. *In the event a change of date should occur and provided that only the date is changed, the administration can approve the date change after informing the Executive Committee.*

**Motion:** Robert Fink, **Second:** Michelle Roman, **Roll Call:** Edgardo Galleno Yes, Robert Fink Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Joshua Bishop Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo Yes. (Hector Bonilla had not yet arrived for the meeting.)

2. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the following out of district instructional cost for the following student for a cost not to exceed \$2,000.00:

a. JR (Rutgers Health) - \$2,000.00

**Motion:** Robert Fink, **Second:** Elba Ceballo, **Roll Call:** Edgardo Galleno Yes, Robert Fink Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Joshua Bishop Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo Yes. (Hector Bonilla had not yet arrived for the meeting.)

3. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Professional Development for Ronald Puntiel to attend the “School Security Symposium” workshop on May 6, 2019 at no cost to the BOT. *In the event a change of date should occur and provided that only the date is changed, the administration can approve the date change after informing the Executive Committee.*

**Motion:** Robert Fink, **Second:** Joshua Bishop, **Roll Call:** Edgardo Galleno Yes, Robert Fink Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Joshua Bishop Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes,

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**Michelle Roman Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo Yes. (Hector Bonilla had not yet arrived for the meeting.)**

**XVII. NEW BUSINESS**

None

**XVIII. PUBLIC COMMENT #2**

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

Mr. James Ennis, AUL Social Studies teacher, questioned the 74% staff attendance record for the month of April. Mr. Ennis stated that this percentage breaks down to one teacher per day out of the classroom. Mr. Ennis asked if this took into account the teacher that was out of the country for a family emergency. Mr. Ennis said that the Board is making this matter sound worse than actuality. Mr. Galleno stated that the staff attendance percentage for this month is concerning. Mr. Galleno asked administration to look further into this data.

Ms. Rose Ann Berberich, AUL Social Studies teacher, advised that the staff attendance rate has a direct impact to the no confidence vote. Ms. Berberich stated that staff are entitled to their days. Ms. Berberich stated that staff need to take mental health days and some staff are even going on interviews. Mr. Galleno stated that these absences have directly affected our students. Our students should take priority and this is disheartening.

Mr. Ian Askins, AUL Math teacher, advised that this data can be analyzed in many different ways.

Ms. Jenna Frisch, AUL Middle School teacher, stated that she feels there is an issue at the Barclay facility due to cockroaches in the teacher's room and dust in the classrooms. Ms. Frisch also stated that you cannot teach over the sounds of the construction work.

Ms. Yudelka Collado, AUL Middle School teacher, stated that ceiling tiles in her classroom were moldy. The tiles were changed and now the tiles show water stains. Also, the windows are sealed shut and when it rains the water leaks through. Ms. Collado advised that these conditions in the classroom are concerns for herself and her students. Ms. Collado stated that moving into the Barclay Street facility could have waited until the end of the year. Ms. Collado

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also stated that she had her third observation, but has not yet had a post conference for her second observation. Mr. Galleno stated that the Board appreciated all of the staff's efforts in the move to the Barclay Street campus. Comradery can now be built at the middle school level between the seventh and eighth grades. Mr. Galleno advised staff to continue to bring any building issues to their supervisor's attention. In turn, the issues will be forwarded to the Business Administrator, Mr. Rosa, to follow up on any building concerns. Mr. Fink advised that there is a cost to having two campuses open at the same time which impacts the budget. Mr. Fink stated that there is an involved thought process behind any decisions made for the betterment of AUL.

Ms. Jenna Frisch, AUL Middle School teacher, advised that there is a safety issue with the entering and exiting of the students during lunch periods.

Ms. Cathyjo Lombardi, AUL Supervisor, commended the staff for bringing concerns to the Board members this evening. Ms. Lombardi noted that the middle school staff work as a team. Ms. Lombardi advised that she shares all concerns at the Barclay Street campus by email to administration.

Mr. Robert Berentes, AUL Middle School teacher, stated that he considers it a privilege to work at AUL. His mentor, Mr. Adam Taha, read and discussed AUL's mission statement with him. Mr. Berentes stated that he truly believes in AUL's mission. Mr. Berentes stated that it is privilege to call his colleagues his co-workers. AUL students are their focus. Mr. Berentes advised that a seventh grade teacher had made a difference in his life and he got into teaching for this reason. He sees a divide between the Board and the teaching staff. Mr. Berentes noted that morale has plummeted and teachers are now calling out of work. Mr. Berentes feels that it is necessary to find a way to work together, or AUL will fail. Mr. Fink stated that these comments are the best heard this evening. This is the approach to get things done. The Board is willing to work together. Mr. Fink stated that we need the conversation, not the show.

Mr. Reinadlo Aviles, former AUL Board of Trustee member, noted that he has friends on both sides of the table. AUL is here for the students and giving the community an option other than the public school route. Also, AUL has some of the best teacher. Mr. Aviles stated that Ms. Morales has only been at AUL for seventy-eight days. Mr. Aviles stated that he believes Ms. Morales will be the administrator to implement the academies. Mr. Aviles advised that Ms. Morales' door is open and she is asking for excellence and accountability. Mr. Aviles noted that concerns were brought to the table this evening and now is the time to work on them. Mr.

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Aviles stated that he has confidence in Ms. Morales and suggests that staff should bear with her and work with her.

Mr. Irving Lozada, employed in the Perth Amboy Code Enforcement Department, stated that communication is the key. AUL's goal is to serve the students. Mr. Lozada advised that he has an eighth grade student enrolled at AUL. Mr. Lozada advised that the staff has supported his daughter and the vice-principal has gone the extra mile to help. Mr. Lozada stated that Mr. Rosa is always at the code office ensuring that the staff and students are safe.

Mr. Oswaldo Ramos, AUL student, stated that he has heard a lot of ridiculous things from the Board this evening. Mr. Ramos stated that conversations are not happening, if concerns are being brought this way to the Board. Mr. Joshua Bishop told Mr. Ramos that he understands where he is coming from. Mr. Bishop noted that there needs to be constant communication. Mr. Bishop urged students to become a representative of the Board at the meetings each month, as well as having a teacher representative present.

Ms. Elba Ceballo, AUL Board of Trustee member, stated that she had two children attend and graduate from AUL. When AUL opened, the cafeteria also served as a classroom. AUL has certainly prospered since the beginning and AUL students have a close knit community. Ms. Ceballo noted that she was a teacher for twenty years and now is a guidance counselor. Ms. Ceballo stated that it is necessary to communicate with Ms. Morales and the Board. Ms. Ceballo advised that the staff is not alone, but has the support of the Board.

Ms. Jenna Frisch, AUL Middle School teacher, advised as a new teacher, she was not aware there was an opportunity to be a teacher representative.

Ms. Eloisa Hernandez, parent of an AUL student, stated that everyone should come out of this evenings meeting with a willingness to work together.

Dr. Natasha James-Waldon, JRF Director of Education Services, noted that there has been a lot of administration changes at AUL. This evenings meeting presents a challenge as to where to go from here. Dr. James-Waldon stated that she hopes that all parties will come together.

Motion made to close Public Comment #2.

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Motion: Joshua Bishop, Second: Elba Ceballo, Roll Call: Edgardo Galleno Yes, Robert Fink Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Joshua Bishop Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo Yes.

**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: 9:45 PM

Unanimous Vote: Motion: Joshua Bishop, Second: Jesenia Vargas, Roll Call: Edgardo Galleno Yes, Robert Fink Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Joshua Bishop Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo Yes.

Discuss: Attorney-client Privilege  
Lopac vs. AUL  
Personnel Matter  
Collective Bargaining

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Student Matter  
Potential Lease or Acquisition of Property

Return from Executive Session: 10:20 PM

Unanimous Vote: Motion: Michelle Roman, Second: Joshua Bishop, Roll Call: Edgardo Galleno Yes, Robert Fink Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Joshua Bishop Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo Yes.

Other Motions

4. Move that the Board of Trustees under the Lead Person's recommendation that seniors be given half day on the day of the prom, May 23, 2019.

Motion: Elba Ceballo, Second: Jesenia Vargas, Roll Call: Edgardo Galleno Yes, Robert Fink Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Joshua Bishop Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo Yes.

XX. ADJOURNMENT 10:21 PM

Motion: Michelle Roman, Second: Joshua Bishop, Roll Call: Edgardo Galleno Yes, Robert Fink Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Joshua Bishop Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo Yes.