

**ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 19, 2020
6:30 PM**

I. CALL TO ORDER: 7:08 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
Joshua Bishop (Vice President)	Absent
Jesenia Vargas (Corporate Secretary)	Present
Lisette Bayas Vilanova	Present
Claudine Bishop	Present
Hector Bonilla	Absent - Excused
Elba Ceballo	Present
Reyes Ortega	Absent - Excused
Michelle Roman	Present
Stephanie Valdiviezo	Absent - Excused

Additional attendees:

Margaret Morales (Lead Person)	Present
Patricia Bombelyn (Board Solicitor)	Present
Mark Kramer (Board Secretary)	Present
Douglas Kelly (Vice-Principal)	Present
Daniel Cugini (Vice-Principal)	Absent - Excused
Peter Salek-Nejad (Supervisor of Curriculum And Instruction)	Present
Eloisa Hernandez (Parent Representative)	Absent

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes dated January 29, 2020.

Motion: Michelle Roman, **Second:** Elba Ceballo, **Roll Call:** Edgardo Galleno Abstain, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Lisette Bayas Vilanova Abstain, Claudine Bishop Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes.

**VI. PRESENTATION
H.E.R.O.**

Motion to amend the order of the agenda to take action on Human Resources and Recognition Motion Item #1.

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Motion: Michelle Roman, **Second:** Jesenia Vargas, **Roll Call:** Edgardo Galleno Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Lisette Bayas Vilanova Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes.

The Board resolution was read by Mr. Edgardo Galleno, Board President.

Human Resources and Recognition

1. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the attached resolution in recognition of the following staff members for having perfect attendance in January and February 2020:

January, 2020	February, 2020
Margaret R. Morales	Ruth Acevedo
Blanca Blanco	Blanca Blanco
Pedro Bonilla	Pedro Bonilla
Amy Carrino	Josephine Cutietta
Daniel Cugini	Thomas Dowling
Altagracia Diaz Hernandez	Jim Dino
Jim Dino	Margaret Morales
Kelly Howlett	Pablo Puntiel
Meltem Pak	David Sweatte
Pablo Puntiel	Olga Zarifyan
Jilian Rise	Abraham Williams
Raquel Rodriguez	
Momtaz Shirin	
Ryan Spero	
Abraham Williams	

Motion: Michelle Roman, **Second:** Claudine Bishop, **Roll Call:** Edgardo Galleno Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Lisette Bayas Vilanova Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes.

Motion to return back to the order of the agenda.

Motion: Michelle Roman, **Second:** Elba Ceballo, **Roll Call:** Edgardo Galleno Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Lisette Bayas Vilanova Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

None

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT #1

None

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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**: Motions in agenda.
- **Finance and Facilities Planning Team**: Motions in agenda.
- **Executive Team**: No report.

X. LEAD PERSON'S REPORT

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

- Ms. Morales advised that the Boys Basketball team was playing this evening. If they won the game, the team would play in the finals at the Prudential Center in Newark, NJ.
- During a presentation a couple of months ago by the Model UN Club, it was suggested that AUL should begin a public speaking class. Ms. Morales advised that three students are now enrolled in a public speaking class on Saturday mornings in conjunction with Middlesex County College.
- Ms. Morales mentioned that the Gold Tie Ceremony will take place on Friday, February 21, 2020. Robo calls have been sent out to invite family members of the students.
- Ms. Morales advised that ninety-three of the ninety-five seniors have applied to a college. Eighty-five of the students have been accepted to at least one college. These students have been offered approximately \$11.5 million in scholarship money.
- Regarding the food concerns in the cafeteria, Ms. Morales advised that two students from each grade met with the representatives from AUL's food service company. Ms. Morales noted that there will be a follow-up meeting in about a month and a half.
- Ms. Morales advised that there will be two college trips taking place in March. With the assistance of the Jewish Renaissance Foundation, there are two more college trips planned during Spring break in April.
- Ms. Morales advised that she had attended along with Mr. Salek-Nejad a Connected Action Roadmap (CAR) workshop on January 27, 2020. Mr. Salek-Nejad presented a handout to all Board members on the NJDOE Connected Action Roadmap and how it would connect to the work at AUL. Mr. Salek-Nejad also discussed the phases which make up the unit planning process.
- Mr. Galleno noted that he appreciates receiving the tracking of the after-school tutoring attendance report in the Lead Administrator's monthly report.
- Mrs. Bishop questioned if more security guards are needed at the high school due to the escalation of infractions. Ms. Morales advised that most of the infractions are due to non-compliance of the uniform policy.

XI. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Ms. Yurit Rodriguez, 12th grade, is the student representative this evening.

- Ms. Rodriguez stated that she is the Secretary for her Class of 2020.

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- Ms. Rodriguez stated that the students of AUL are very proud of the success of the Boys Basketball team.
- Ms. Rodriguez advised that she had attended the trip to Liberty Science Center to view the live kidney donation surgery. Ms. Rodriguez stated that she had enjoyed the trip and it inspired students to think about professions in the medical field.
- Ms. Rodriguez stated that students are concerned about communication within classes. For example, Ms. Rodriguez noted the need to pay for senior activities at the last minute. Ms. Morales advised that this concern is being worked on through goggle classroom and class chats.

XII. PARENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

None

XIII. TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

None

XIV. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

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

Mr. Galleno apologized for being absent from the last Board meeting. Mr. Galleno thanked Board members for their attendance at the meeting this evening.

XV. OLD BUSINESS

None

The Lead Person recommends the following items for approval:

XVI. MOTIONS – Consent Agenda

Move from Consent Agenda to Other Motions Items #4 and #5 under Finance and Facility Planning and Item #2 under Human Resources and Recognition.

Motion Items #1-2 under Academic Excellence; Motions Items #1-3 under Finance and Facility Planning.

Motion: Jesenia Vargas, Second: Claudine Bishop, Roll Call: Edgardo Galleno Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Lisette Bayas Vilanova Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes.

Academic Excellence

1. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the following field trip for the 2019-2020 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*):

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<u>Faculty</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Transportation Cost</u>	<u>Entry Cost</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
Margaret Morales	March 11, 2020	Middlesex County Teen Arts Festival Middlesex County College 2600 Woodbridge Avenue Edison, NJ 08837	9:00am – 2:00pm	1 Bus - \$325	No Cost 40 Students (Grades 10 – 12 and 4 Chaperones)	1 Bus - \$325

2. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the following Professional Development (*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>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Amount Not to Exceed</u>
Daniel Cugini	March 5, 12, 19, & 26, 2020	School Safety Specialist Training	NJ Forensic Technology Center 1200 Negron Drive Hamilton, NJ 08691	8:30 am – 4:00 pm	No Cost to the District
Rose Ann Berberich	March 17, 2020	Trauma Informed Compassionate Classrooms	Crowne Plaza 2055 Lincoln Hwy. Edison, NJ 08817	TBD	\$219.00
Bernadette Gioia	March 17, 2020	Trauma Informed Compassionate Classrooms	Crowne Plaza 2055 Lincoln Hwy. Edison, NJ 08817	TBD	\$219.00

Finance and Facility Planning

1. Move that the Board of Trustees approve:
 - a. Fund 10 General Warrants List for:
 - i. January 30, 2020 – February 13, 2020, in the amount of \$28,604.13;
 - ii. February 14, 2020 – February 18, 2020 in the amount of \$95,939.46;
 - iii. February 19, 2020 in the amount of \$74,256.81.
 - b. Payroll Report for:
 - i. January 30, 2020 for \$269,304.28;
 - ii. February 13, 2020 for \$275,627.41.

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2. Move that the Board of Trustees adopt the following resolution authorizing Mark Kramer, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, as the district's Qualified Purchasing Agent for the remainder of the 2019 – 2020 school year:

Whereas, pursuant to NJSA 18A:18A-3, the Academy for Urban Leadership Board of Trustees may grant the School Business Administrator of the Board, as the Board's Qualified Purchasing Agent, the authority, responsibility and accountability for the purchasing activity of the Board and the authority to prepare advertisements, to advertise for and receive bids and to award contracts as permitted by law; and

Whereas, pursuant to NJSA 18A:18A-3a, the Board by a general delegation of power may establish a bid threshold in an amount not to exceed \$40,000 if the School Business Administrator is qualified pursuant to NJSA 40A:11-9; and

Whereas, Mark Kramer is qualified pursuant to NJSA 40A:11-9; and

Whereas, pursuant to NJSA 18A:18A-37© the Board, by general delegation of power, may grant the Purchasing Agent the authority to award any contract the cost or price which, the aggregate, is less than 15 percent of the bid threshold, without advertisement for bids and without solicitation of competitive quotations; and

Whereas, pursuant to NJSA 18A:18A-3a and NJSA 18A:8A-37(s), the Board, by a general delegation of power, may grant the Purchasing Agent the authority to award any contract (1) the cost or price which amounts, in the aggregate, to less than the bid threshold but no greater than 15 percent thereof, or (2) that is exempt from the public bidding requirements as provided in NJSA 18A:18A-5 (except for professional service and work performed by employees of the Board) without advertising for bid but after solicitation of at least two competitive quotations (if practicable) as required by law.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Academy for Urban Leadership Charter School pursuant to the aforesaid statutes as follows;

- A. During such period of time that Mark Kramer shall serve as School Business Administrator/Board Secretary of the Academy for Urban Leadership Charter School, the bid threshold for the Board is hereby established to be \$40,000;
- B. Mark Kramer is duly authorized to award contracts, in the aggregate, to less than \$6,000 (which is 15 percent of the bid threshold of \$40,000) without advertisement for bids and without solicitation of competitive quotations; and
- C. Mark Kramer is duly authorized to seek competitive quotations for and to award contracts as provided by law that either;

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- a. Is an amount, in the aggregate, to less than \$40,000, but to greater than \$6,000 (which is 15 percent of the bid threshold of \$40,000) where two (2) quotes will be required, or
 - b. Are exempt from public bidding requirements to NJSA 18A:18A-5 (except for professional services and work performed by Board employees).
3. Move that the Board of Trustees approve a SEMI waiver for the 2020 – 2021 school year with a projected reimbursement revenue of \$8,100.72.

Executive Team

Other Motions

1. Move that the Board of Trustees approve an agreement with Lenox, Socey, Formidoni,, Giordano, Lang, Carrigg & Casey for legal services relating to negotiations and labor counsel for the Academy for Urban Leadership Charter School at the following rates:

Title	Hourly Fee
Partners	\$225.00
Associates	\$175.00
Paralegals	\$ 95.00

Note: On advice by counsel, this action does not need to be taken and signing of the agreement can take place.

4. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the following personnel for the coach stipend positions for the 2019 – 2020 school year:

Name	Position
Donald Reid	Assistant Softball Coach

Motion: Claudine Bishop, Second: Michelle Roman, Roll Call: Edgardo Galleno Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Lisette Bayas Vilanova Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes.

XVII. PUBLIC COMMENT #2

Board President invites members of the public to present any additional comments to the Board. Ms. Gonzalez of Somerset, New Jersey introduced herself to the Board members. Ms. Gonzalez advised that she came to observe the meeting, as she had applied for the position of School Business Administrator.

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XVIII. 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: 8:01 PM

Unanimous Vote: Motion: Jesenia Vargas, Second: Lisette Bayas Vilanova, Roll Call: Edgardo Galleno Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Lisette Bayas Vilanova Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes.

Discuss: Attorney-client Privilege
Carvan vs. AUL (Western World Correspondence)
Student Matter (HIB Cases)
Personnel Matters (Evaluations & Staff Request)

Return from Executive Session: 10:04PM

Unanimous Vote: Motion: Michelle Roman, Second: Lisette Bayas Vilanova, Roll Call: Edgardo Galleno Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Lisette Bayas Vilanova Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes.

Other Motions

2. Move that the Board of Trustees approve reimbursing the Perth Amboy Public Schools \$147,890 relating to an overpayment paid during the 2019 fiscal year.

TABLED

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3. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the closing out of the agreement with St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church and request the return of any funds held by St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church including any deposits.

Motion: Michelle Roman, **Second:** Lisette Bayas Vilanova, **Roll Call:** Edgardo Galleno Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Lisette Bayas Vilanova Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes.

5. Move that the Board of Trustees affirm the HIB cases reviewed in Executive Session (Case 9 and Case 10) by the Board of Trustees for the 2019-2020 school year.

Motion: Michelle Roman, **Second:** Lisette Bayas Vilanova, **Roll Call:** Edgardo Galleno Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Lisette Bayas Vilanova Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes.

6. Move that the Board of Trustees start a search for a School Business Administrator.

Motion: Michelle Roman, **Second:** Lisette Bayas Vilanova, **Roll Call:** Edgardo Galleno Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Lisette Bayas Vilanova Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes.

7. Move that the Board of Trustees approve to pay \$25,000 to Western World which represents the districts insurance deductible in the case of Wahid Carvan vs. Academy for Urban Leadership Charter School.

Motion: Michelle Roman, **Second:** Lisette Bayas Vilanova, **Roll Call:** Edgardo Galleno Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Lisette Bayas Vilanova Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes.

Note: Mrs. Bishop requested Ms. Morales to provide Derek Jess's letter and Mr. Kelly's report.

XIX. ADJOURNMENT 10:12 PM

Motion: Elba Ceballo, **Second:** Lisette Bayas Vilanova, **Roll Call:** Edgardo Galleno Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Lisette Bayas Vilanova Yes, Claudine Bishop Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes.