

**ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 25, 2020  
VIRTUAL MEETING  
6:30 PM**

**I. CALL TO ORDER: 6:37 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)	Present
Jesenia Vargas (Corporate Secretary)	Present
Lisette Bayas Vilanova	Present
Claudine Bishop	Absent - Excused
Hector Bonilla	Present
Elba Ceballo	Present
Reyes Ortega	Online – No Response
Michelle Roman	Present
Stephanie Valdiviezo	Present

**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)	Present
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 February 19, 2020 and Special Board Meeting Minutes dated March 11, 2020.

**Motion: Joshua Bishop, Second: Lisette Bayas Vilanova, Roll Call: Edgardo Galleno Yes, Joshua Bishop Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Lisette Bayas Vilanova Abstain, Hector Bonilla Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo Yes. (Reyes Ortega – Online, No Response)**

**VI. PRESENTATION**

**2020-2021 Budget Presentation**

Mr. Mark Kramer presented a Power Point presentation on the 2020-2021 Budget followed by questions and answers from various Board members. Mr. Galleno noted that this budget is based on a full enrollment of 600 students. Mr. Galleno advised that we need everyone's full support in order to obtain full enrollment. It is necessary to continue with our recruitment efforts. Mr. Galleno thanked Mr. Kramer and the Finance Committee for their work in the preparation of the 2020-2021 budget.

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1. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Budget for the 2020-2021 school year in the total amount of \$9,842,723 inclusive of the general fund and the special revenue fund with an allocation of \$234,904 from fund balance.

**Motion:** Joshua Bishop, **Second:** Hector Bonilla, **Roll Call:** Edgardo Galleno Yes, Joshua Bishop Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Lisette Bayas Vilanova Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Michelle Roman Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo Yes. (Reyes Ortega – Online, No Response)

**VII. CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT #1**

None

**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 “virtual learning” began on Tuesday, March 17, 2020. Administration, staff, social workers, guidance counselors, and IT are all working hard to effectively get remote learning to students. The students that do not have internet access are receiving hard copies of their lessons. Ms. Morales also advised that breakfast and lunch is being provided to students Monday through Friday from 10 AM until Noon.
- Ms. Morales noted that attendance is being taken on a daily basis. The instruction continues to be rigorous yet flexible, as many students may be helping at home with their siblings.
- Ms. Morales mentioned that teachers continue to take part in their PLC meetings.
- Ms. Morales noted that the Boys Basketball team had a great season by making it into the semi-finals.
- Ms. Morales advised that the School Performance Report was posted on the website and this report is included in the Lead’s report.
- Ms. Morales advised that SAT testing has been cancelled through May. Also, the State notified school districts that the NJSLA will not be a requirement this year. At the present time, it is expected that AP exams will be conducted online in May.

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- Ms. Morales mentioned that she has seen exciting things in Google classroom. Mr. Galleno asked what the process is if students need extra help with their studies. Ms. Morales advised that teachers have been using Zoom meetings, Google Meet, video exchanges, and white boards with step by step instructions. Also, there is still after school tutoring time from 3PM – 4PM.
- Mr. Salek-Nejad advised that staff and students were already familiar with Google classroom and now this is the primary teaching tool. Mr. Salek-Nejad noted that student objectives are clearly communicated by staff. Mr. Salek-Nejad wanted to commend the students on their motivation and anticipated it only to get better.
- Mr. Bishop commended administration and staff on their participation in getting virtual learning off the ground and appreciates all of the work that they have been doing for AUL's students.
- Regarding enrollment, Ms. Morales advised that the high school (grades 9 – 12) are fully enrolled, the eighth grade has 88 students, and the 7<sup>th</sup> grade has 64 students. Based on the lottery for FY2020-2021, Ms. Morales advised that the high school has full enrollment with 3 students on the wait list, the eighth grade has 90 students enrolled, and the 7<sup>th</sup> grade has 42 students enrolled. Ms. Morales stated that administration and the parent outreach coordinator continue to work on the recruitment of students. Mr. Galleno noted that time goes by very quickly. Soon it will be summer and then September. It is important now for all of us to work on developing new recruitment ideas.

**XI. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT**

None

**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 also thanked everyone involved for their help due to the current conditions facing our district. Mr. Galleno noted that many tough decisions had to be made this month and it took plenty of hard work to transition to virtual learning.

**XV. OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Kramer requested the Board members to complete their School Ethics Disclosure forms as soon as possible.

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The Lead Person recommends the following items for approval:

**XVI. MOTIONS – Consent Agenda**

Move from Consent Agenda to Other Motions Item #1 under Human Resources and Recognition. Motion Items #1-2 under Academic Excellence; Motions Items #1 under Finance and Facility Planning.

**Motion: Joshua Bishop, Second: Hector Bonilla, Roll Call: Edgardo Galleno Yes, Joshua Bishop Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Lisette Bayas Vilanova Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Reyes Ortega Yes, Michelle Roman Yes, (Stephanie Valdiviezo Online, No Response).**

**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).*

<b>Faculty</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>	<b>Event &amp; Location</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b><u>Transportation Cost</u></b>	<b><u>Entry Cost</u></b>	<b><u>Total Cost</u></b>
Nick Critelli	May 20, 2020	6 Flags Business & Marketing Day 6 Flags Amusement Park, NJ	9:00 AM thru 5:00 PM	\$790	55 persons \$1,885	\$2,675

2. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the following Professional Developments: *(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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<b><u>Faculty</u></b>	<b><u>Date(s)</u></b>	<b><u>Event</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>	<b><u>Time</u></b>	<b><u>Amount Not to Exceed</u></b>
Penelope Vlastaras	August 3, 2020 thru August 6, 2020	Advance Placement Summer Institute	Middlesex County College – 2600 Woodbridge Avenue, Edison, NJ 08837	8:00 AM Thru 4:00 PM	\$2,180
Margaret Morales	May 12, 2020 thru May 13, 2020	Middlesex County Superintendents Leadership Retreat	Atlantic City, NJ	All Day	No Cost

**Finance and Facility Planning**

1. Move that the Board of Trustees approve:
  - a. Fund 10 General Warrants List for:
    - i. February 20, 2020 – March 17, 2020 in the amount of \$97,880.64.
  - b. Payroll Report for:
    - i. February 28, 2020 for \$271,253.86.
    - ii. March 13, 2020 for \$269,163.34

**Executive Team**

**Other Motions**

None

**XVII. PUBLIC COMMENT #2**

None

**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**

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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: 8:04 PM

Unanimous Vote: Motion: Hector Bonilla, Second: Joshua Bishop, Roll Call: Edgardo Galleno Yes, Joshua Bishop Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Lisette Bayas Vilanova Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Reyes Ortega Yes, Michelle Roman Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo Yes.

Discuss: Attorney-client Privilege  
HIB Matters  
Personnel Matters relating to the Interim School Business Administrators contract

Return from Executive Session: 9:01PM

Unanimous Vote: Motion: Joshua Bishop, Second: Lisette Bayas Vilanova, Roll Call: Edgardo Galleno Yes, Joshua Bishop Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Lisette Bayas Vilanova Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Reyes Ortega Yes, Michelle Roman Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo Yes.

**Human Resources and Recognition**

1. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the appointment of the following staff members, 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:

<b>Employee</b>	<b>Effective Date(s)</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Account Code</b>
Debbie Casabona	May 12, 2020	Resignation	Assistant to the School Business Administrator	N/A	11.000.251. 100.000.053

Motion: Reyes Ortega, Second: Lisette Bayas Vilanova, Roll Call: Edgardo Galleno Yes, Joshua Bishop Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Lisette Bayas Vilanova Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Reyes Ortega Yes, Michelle Roman Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo Yes.

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<b>Employee</b>	<b>Effective Date(s)</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Account Code</b>
Lilia Perez	March 25, 2020	Job Abandonment	High School Spanish Teacher	N/A	11.140.100. 101.000.043

**Motion: Joshua Bishop, Second: Lisette Bayas Vilanova, Roll Call: Edgardo Galleno Yes, Joshua Bishop Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Lisette Bayas Vilanova Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Reyes Ortega Yes, Michelle Roman Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo Yes.**

2. Move that the Board of Trustees approve Mark Kramer at an hourly rate of One Hundred Dollars (\$100) an hour not to exceed Forty (40) hours a week or its equivalent throughout the duration of his services.

**Motion: Reyes Ortega, Second: Joshua Bishop, Roll Call: Edgardo Galleno Yes, Joshua Bishop Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Lisette Bayas Vilanova Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Reyes Ortega Yes, Michelle Roman Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo Yes.**

**XIX. ADJOURNMENT 9:11 PM**

**Motion: Michelle Roman, Second: Joshua Bishop, Roll Call: Edgardo Galleno Yes, Joshua Bishop Yes, Jesenia Vargas Yes, Lisette Bayas Vilanova Yes, Hector Bonilla Yes, Elba Ceballo Yes, Reyes Ortega Yes, Michelle Roman Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo Yes.**