



**ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP**  
**ANNUAL REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES**  
**VIRTUAL MEETING on ZOOM**  
**Wednesday, June 9, 2021**

- I. **The meeting was called to order at 6:52 PM and presided over by Lisette Vilanova through Old Business, Gail Long, Board Secretary through Board Elections, and newly appointed president after elections.**

In accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, *N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.*, notice of this meeting has been publicized by having the date, time and location of the meeting posted at the school, on the school web site and advertised in the Home News Tribune which has been designated as the Board's official newspaper within the legal time required. Time will 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.

IV. **ROLL CALL**

<b><u>Board Members:</u></b>	<b><u>Term End:</u></b>	
Lisette Vilanova, President	6/30/2022	Present
Joshua Bishop-Mbachu, Vice President	6/30/2023	Present

Angelo Abreu, Corporate Secretary	6/30/2023	Present
Claudine Bishop	6/30/2021	Excused
Hector Bonilla	6/30/2021	Excused
Elba Ceballo	6/30/2021	Absent
Eloisa Hernandez	6/30/2023	Present
Reyes Ortega	6/30/2022	Absent
Michelle Roman	6/30/2022	Present
Stephanie Valdiviezo	6/30/2022	Present
<b>Additional Attendees:</b>		
Dr. Mario Barbieri (Interim Lead Person)		Present
Gail Long (Business Admin/Board Secretary)		Present
Patricia Bombelyn (Board Attorney)		Present
Peter Salek-Nejad (Supervisor of Curriculum)		Present
Douglas Kelly (Vice-Principal)		Present

## V. OLD BUSINESS

1. Move that the Board of Trustees accept the audit and approve the CAP for school year ending 6/30/2020.

**Motion: Joshua Bishop; Second: Angelo Abreu Voice Vote:**

**All In Favor: 6: Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop, Angelo Abreu, Eloisa Hernandez, Michelle Roman, Stephanie Valdiviezo; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0**

**Motion Passed**

2. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Lead Administrator accept the Special Ed. Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) waiver for the 2021-2022 school year.

**Motion: Joshua Bishop; Second: Eloisa Hernandez Voice Vote:**

**All In Favor: 6: Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop, Angelo Abreu, Eloisa Hernandez, Michelle Roman, Stephanie Valdiviezo; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0**

**Motion Passed**

3. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Lead Administrator approve the use of Middlesex College for the high school graduation to be held on June 24, 2021 at an approximate cost of \$5,500.

**Motion: Eloisa Hernandez; Second: Joshua Bishop Voice Vote:**

**All In Favor: 5: Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop, Eloisa Hernandez, Michelle Roman, Stephanie Valdiviezo; Any Abstained: 1 : Angelo Abreu ; Any Opposed: 0**

**Motion Passed**

4. Move that the Board of Trustees accept the resignation of Reyes Ortega, Board Member, effective June 09, 2021.

**Motion: Joshua Bishop; Second: Angelo Abreu Voice Vote:**

**All In Favor: 6: Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop, Angelo Abreu, Eloisa Hernandez, Michelle Roman, Stephanie Valdiviezo; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0**

**Motion Passed**

**VI. ELECTION:**

Election Chair: Gail Long  
Election Committee: Joshua Bishop and Angelo Abreu

At-Large Representative:

Ms. Long shared that there are, or will be:

- ❖ 3 vacant 3 year At-Large Seats on the Board
- ❖ 1 vacant 1 year Unexpired Term for an At-Large Seat on the Board
- ❖ 1 vacant 2 year Unexpired Term for an At-Large Seat on the Board

**1. Election Results:**

- a) Elba Ceballo – (Write-In) – 3 year term
- b) Joshua Lisojo – (Write-In) – 2 year term

Nomination of Prospective Board Members:

Ms. Vilanova nominated Elba Ceballo. Ms. Ceballo is an educator, lives in Perth Amboy, and though she was not present at the meeting, she has said that she wanted to serve a second term on the Board. This information constitutes an acceptance of the nomination.

Next Ms. Vilanova nominated Joshua Lisojo. Mr. Lisojo lives in Perth Amboy and works in the Computer Science field getting a bachelors in Computer Science at Kean University. He wants to take action in the community and can assist with technology skills. He is also a hobbyist photographer. Mr. Lisojo accepted the nomination.

Trustees voted for the candidates electronically via Zoom. Ms. Long tallied the votes with the assistance of Mr. Bishop and Mr. Abreu.

Three year seat (3 At-Large Seats available)

Elba Ceballo is re-elected as a Board of Trustee member – At-Large Representative – for a three year term – 6 votes.

Two year seat (1 At-Large Seat available)

Joshua Lisojo is elected as a Board of Trustee member – At-Large Representative – for a two year term – 6 votes.

**2. Oath of Office:**

Board Attorney, Patricia Bombelyn administered the oath of office to the new Board member, Joshua Lisojo, by having him repeat the required Oath for School Board members pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:12-2.1 and N.J.S.A. 41:-1 and 1-3. After repeating the Oath, Mr. Lisojo emailed the signed Oath of Office to the Board Secretary.

**3. Election of Officers:**

**Board President:**

Michelle Roman nominated Lisette Vilanova for President. Mr. Abreu seconded the nomination and Ms. Vilanova accepted. There were no other nominations.

**Vice President:**

Lisette Vilanova nominated Michelle Roman for Vice President. Ms. Roman did not accept the nomination.

Ms. Vilanova nominated Joshua Bishop for Vice President. Mr. Bishop accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations.

**Corporate Secretary:**

Joshua Bishop nominated Angelo Abreu as Corporate Secretary. Ms. Roman seconded the nomination and Mr. Abreu accepted. There were no other nominations.

Trustees voted for the officers electronically via Zoom. Ms. Long tallied the votes.

Lisette Vilanova received 7 out of 7 votes. Ms Vilanova is elected as Board of Trustees President for the 2021/2022 school year.

Joshua Bishop received 7 out of 7 votes. Mr. Bishop is elected as Board of Trustees Vice – President for the 2021/2022 school year.

Angelo Abreu received 7 out of 7 votes. Mr. Abreu is elected as Corporate Secretary for the 2021/2022 school year.

**VII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

- 1) Penelope Vlasteras, English HS Teacher who resides in Union, NJ spoke of the upcoming HS graduation. She said that the Board would be on the stage for the election, and she likes the idea of a video from the Board.

**VIII. REORGANIZATION MOTIONS**

1. Move that the Board of Trustees authorize that the Home News Tribune and the Amboy Guardian be adopted as the official newspaper to be used for the advertisement of meetings and legal ads and all other necessary public notifications for the 2021 – 2022 school year.

**Motion: Joshua Bishop; Second: Michelle Roman      Voice Vote:**

**All In Favor: 7 Yes: Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop, Angelo Abreu, Eloisa Hernandez, Michelle Roman, Stephanie Valdiviezo, Joshua Lisojo; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0**

**Motion Passed**

2. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Regular meeting schedule for the 2021-2022 school year on the last Wednesday of every month starting at 6:30 pm with exceptions on some months (detailed in the 2021/2022 school year calendar).

Wednesday, July 28, 2021	Regular business meeting
Wednesday, August 25, 2021	Regular business meeting
Wednesday, September 29, 2021	Regular business meeting
Wednesday, October 27, 2021	Regular business meeting
Wednesday, November 17, 2021	Regular business meeting
Wednesday, December 15, 2021	Regular business meeting
Wednesday, January 26, 2022	Regular business meeting
Wednesday, February 23, 2022	Regular business meeting
Wednesday, March 30, 2022	Regular business meeting
Wednesday, April 27, 2022	Regular business meeting
Wednesday, May 11, 2022	Regular business meeting
Wednesday, May 25, 2022	Regular business meeting
Wednesday, June 8, 2022	Annual Organization meeting
Wednesday, June 29, 2022	Regular business meeting

**Motion: Joshua Bishop; Second: Angelo Abreu      Voice Vote:**

**All In Favor: 7 Yes: Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop, Angelo Abreu, Eloisa Hernandez, Michelle Roman, Stephanie Valdiviezo, Joshua Lisojo; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0**

**Motion Passed**

3. Move that the Board of Trustees authorize that Investors Savings Bank be designated as approved depositories for the Academy for Urban Leadership Board of Trustees funds and that the Financial Institutions be required to be located in New Jersey and insured by either the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation (FSLIC) and/or as required by both Federal and State statutes and are entirely insured or collateralized by a collateral pool maintained by the public depositories as required by the Governmental Unit Deposit Protection Act (GUDPA) for the following accounts:

General Account	Payroll Account	Payroll Agency Account
Health Reimbursement Account	Escrow Account	Cafeteria Account
Student Activities Account		

with any of the following two signatures for money market checking, and savings accounts follows:

President	Vice President	Board Secretary
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**Motion: Joshua Bishop; Second: Angelo Abreu      Voice Vote:**

**All In Favor: 7 Yes: Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop, Angelo Abreu, Eloisa Hernandez, Michelle Roman, Stephanie Valdiviezo, Joshua Lisojo; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0**

**Motion Passed**

4. Move that the Board of Trustees adopt the existing policies and regulations as set forth in the Academy for Urban Leadership Charter School District Policy and Regulations Manuals.

**Motion: Joshua Bishop; Second: Angelo Abreu      Voice Vote:**

*Ms. Hernandez was reluctant to vote on this motion as she did not have the opportunity to read the agenda or policies in advance. Ms. Bombelyn informed her that it was necessary for her to vote on this motion and that she was simply ratifying policies passed previously so that the school could function. The Governance committee used to review policies in the past, but the function was taken over by the Executive committee. The school will work on the process making sure that policies are distributed to all trustees timely. After the discussion, the vote was taken:*

**All In Favor: 7 Yes: Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop, Angelo Abreu, Eloisa Hernandez, Michelle Roman, Stephanie Valdiviezo, Joshua Lisojo; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0**

**Motion Passed**

5. Move that the Board of Trustees adopt the following resolution authorizing Gail Long, Business Administrator/Board Secretary as the district’s Qualified Purchasing Agent for the remainder of the 2021-2022 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 \$44,000 if the School Business Administrator is qualified pursuant to NJSA 40A11-9; and

Whereas, Gail Long is qualified pursuant to NJSA 40A:11-9; and

Whereas, pursuant to NJSA 18A:18A-37(c) 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(a), 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 Gail Long 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 \$44,000 for the 2021/2022 school year;
- B. Gail Long is duly authorized to award contracts, in the aggregate, to less than \$6,600 (which is 15 percent of the bid threshold of \$44,000) without advertisement for bids and without solicitation of competitive quotations; and
- C. Gail Long is duly authorized to seek competitive quotations for and to award contracts as provided by law that either;
  - a) Is an amount, in the aggregate, to less than \$44,000, but to greater than \$6,600 (which is 15 percent of the bid threshold where 2 quotes will be required, or
  - b) Are exempt from public bidding requirements to NJASA 18A:18A-5 (except for professional services and work performed by Board employees).

**Motion: Joshua Bishop; Second: Angelo Abreu      Voice Vote:**

**All In Favor: 7 Yes: Lissette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop, Angelo Abreu, Eloisa Hernandez, Michelle Roman, Stephanie Valdiviezo, Joshua Lisojo; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0**

**Motion Passed**

6. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the following appointments for the 2021/2022 school year:

- a. Board Secretary – Gail Long
- b. Affirmative Action Officer – Dr. Mario Barbieri
- c. Affirmative Action Coordinator (i.e. validates racial equity) – Miriam Rodriguez
- d. Custodian of Records – Gail Long
- e. Title IX Coordinator (i.e. validates gender equity) – Miriam Rodriguez

- f. Anti-Bullying Coordinator – Mabel Leonardo and Kelly Howlett

**Motion: Joshua Bishop; Second: Angelo Abreu      Voice Vote:**

**All In Favor: 7 Yes: Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop, Angelo Abreu, Eloisa Hernandez, Michelle Roman, Stephanie Valdiviezo, Joshua Lisojo; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0**

**Motion Passed**

7. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the following professional; services appointments for the 2021/2022 school year, contingent upon receipt of all necessary completed state document requirements:

- a. Attorney:
  - i. Patricia Bombelyn, Board Attorney
  - ii. Nicholas J. Repici, Labor Law Attorney
- b. Treasurer of School Monies – Patrick De Blasio
- c. School Physician – Dr. Surinder K. Sodhi

**Motion: Joshua Bishop; Second: Angelo Abreu      Voice Vote:**

**All In Favor: 7 Yes: Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop, Angelo Abreu, Eloisa Hernandez, Michelle Roman, Stephanie Valdiviezo, Joshua Lisojo; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0**

**Motion Passed**

8. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the following additional services appointments for the 2021/2022 school year:

- a. 403(b) provider – AXA Equitable
- b. Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) provider – Take Care by Wage Works
- c. Disability provider – Colonial Life
- d. Insurance/Risk Management/Consulting Broker: Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.

**Motion: Joshua Bishop; Second: Angelo Abreu      Voice Vote:**

**All In Favor: 7 Yes: Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop, Angelo Abreu, Eloisa Hernandez, Michelle Roman, Stephanie Valdiviezo, Joshua Lisojo; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0**

**Motion Passed**

9. Move that the Board of Trustees authorizes the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to approve the payment of bills, as may be necessary between board meetings, and that said bills list payments be presented to the Board for approval at the next regularly



scheduled meeting with authority, as provided by 18A:19-2 amended, to direct pre-payment of claims for payroll, fixed charges and any other claim or demand which would be in the best interests of the Board to pay promptly.

**Motion: Joshua Bishop; Second: Angelo Abreu      Voice Vote:**

**All In Favor: 7 Yes: Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop, Angelo Abreu, Eloisa Hernandez, Michelle Roman, Stephanie Valdiviezo, Joshua Lisojo; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0**

**Motion Passed**

10. Move that the Board of Trustees authorize the Lead Person and the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to implement the 2021/2022 budget pursuant to local and state policies and regulations and to use the level of accounts from the Uniform Minimum Chart of Accounts (handbook 2R2) for New Jersey Public Schools to be used.

**Motion: Joshua Bishop; Second: Angelo Abreu      Voice Vote:**

**All In Favor: 6 Yes: Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop, Angelo Abreu, Michelle Roman, Stephanie Valdiviezo, Joshua Lisojo; Any Abstained: 1: Eloisa Hernandez; Any Opposed: 0**

**Motion Passed**

11. Move that the Board of Trustees authorizes administration to enter into cooperative pricing agreements with:

- Bergen County Special Services
- Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ)
- Morris County Cooperative Council
- PEPPM Technology Bidding and Purchasing Program
- R e g i o n V
- Somerset County Cooperative Pricing System
- Sussex County Regional Cooperative
- South Bergen Jointure Commission
- The Hunterdon County Educational Services

WHEREAS, these agencies conduct a certain function relating to the purchase of work materials and supplies for their respective jurisdictions during the 2021-2022 school year; and

WHEREAS, the Academy for Urban Leadership Charter Schools encourages the use of shared services through State approved cooperative entities; and

WHEREAS, the Academy for Urban Leadership Charter Schools encourages open public bidding for goods and services; and

WHEREAS, the Academy for Urban Leadership Charter Schools recognizes the need for obtaining the most competitive and responsive bid for goods and/or services; and

WHEREAS, the agencies are cooperative pricing systems which allow participating governmental and municipal agencies to reduce the cost of purchased goods by leveraging their combined purchasing power at no cost; and

WHEREAS, this resolution shall be known and may be cited as the Cooperative Pricing resolution of the Academy for Urban Leadership Charter Schools; and

WHEREAS, the agencies entering into contracts on behalf of the Academy for Urban Leadership Charter Schools shall be responsible for complying with the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J. S.40A:11-1 et seq.) and all other provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A.-40A:11-11(5) the Academy for Urban Leadership Charter Schools is hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the listed agencies for the purchase of work materials and supplies, as needed;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Academy for Urban Leadership Charter Schools that the Purchasing Agent is hereby authorized to enter into a cooperative pricing agreement with the agencies listed above for the purchase of work materials, supplies and services, for the 2021-2022 school year, as needed.

**Motion: Joshua Bishop; Second: Angelo Abreu      Voice Vote:**

**All In Favor: 7 Yes: Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop, Angelo Abreu, Eloisa Hernandez, Michelle Roman, Stephanie Valdiviezo, Joshua Lisojo; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0**

**Motion Passed**

12. Move that the Board of Trustees, in compliance with N.J.S.A. 18A:33-1 and 18A:35, that the Academy for Urban Leadership Charter Schools confirms the adoption of the existing textbooks and curricula resources in the District's schools and that no course of study shall be altered except by the recorded roll call majority vote of the full membership of the board and approves for use in the district classrooms during the 2021-2022 School Year, curricular, courses, textbooks, reference books, manuals, workbooks, library collections, ancillary materials, and related curricular resources

**Motion: Joshua Bishop; Second: Angelo Abreu      Voice Vote:**

**All In Favor: 7 Yes: Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop, Angelo Abreu, Eloisa Hernandez, Michelle Roman, Stephanie Valdiviezo, Joshua Lisojo; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0**

**Motion Passed**

## **IX. OTHER MOTIONS**

1. Move that the Board of Trustees of AULCS, upon the recommendation of the Lead Administrator approve the following checks for payment:

From General Account:

Lake Chateau	\$ 1,773.54
Newark Food Service Equipment	\$ 6,690.00
Eye Bird Delivery	\$ 400.00

From Payroll Agency Account: 2020-21 Mentor checks:

<b>Mentor:</b>	<b>Amount:</b>
Syed, Saad	\$333.33
Gardner, April	\$550.00
Phillips-Page, Dean	\$100.00

**Motion: Joshua Bishop; Second: Angelo Abreu      Voice Vote:**

**All In Favor: 7 Yes: Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop, Angelo Abreu, Eloisa Hernandez, Michelle Roman, Stephanie Valdiviezo, Joshua Lisojo; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0**

**Motion Passed**

**X. 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.

Discussion Items:

Attorney Client Privilege

No Executive Session

**XI. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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

No public comments.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

The Board President entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Joshua Bishop made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Angelo Abreu seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 9:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Long

Board Secretary