



ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
VIRTUAL MEETING on ZOOM
Wednesday, September 30, 2020

I. The meeting was called to order 6:47 PM and presided over by Lisette Vilanova

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 website 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 – Led by Ms. Vilanova

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

Board Members:

Lisette Vilanova (President)	Present
Joshua Bishop (Vice President)	Present (left at 10:15 pm)
Jorge Cruz (Corporate Secretary)	Present
Angelo Abreu	Present
Claudine Bishop	Excused

Hector Bonilla	Present
Elba Ceballo	Present (arrived 6:51 pm)
Eloisa Hernandez	Present
Reyes Ortega	Absent
Michelle Roman	Present (arrived 7:00 pm; left at 10:30; returned 10:44 pm)
Stephanie Valdiviezo	Absent

Additional Attendees:

Peter Salek-Nejad (Acting Lead Administrator)	Present
Gail Long (Business Administrator/Board Secretary)	Present
Patricia Bombelyn (Board Attorney)	Present
Douglas Kelly (Vice-Principal)	Present

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Regular meeting minutes dated May 27, 2020
Motion was not moved

Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Special meeting minutes dated August 24, 2020
 Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Regular meeting minutes dated August 26, 2020

Motion: Joshua Bishop; Second: Jorge Cruz
Voice Vote: All In Favor: 8; Any Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

VI. PRESENTATIONS

PLC/Data – Ms. Gardener reported on the progress made in Middle School. She provided a written report.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

None

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Munira Jamali, HS Teacher at AULCS spoke at length about the SAT and AP testing and the importance for AULCS to host the November test. Students should be measured by a standardized third party assessment which would have been the NJSLA but because of the coronavirus this did not happen last school year. AULCS has been a SAT testing site previously however we did not offer our site for testing in October 2020 due to the virus. If AULCS hosted the test, it would be easier for our students to take the test and there is a shortage of sites. It is something the school should do so our students would have a standardized test in time in case students' want to apply to Rutgers or other schools that require it.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Academic Excellence Committee - Hector Bonilla – The committee did not meet but Mr. Bonilla gave some statistics about Rutgers minority admissions – 13.8% Latina students, 8% Black, and the school accepts 60% of the students who apply
- Human Resources and Recognition Committee - Michelle Roman – The committee met and discussed the Food Service Director position, stipends for data coaches, vacancies in administrative support positions and many other issues; motions are included on many items discussed.
- Finance and Facilities Planning Committee – Joshua Bishop reported that we had a good productive meeting this past month
- Executive Committee - Lisette Vilanova – The committee met and talked about reopening, and the Interim Lead Search. She mentioned that we have an Ad Hoc committee on Enrollment

X. OTHER REPORTS

Lead Person's Report – Mr. Salek-Nejad gave a report which provided information about Professional Development staff members have attended, safety drills, student and staff attendance, special services, Guidance Counseling reports, information about the Middle School and other items of interest. A written report was provided.

XI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Enrollment

Middle School	100
High School	<u>386</u>
Total	486

- A brief discussion started among Board members about the enrollment. They discussed a need for an active PTO, crucial supplies such as computers not arriving in time for classes, and about an enrollment plan.

XII. MOTIONS - Consent Agenda

The Lead Person recommends the following items for approval:

Motion Items: All Items from Consent Agenda were approved. This would include Academic Excellence # 1, Human Resources and Recognition # 1 - 7; Finance and Facilities # 1 - 5.

Motion: Joshua Bishop; Second: Jorge Cruz, Roll Call Vote:

Lisette Vilanova: Yes, Joshua Bishop: Yes, Jorge Cruz: Yes, Angelo Abreu: Yes, Hector Bonilla: Yes, Elba Ceballo: Yes, Eloisa Hernandez: Yes, Michelle Roman: Yes.

Motions Passed

a. Academic Excellence & Educational Equity

1. Move that the Board of Trustees approve Miriam Rodriguez to attend a virtual workshop 10/1/2020 entitled: the FFCRA Newest Updates from the Department of Labor at a cost of \$99 per participant.

b. Human Resource and Recognition

1. Move that the Board of Trustees appoint Bernadette Gioia as the Data Clerk for the 21st Century grant 9/1/2020 - 6/30//2021 at a stipend amount of \$12,000 payable in equal semi-monthly installments. Stipend is grant funded.
2. Move that the Board of Trustees approve Lissette Shumney as Site Coordinator at Assumption Catholic for the 21st Century grant 9/1/2020 - 6/30/2021 at a stipend amount of \$18,000 payable in equal semi-monthly installments. Stipend is grant funded.
3. Move that the Board of Trustees approve Munira Jamali as Data Coach for the high school at a stipend amount of \$5,000 for the 2020/2021 school year.
4. Move that the Board of Trustees approve Rose Ann Berberich as the PLC Coordinator at the high school at a stipend amount of \$5,000 for the 2020/2021 school year.
5. Move that the Board of Trustees approve April Gardener as the Data Coach and PLC Coordinator for the middle school at a stipend amount of \$5,000 for both activities for the 2020/2021 school year.
6. Move that the Board of Trustees approve a 1 3/4 month unpaid leave of absence starting from Thursday, October 8, 2020 to Monday December 2, 2020 for Evelyn Santiago, Lunch Aide. Leave request is from Monday, 9/28/20; unpaid leave commences 10/8/2020 after exhausting all 8 sick days.
7. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the job description and posting for Food Service Director for the 2020/2021 school year.

c. Finance and Facilities

1. Move that the Board of Trustees approve:

i. Bill List August 27, 2020 – September 30, 2020	\$376,678.49
ii. Payroll Report for August 28, 2020	\$127,230.74
iii. Payroll Report for August 31, 2020	\$33,669.64
iv. Payroll Report for September 15, 2020	<u>\$254,065.20</u>
Total	\$791,644.07

2. Move that the Board of Trustees approve new cost increases to Horizon HSA EPO Medical Plan effective 10/1/2020 to 10/1/2021.:

Coverage Type	10/1/19 - 10/1/20	10/1/20 - 10/1/21
Single	\$474.52	\$507.75
Parent/Child	\$856.47	\$916.45
2 Adults	\$1,010.22	\$1,080.97
Family	\$1,428.01	\$1,528.02

3. Move that the Board of Trustees approve entering into a contract with Bima Baje of Baje Consulting Group, LLC to provide temporary support to the Business office. On 8-26-2020 Finance and Facilities resolution # 4 approved these services at a cost not to exceed \$12,827. This resolution names the service provider and will increase the amount by \$1,173 to a total amount not to exceed \$14,000.
4. Move that the Board of Trustees approve entering into a contract with consultant Dr. Francine C. Luce of Andrew St. LLC to provide in-service to the staff of the 21st century grant. The services will be funded by the 21st Century grant for the period from 9/1/2020 - 8/31/2021 at a cost not to exceed \$9,600.
5. Move that the Board of Trustees approve entering into a contract with consultant Dr. Jack Perna of MRDA Inc. to provide evaluation services for the 21st Century grant for the period from 9/1/2020 - 8/31/2021 at a cost not to exceed \$22,500. These services will be funded by the 21st Century grant.

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Luis Vargas, Administrative Assistant to the Lead provided information about Dr. Francine Luce and gave details about the 21st Century grant. He asked the Assumption school to go virtual after getting no answer from the program office. Enrollment in the 21st Century is 120 students.
2. Abraham Williams, IT offered information on the delays with deploying laptops. He said that we have the laptops but not the imaging software. He also gave the status on thermal cameras including those that he identified that cost \$3500.

XIV. 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:

- A. Personnel matters
- B. Attorney client privileges

**Motion: Hector Bonilla; Second: Joshua Bishop
Voice Vote: All In Favor: 8; Any Opposed: 0**

The Board went into Executive Session at 9:52 PM

XV. RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION

**Motion: Hector Bonilla; Second: Angelo Abreu
Voice Vote: All In Favor: 6; Any Opposed: 0**

The Board came out of Executive Session at 10:38 PM

XVI. OTHER MOTIONS

1. Additional Bill List:	
Bill List from check # 8111 to 8117	\$12,638.77
Treasurer State of NJ (FICA Reimb IDEA & Title I)	\$82,381.83
Prom Reimbursement, check # 1167 Student Activity	
Account payable to Munira Jamali	\$305.98
Payroll Report for September 30, 2020	<u>\$251,897.84</u>
Total	\$347,224.42

**Motion: Jorge Cruz; Second: Angelo Abreu
Voice Vote: All In Favor: 6 Lisette Vilanova, Jorge Cruz, Angelo Abreu,
Hector Bonilla, Elba Ceballo, and Eloisa Hernandez; Any Opposed: 0
Motion Passed**

2. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the payment of \$133,691.60 to JG Drywall for the Barclay construction project pending completion of items discussed at the 9/21 site visit and re-certification of true status to completion by architect.

**Motion: Jorge Cruz; Second: Angelo Abreu
Voice Vote: All In Favor: 7 Lisette Vilanova, Jorge Cruz, Angelo Abreu,
Hector Bonilla, Elba Ceballo, Eloisa Hernandez, and Michelle Roman; Any
Opposed: 0**

Motion Passed

3. Move that the Board of Trustees approve a contract with Jack Perna's consulting company, MRDA for the purposes of recruitment services from 10/1/2020 - 12/31/2020 in the amount of \$10,000.

Motion was not Moved

4. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Statement of Assurance Regarding the Use of Paraprofessional Staff for the 2020-2021 School Year.

Motion: Michelle Roman; Second: Elba Ceballo

The Board discussed this motion but did not have sufficient information to make a decision.

Motion was Tabled

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Jorge Cruz to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Hector Bonilla and the meeting was adjourned at 10:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Long
Board Secretary