



**ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**VIRTUAL MEETING on ZOOM**  
**Wednesday, October 28, 2020**  
**6:30 PM**

**I. The meeting was called to order at 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 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 – Led by Lisette 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 8:00 pm)
Jorge Cruz (Corporate Secretary)	Present (left at 8:00 pm)
Angelo Abreu	Present

Claudine Bishop	Excused
Hector Bonilla	Present
Elba Ceballo	Present
Eloisa Hernandez	Present (arrived 7:18 pm)
Reyes Ortega	Absent
Michelle Roman	Present (arrived 7:15 pm)
Stephanie Valdiviezo	Present

**Additional Attendees:**

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

Other Attendees: Miriam Rodriguez, Ronald Puntiel, and Dr. Natasha James Walden

**V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Move that the Board of Trustees approve the special meeting minutes from September 2, 2020.

**Motion: Joshua Bishop      Second: Elba Ceballo      Roll Call Vote:**

**Lisette Vilanova: Yes; Joshua Bishop: Yes; Jorge Cruz: Abstain; Angelo Abreu: Yes;  
Hector Bonilla: Yes; Elba Ceballo: Yes; Stephanie Valdiviezo: Yes**

**Motion Passed**

Move that the Board of Trustees approve the special meeting minutes from September 15, 2020

**Motion: Joshua Bishop      Second: Elba Ceballo      Roll Call Vote:**

**Lisette Vilanova: Abstain; Joshua Bishop: Yes; Jorge Cruz: Abstain; Angelo Abreu: Yes;  
Hector Bonilla: Yes; Elba Ceballo: Yes; Stephanie Valdiviezo: Yes**

**Motion Passed**

Move that the Board of Trustees approve the regular meeting minutes from September 30, 2020  
**Motion was not moved**

Move that the Board of Trustees approve the special meeting minutes from October 16, 2020.

**Motion was not moved**

**VI. PRESENTATION**

PLC/Data Report was provided by Middle School ESL Teacher April Gardener who gave an extensive written report on the progress of students. The Board members invited her to attend the next Academic Excellence committee meeting and provide input.

**VII. CORRESPONDENCE**

The school received a letter from the NJDOE regarding an upcoming targeted review on child find requirements based on a report from the 2018/2019 school year.

## VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dr. James-Walden, the Director of Ed Services from Jewish Renaissance spoke about the Step-Up Program. This Program has been at AULCS for 10 years and in operation for 12. The program helps students with internships, resume writing, and offers access to a Youth Advisory Council and a Helping Hands program. They offer college tours and a FASFA workshop which was attended by 34 students, but their goal is to expand their exposure to at least 60 students.

## IX. MOTIONS - Consent Agenda

The Lead Person recommends the following items for approval:

Remove from Consent Agenda under Human Resources motion # 3 and # 5 and under Finance and Facilities motion # 2 -4.

**Motion Items: Academic Excellence motion 1; Human Resources and Recognition motions 1 - 2 & 4 & 6; Finance and Facilities motions 1 and 5 – 7.**

**Motion: Michelle Roman, Second: Hector Bonilla; Roll Call Vote:**

**Lisette Vilanova: Yes; Angelo Abreu: Yes; Hector Bonilla: Yes; Elba Ceballo: Yes; Eloisa Hernandez: Yes; Michelle Roman: Yes; Stephanie Valdiviezo: Yes.**

### Motions Passed

#### a. Academic Excellence & Educational Equity

1. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Staff Development on PARS training for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Program for Bernadette Gioia 10/29/2020 at no cost to the school. Ms. Gioia is new in the position and requires the training.

#### b. Human Resource and Recognition

1. Move that the Board of Trustees accept the FFCRA paid leave for Ronald Puntiel, Security Guard from August 18, 2020 to August 28, 2020. This leave is paid at 100% and will be funded by the CRF grant.
2. Move that the Board of Trustees accepts the FFCRA paid leave for Ronald Puntiel, Security Guard from October 5, 2020 to October 30, 2020. This FFCRA leave will be paid at 2/3 of his earnings and will be funded by the CRF grant.
4. Move that the Board of Trustees accept the FFCRA paid leave for Reme Barber, Security from October 5, 2020 to October 15, 2020. This FFCRA leave is paid at 100% and will be funded by the CRF grant.
6. Move that the Board of Trustees accept the resignation of:

Staff	Position	Effective Date
Munem, Syed	MS Social Studies Teacher	12/14/2020
Acevedo, Ruth	HS Spanish Teacher	10/12/2020

### c. Finance and Facilities

1. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Bill List for the period from October 1, 2020 – October 28, 2020 in the amount of \$186,530.76.
5. Move that the Board of Trustees accept a grant from the Investors Foundation in the amount of \$2,500.00.
6. Move that the Board of Trustees accept a grant from the NJSIG (NJ Schools Insurance Group) in the amount of \$2,255.28.
7. Move that the Board of Trustees accept the CRF (Coronavirus Relief Fund) Grant in the amount of \$60,139.00. The project period of this grant is 3/1/2020 – 12/31/2020.

### X. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No Public comments

### XI. 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

Personnel matters

**Motion: Michelle Roman; Second: Elba Ceballo**

**Voice Vote: All In Favor: 8; Any Opposed: 0**

**The Board went into Executive Session at 8:25 PM**

## **XII. RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION**

**Motion: Hector Bonilla; Second: Eloisa Hernandez**

**Voice Vote: All In Favor: 8; Any Opposed: 0**

**The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:47 PM**

## **XIII. CONSIDERATION OF ADDITIONAL RESOLUTIONS**

### **Motions from Human Resources and Recognition**

3. Move that the Board of Trustees accept the FMLA unpaid leave for Nina Kofonow, Teacher from November 9, 2020 to January 31, 2021.

**Motion: Hector Bonilla; Second: Angelo Abreu; Roll Call Vote:**

**Lisette Vilanova: Yes, Angelo Abreu: Yes, Hector Bonilla: Yes, Elba Ceballo: Yes, Eloisa Hernandez: Yes, Michelle Roman: Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo: Yes.**

**Motion Passed**

5. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Recruitment/Enrollment Specialist job description.

**Motion: Michelle Roman; Second: Elba Ceballo;**

*There was a brief discussion about the Recruitment/Enrollment Specialist job description. Board members had questions about education/experience required and whether or not the position should be part time or full time. Mr. Abreu expressed interest in being part of the search committee when that position is posted.*

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Lisette Vilanova: Yes, Angelo Abreu: Yes, Hector Bonilla: Yes, Elba Ceballo: Yes, Eloisa Hernandez: Yes, Michelle Roman: Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo: Yes.**

**Motion Passed**

### **Motions from Finance and Facilities**

2. Move that the Board of Trustees approve a transfer of funds for April 2020.

**Motion: Eloisa Hernandez; Second: Angelo Abreu; Roll Call Vote:**

**Lisette Vilanova: Yes, Angelo Abreu: Yes, Hector Bonilla: Yes, Elba Ceballo: Yes, Eloisa Hernandez: Yes, Michelle Roman: Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo: Yes.**

**Motion Passed**

3. Move that the Board of Trustees approve a transfer of funds for May 2020.

**Motion: Hector Bonilla; Second: Angelo Abreu; Roll Call Vote:**

**Lisette Vilanova: Yes, Angelo Abreu: Yes, Hector Bonilla: Yes, Elba Ceballo: Yes, Eloisa Hernandez: Yes, Michelle Roman: Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo: Yes.**

**Motion Passed**

4. Move that the Board of Trustees approve a transfer of funds for June 2020.

**Motion Was Not Moved**

### **Motions from Addendum**

1. Move that the Board of Trustees of AULCS, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, approve the revised Board Secretary's (A148) Report and Treasurer's (A149) Report, for the month ending April 30, 2020. Be it further resolved, that the Board of Trustees of AULCS, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, approve the certification of funds, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)3, that as of April 30, 2020 no budgetary line item account has encumbrances and expenditures which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of 6A:23A16.10(a).

**Motion: Eloisa Hernandez; Second: Michelle Roman; Roll Call Vote:**

**Lisette Vilanova: Yes, Angelo Abreu: Yes, Hector Bonilla: Yes, Elba Ceballo: Yes, Eloisa Hernandez: Yes, Michelle Roman: Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo: Yes.**

**Motion Passed**

2. Move that the Board of Trustees of AULCS, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, approve the revised Board Secretary's (A148) Report and Treasurer's (A149) Report, for the month ending May 31, 2020. Be it further resolved, that the Board of Trustees of AULCS, upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, approve the certification of funds, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)3, that as of May 31, 2020 no budgetary line item account has encumbrances and expenditures which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of 6A:23A16.10(a).

**Motion: Hector Bonilla; Second: Eloisa Hernandez; Roll Call Vote:**

**Lisette Vilanova: Yes, Angelo Abreu: Yes, Hector Bonilla: Yes, Elba Ceballo: Yes, Eloisa Hernandez: Yes, Michelle Roman: Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo: Yes.**

**Motion Passed**

3. Move that the Board of Trustees of AULCS, approve for Surinder K. Sodhi, MD to provide contracted physician services for the 2020/2021 school year for a fee not to exceed \$10,000.00.

**Motion: Michelle Roman; Second: Angelo Abreu; Roll Call Vote:**

**Lisette Vilanova: Yes, Angelo Abreu: Yes, Hector Bonilla: Yes, Eloisa Hernandez: Yes, Michelle Roman: Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo: Yes.**

**Motion Passed**

4. Move that the Board of Trustees of AULCS approve additional Bill List:

Bill List 10/28/2020 check # 8152 to 8173	\$186,829.79
Student Activity Acct check # 1168	\$3,883.00
Payroll Register 10/15/2020	<u>\$245,622.19</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$436,334.98</u></b>

**Motion: Hector Bonilla; Second: Elba Ceballo; Roll Call Vote:**

**Lisette Vilanova: Abstain, Angelo Abreu: Yes, Hector Bonilla: Yes, Elba Ceballo: Yes, Eloisa Hernandez: Yes, Michelle Roman: Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo: Yes.**

**Motion Passed**

5. Move that the Board of Trustees of AULCS approve a contract with Novakowski Landscaping Inc. for snow removal the 2020/2021 school year at a total cost not to exceed \$18,000.00.

<u># of Inches</u>	<u>Amount</u>	
0-4"	\$1,350.00	
4-8"	\$1,550.00	
8-12"	\$1,750.00	
12-18"	\$1,950.00	
18-24"	\$2,250.00	
24" and over		\$150.00 per inch
Bobcat Loader if needed to remove snow		\$150.00 per hour

**Motion: Eloisa Hernandez; Second: Angelo Abreu; Roll Call Vote:**

**Lisette Vilanova: Yes, Angelo Abreu: Yes, Hector Bonilla: Yes, Elba Ceballo: Yes, Eloisa Hernandez: Yes, Michelle Roman: Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo: Yes.**

**Motion Passed**

6. Move that the Board of Trustees approves the purchase of general art supplies (Main and Barclay campuses) from WB Mason for \$1,518.28.

**Motion Was Not Moved**

7. Move that the Board of Trustees approves the purchase of 15 digital licenses (\$49.97 each) for student access to Forensic Science: An Introduction (Saferstein) from Savvas Learning Company. The total cost of the purchase is \$749.55.

**Motion: Eloisa Hernandez; Second: Angelo Abreu; Roll Call Vote:**

**Lisette Vilanova: Yes, Angelo Abreu: Yes, Hector Bonilla: Yes, Elba Ceballo: Yes, Eloisa Hernandez: Yes, Michelle Roman: Yes, Stephanie Valdiviezo: Yes.**

**Motion Passed**

8. Move that the Board of Trustees approves the purchase of MusicFirst Classroom (Main and Barclay campuses), add-ons for instruction and assessment, product setup, and product training for a cost to not exceed \$3200 (pending final student count, an updated quote, and updated requisition form).

**Motion: Hector Bonilla; Second: Eloisa Hernandez;**

**All In Favor: 7; Lisette Vilanova, Angelo Abreu, Hector Bonilla, Elba Ceballo, Eloisa Hernandez, Michelle Roman, Stephanie Valdiviezo; Any Opposed: 0**

**Motion Passed**

9. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Interim Lead Administrator job description.

**Motion: Hector Bonilla; Second: Angelo Abreu;**

**All In Favor: 7; Lisette Vilanova, Angelo Abreu, Hector Bonilla, Elba Ceballo, Eloisa Hernandez, Michelle Roman, Stephanie Valdiviezo; Any Opposed: 0**

**Motion Passed**

**XIV. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No comment.

**XV. ADJOURNMENT –**

The meeting was adjourned by Ms. Vilanova at 11:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Long  
Board Secretary