



**ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**VIRTUAL MEETING on ZOOM**  
**Wednesday, November 18, 2020**

**I. The meeting was called to order at 6:48 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**

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 8:00 pm)
Jorge Cruz (Corporate Secretary)	Present (left 8:00 pm)
Angelo Abreu	Present
Claudine Bishop	Excused
Hector Bonilla	Present

Elba Ceballo	Excused
Eloisa Hernandez	Present
Reyes Ortega	Absent
Michelle Roman	Excused
Stephanie Valdiviezo	Excused

**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: Rose Ann Berberich, Munira Jamali, Ronald Puntiel, and Luis Vargas

**V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Move that the Board of Trustees approve the regular meeting minutes from September 30, 2020

**Motion: Hector Bonilla      Second: Jorge Cruz      Voice Vote:**

**All in Favor: 6 - Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop, Jorge Cruz, Angelo Abreu, Hector Bonilla, Eloisa Hernandez; Opposed: 0**

**Motion Passed**

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

**Motion: Jorge Cruz      Second: Angelo Abreu      Voice Vote:**

**All in Favor: 4 - Joshua Bishop, Jorge Cruz, Angelo Abreu, Hector Bonilla;  
Abstained: 2 – Lisette Vilanova, Eloisa Hernandez; Opposed: 0**

**Motion Passed**

Move that the Board of Trustees approve the regular meeting minutes from October 28, 2020

**Motion: Eloisa Hernandez      Second: Angelo Abreu      Voice Vote:**

**All in Favor: 5 – Lisette Vilanova, Jorge Cruz, Angelo Abreu, Hector Bonilla, Eloisa Hernandez; Abstained: 1 – Joshua Bishop; Opposed: 0**

**Motion Passed**

Move that the Board of Trustees approve the special meeting minutes from November 10, 2020.

**Motion: Jorge Cruz      Second: Joshua Bishop      Voice Vote:**

**All in Favor: 6 - Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop, Jorge Cruz, Angelo Abreu, Hector Bonilla, Eloisa Hernandez; Opposed: 0**

**Motion Passed**

## VI. PRESENTATION

PLC/Data Report MS– April Gardener – did not present this evening.

PLC HS- Rose Ann Berberich – gave a Data report about how she was assisting teachers. She mentioned teachers giving sensitive topics over Zoom. And she expressed the fact that she wanted to see the student’s faces during the class. She said that she misses their expression. The cameras had been turned off earlier in the semester because of issues with some students.

Data Report HS – Munira Jumali – reported about the SAT tests that were administered at the school November 7. About 170 students sat for the test. The school will also administer the test December 5<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Jumali said that she wants the upcoming class of 2022 to take the SAT in May 2021.

## VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Ronald Puntiel, Head Security from Perth Amboy NJ discussed the position he holds at the school and wanted to know when his salary would be adjusted because he has the lead role in the Security department. He wants the board to give him a full salary for the additional responsibilities instead of a salary plus a stipend.
- Luis Vargas, Assistant to the Lead Administrator from Perth Amboy NJ gave a presentation on the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Afterschool Program. The 2021 program included 14 activities with from 120 – 150 students at AULCS and 10 activities with about 50 students at the Assumption School. Mr. Vargas showed the Board a short video about some of the highlights of the program.
- Rose Ann Berberich, Teacher from the High School who resides in Manchester NJ had two questions about the recent change in the cost of the health care deductions, and when the staff would receive their raises. Ms. Long said that the change in the health care cost was as a result of an increase in the rates from the provider. Ms. Vilanova said that the HEDI raises were on the Board’s radar and that they would be forthcoming in the near future.

## VIII. MOTIONS - Consent Agenda

Remove from Consent Agenda under Finance & Facilities motion 1 & 5.

**Motion Items: Human Resources & Recognition # 1 - 2 and Finance & Facilities # 2 – 4.**

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

**Lisette Vilanova: Yes; Joshua Bishop: Yes; Jorge Cruz: Yes; Angelo Abreu: Yes; Hector Bonilla: Yes; Eloisa Hernandez: Yes.**

**Motions Passed**

The Lead Person recommends the following items for approval:

**a. Academic Excellence & Educational Equity**

<b>Faculty</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Amount Not to Exceed</b>
April Gardner	May 25 – 27, 2021	NJTESOL 2021 Virtual Spring Conf	Online	\$299
Maria Vide	May 25 – 27, 2021	NJTESOL 2021 Virtual Spring Conf	Online	\$299
Danielle Dover	May 25 – 27, 2021	NJTESOL 2021 Virtual Spring Conf	Online	\$299
Susan Ho	Dec. 2, 2020	HIB Law Update	Online	\$125
Mabel Leonardo	Dec. 3, 2020	Legal One – Hot Issues in Special Ed Law	Online	\$125
Ericka Charles	Jan. 6, 2021	Enhancing SEL with a Focus on Special Education	Online	\$75

**TABLED**

**b. Human Resource and Recognition**

1. Move that the Board of Trustees accept the resignation of:

Staff	Position	Effective Date
Ofoegbu, Charles	MS Science Teacher	12/28/2020 or earlier with consensual release

2. Move that the Board of Trustees approve stipends for the following clubs:

Staff	Position	Stipend
Vlastaras, Penelope	Senior Trip & Graduation Advisor	\$1,000
Enny, Kelly	Yearbook	\$500

**c. Finance and Facilities**

2. Move that the Board of Trustees approve a transfer of funds for June 2020.
3. 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 June 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 June 30, 2020 no budgetary line item account has encumbrances and expenditures which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of 6A:23A 16.10(a).

4. Move that the Board of Trustees accept the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center Continuation grant for the period from 9/1/2020 – 8/31/2021 in the amount of \$500,000.

## IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Board President invites members of the public to present any additional comments to the Board.  
No additional public comment

## X. OTHER MOTIONS

1. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Bill List and payrolls for the period from October 29, 2020 – November 18, 2020:

i. Bill List October 29, 2020 – November 18, 2020	\$212,991.16
ii. Payroll Register October 30, 2020	\$258,112.89
iii. Payroll Register November 13, 2020	<u>\$241,024.80</u>
Total	\$712,128.85
Less ck # 8188 Konica Minolta	<u>-7,000.00</u>
Total to be approved	\$705,128.85

**Motion: Joshua Bishop Second: Jorge Cruz Voice Vote:**

**All in Favor: 6 - Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop, Jorge Cruz, Angelo Abreu, Hector Bonilla, Eloisa Hernandez; Opposed: 0**

**Motion Passed**

5. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the submission of the amended ESEA Consolidated grants for the 2020/2021 school year to include the carryover. Grant totals are:

Grant	Original Allocation	Carryover from 2019/2020	Amended Totals
Title I-A	\$215,667	\$1,337	\$217,004
Title II	\$27,610	\$27,379	\$54,989
Title III	\$14,140		\$14,140
Title III Immigrant	\$10,700		\$10,700
Title IV	\$15,874	\$8,120	\$23,994

**Motion: Jorge Cruz Second: Angelo Abreu Voice Vote:**

**All in Favor: 6 - Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop, Jorge Cruz, Angelo Abreu, Hector Bonilla, Eloisa Hernandez; Opposed: 0**

**Motion Passed**

## **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:

Legal/personnel issue

Collective bargaining issues

### **The Board Did Not Go Into Executive Session**

## **XII. ADJOURNMENT**

The Board President entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Eloisa Hernandez made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Hector Bonilla seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Gail Long  
Board Secretary