



ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
VIRTUAL MEETING on ZOOM
Wednesday, February 23, 2022

I. The meeting was called to order at 6:44 pm and presided over by Ms. 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

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-Mbachu, Vice President	Present	
Angelo Abreu, Corporate Secretary	Absent	
Elba Ceballo, Trustee	Absent	
Eloisa Hernandez, Trustee	Present	

Joshua Lisojo, Trustee	Present	Left 8:34 pm
Stephanie Pabon, Trustee	Present	Arrived 6:59 pm; Left 7:30 pm
Michelle Roman, Trustee	Present	
Additional Attendees:		
Dr. Mario Barbiere, Interim Lead Person	Present	
Gail Long, Business Admin/Board Secretary	Present	
Peter Salek-Nejad, Director of Special Programs	Present	
Dr. Elizabeth Duran Swinford, Principal	Present	
April Gardner, Dean of Academics	Present	
Patricia Bombelyn, Board Attorney	Present	

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Move that the Board of Trustees approve the regular meeting minutes from November 17, 2021.

Motion: Joshua Bishop-Mbachu **Second:** Eloisa Hernandez **Voice Vote:**

All in Favor: 5, Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop-Mbachu, Joshua Lisojo, Eloisa Hernandez, Michelle Roman; **Any Abstained:** 0; **Any Opposed:** 0

Motion passed

Move that the Board of Trustees approve the regular meeting minutes from December 15, 2021.

Motion: Joshua Bishop-Mbachu **Second:** Michelle Roman **Voice Vote:**

All in Favor: 5, Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop-Mbachu, Joshua Lisojo, Michelle Roman, Stephanie Pabon; **Any Abstained:** 1 Eloisa Hernandez; **Any Opposed:** 0

Motion passed

Move that the Board of Trustees approve the special meeting minutes from January 12, 2022.

Motion: Joshua Bishop-Mbachu **Second:** Eloisa Hernandez **Voice Vote:**

All In Favor: 6, Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop-Mbachu, Joshua Lisojo, Eloisa Hernandez, Michelle Roman, Stephanie Pabon; **Any Abstained:** 0; **Any Opposed:** 0

Motion passed

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence

VII. PRESENTATIONS

No presentations

VIII. RECOGNITION -

Dr. Swinford will present recognition in the HS
Ms. Gardner will present recognition in the MS

IX. REPRESENTATIVES (5 minutes each)

- Parent Carolina Bermudez
- Student: Audrick Franco
- Teacher: Mr. Syed

X. LEAD REPORT

Dr. Mario Barbieri to present.
Enrollment as of 2/23/2022: 419

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.

Motion: Michelle Roman; Second: Joshua Bishop-Mbachu
Voice Vote: All In Favor: 5; Any Opposed: 0

The Board went into Executive Session at 7:38 pm.

Topics discussed were:

Attorney Client Privilege – Discussion with Board attorney about investigation

Motion: Joshua Bishop-Mbachu; Second: Eloisa Hernandez
Voice Vote: All In Favor: 5; Any Opposed: 0

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:18 pm.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

XIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Academic Excellence – Eloisa Hernandez
- Human Resources and Recognition – Michelle Roman
- Finance and Facilities – Joshua Bishop-Mbachu
- Executive – Lisette Vilanova
- Lead Search – Lisette Vilanova

XIV. MOTIONS – Consent Agenda

Remove from Consent Agenda under Academic Excellence motion # 3 and under Human Resources and Recognition, motion # 1 & 3.

Motion Items: Academic Excellence motions # 1, 2 & 4; Human Resources motion # 2; and Finance and Facilities motions # 1 – 6, and Executive Team motion # 1.

Motion: Joshua Bishop-Mbachu, Second: Michelle Roman;

Roll Call Vote:

Ms. Vilanova Yes, Mr. Bishop-Mbachu Yes, Mr. Lisojo Yes, Ms. Hernandez Yes, Ms. Roman Yes.

5 Yes; 0 Opposed; 0 Abstained

Motions Passed

Academic Excellence

1. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the following field trips

Location	Date	# of Students/Staff	Responsible Person	Cost
Northern NJ Hispanic College Fair 2022; at Woodbridge HS in Woodbridge, NJ	3/9/2022	30 11 th grade students; 3 chaperones	Aknaris Padilla	Free of cost; No bus
NJACAC 2002 Regional College Fair; at Kean Univ. in Union, NJ	3/9/2022	30 11 th grade students; 3 chaperones	Aknaris Padilla	Bus Transportation not to exceed \$325.00
Runyon Watershed, in Old Bridge, NJ	3/22/22	15 sophomores, & 11 seniors	Syed Saad	Bus transportation not to exceed \$350

2. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the following staff members to attend professional development funded by Title III:

Staff	Conference	Dates	Location	Cost
Anasthasia Irudhayasamy	NJ TESOL Annual Conference	6/1 & 6/2/2022	Hyatt Regency Hotel, New Brunswick, NJ	\$314.00

4. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the updated Reopening Plan for February 2022.

Human Resources and Recognition

2. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator accept the FMLA maternity leave for Sara El Mejdoub from 2/28/2022 to 6/30/2022.

Finance and Facilities

1. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the following transfer of funds for November 2021:

	From Account	To Account	Amount
1	11-000-240-500-000-056	11-000-230-331-000-055	8,220
	Purchased Services	Legal Services	
	Transfer funds to cover the cost of investigation		
2	11-000-219-320-000-067	11-000-230-331-000-055	5,000
	Purchased Professional - Educ. Services	Legal Services	
	Transfer funds to cover the cost of investigation		
3	11-000-291-250-000-054	11-000-263-420-000-067	18,000
	Unemployment Insurance	Cleaning Repair & Maint.	
	Transfer funds to cover the cost of snow removal		

4	20-451-200-100-000-100	20-451-200-300-000-100	16,200
	21st Century -Support Sal.	21st Century - Purch Svcs.	
	Transfer to cover site coordinator consultant		

2. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the Board Secretary's (A148) Report and Treasurer's (A149) Report, for the month ending November 30, 2021. Be it further resolved, that the Board of Trustees 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 November 30, 2021 no budgetary line item account has encumbrances and expenditures which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of 6A:23A16.10(a).

3. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the Board Secretary's (A148) Report and Treasurer's (A149) Report, for the month ending December 31, 2021. Be it further resolved, that the Board of Trustees 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 December 31, 2021 no budgetary line item account has encumbrances and expenditures which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of 6A:23A16.10(a).

4. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator, approve the Bill List from 1/27/22 to 2/23/22 in the amount of:

Payroll:1/28/2022	\$247,936.78
Payroll 2/15/2022	\$238,567.24
Warrants from 1/27/2022 – 2/23/2022	<u>\$307,181.29</u>
Total:	\$793,685.31

5. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator, approve the split funding of Peter Salek-Nejad's salary for the 2021/2022 school year: 80% from the General fund and 20% from the ESSER II grant.

6. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve administration's intention to advertise for a management company for food service for the 2022/2023 school year.

Executive Team

1. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the revision of Policy # 4331 – Extra Pay. (First Read)

XV. MOTIONS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

From Academic Excellence:

3. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve Lake Chateau as the venue for the senior prom to be held May 26, 2022 at an estimated cost of \$5,200.00.

Motion: Ms. Hernandez

Second: Mr. Lisojo

Voice Vote:

All In Favor: 5, Ms. Vilanova, Mr. Bishop-Mbachu, Mr. Lisojo, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman, **Any Abstained:** 0; **Any Opposed:** 0

Motion passed

From Human Resources and Recognition:

1. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator, approve the following staff members to continue to develop curriculum and assessments in accordance with the previously approved 5-year curriculum review and renewal cycle (SY 21-22), funded by **CRRSA ESSER II**. Staff will be paid at a rate of \$40 per hour for a total cost not to exceed \$40,000. CRRSA ESSER II will be used first. When the funds are completely expended, curriculum will be paid for by ARP ESSER.

Revisions of existing curriculum takes about 10 hours. Writing new curriculum takes 20 hours.

Curriculum to be written	Staff Member
Algebra I	Munira Jamali/Doug Frost
Algebra II	Munira Jamali
Math Teacher 7 & 8	Munira Jamali
ELA Teacher 7 & 8 Grade	Diana Collazo
Pathway Program Introduction to Vocations	Rose Ann Berberich
Career Readiness, Life Literacies & Key Skills	Rose Ann Berberich

Science Teacher 7 & 8	Syed Saad
Geometry Teacher	Douglas Frost
College Algebra	Douglas Frost
Mathematics of Money	Douglas Frost
Biology Honors, Gen., Chemistry Honors, Gen., Environmental Science, Gen., Modified	Nabaneeta Mukherjee

Motion: Mr. Bishop-Mbachu

Second: Ms. Roman

Voice Vote:

The Board members had a discussion about the curriculum. More information was needed to provide a comfort level. As a result, they did not vote on the motion and the item was withdrawn.

3. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the job descriptions for the following positions:

- a) Interim Administrator
- b) 21st Century Detective Training Coordinator
- c) 21st Century Fitness Coordinator
- d) 21st Century Karate Instructor
- e) 21st Century Guitar Instructor
- f) 21st Century Substitutes
- g) 21st Century Immigration Application Specialist

Motion: Ms. Roman

Second: Ms. Hernandez

Voice Vote:

The Board withdrew the motion after a brief discussion about the job descriptions. They wanted to see a presentation of the 21st Century by the Project Director.

XVI. OTHER MOTIONS

Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator accept the recommendation of the HIB Investigation Report in regards to students # 23092, 24108, 24051, and 24005. The findings of the investigation were founded.

Motion was not moved

XVII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting ended at 8:35 pm when Mr. Lisojo left and there was no longer a quorem..

Respectfully submitted

Gail Long

Board Secretary