



ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
VIRTUAL MEETING on ZOOM
Wednesday, March 9, 2022

I. The meeting was called to order at 6:41 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 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-Mbachu, Vice President	Present	Left at 8:00 pm
Angelo Abreu, Corporate Secretary	Excused	
Elba Ceballo, Trustee	Excused	
Eloisa Hernandez, Trustee	Present	
Joshua Lisojo, Trustee	Present	
Stephanie Pabon, Trustee	Present	Arrived 7:06 pm
Michelle Roman, Trustee	Present	

Additional Attendees:		
Dr. Mario Barbieri, Interim Lead Person	Present	
Gail Long, Business Admin/Board Secretary	Present	
Peter Salek-Nejad, Director of Special Programs	Present	Arrived 7:14 pm
Dr. Elizabeth Duran Swinford, Principal	Present	
April Gardner, Dean of Academics	Absent	
Patricia Bombelyn, Board Attorney	Present	

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Board President invites members of the public to present any comments to the Board (limited to 3 minutes)

No public comments

VI. MOTIONS

1. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Person, approve the following staff members to continue to develop curriculum from October 2021 to June 2022 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.

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. Hernandez

Voice Vote:

All in Favor: 6, Ms. Vilanova, Mr. Bishop-Mbachu, Mr. Lisojo, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman, Ms. Pabon; **Any Abstained:** 0; **Any Opposed:** 0

Motion passed

2. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Person 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) ~~Title III Immigrant – Immigration Application Specialist~~
- h) ~~Curriculum Writing Teachers~~

Motion: Mr. Lisojo

Second: Ms. Hernandez

Voice Vote:

The Board decided that this motion should just include the job descriptions associated with the 21st Century grant. The motion was amended to remove the job descriptions for the Interim Administrator, the Title III funded Immigration Application Specialist, and the Curriculum Writing Teachers.

All in Favor: 6, Ms. Vilanova, Mr. Bishop-Mbachu, Mr. Lisojo, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman, Ms. Pabon; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0

Motion passed

3. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Person approve the following field trip for student participants funded through the 21st Century grant.

Location	Date	# of Students/Staff	Responsible Person	Cost
Medieval Times, Lyndhurst, NJ	3/11/2022	45 students; grades 7 – 12; 5 chaperones	Sherell Johnson & Abes Durmos	Admission \$2,047.50; Bus Transportation \$425.00

Motion: Ms. Hernandez

Second: Mr. Bishop-Mbachu

Voice Vote:

All in Favor: 6, Ms. Vilanova, Mr. Bishop-Mbachu, Mr. Lisojo, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman, Ms. Pabon; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0

Motion passed

4. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Person approve the appointment of the following Coaches for the Spring 2022 season:

Name	Position	Stipend
Kylie Fisher	Head Baseball Coach	\$7500
Justin Torres	Assistant Baseball Coach	\$4500
Edwin Santana	Head Softball Coach	\$7500
Kelly Schunk	Assistant Softball Coach	\$4500

Motion: Ms. Roman

Second: Mr. Bishop-Mbachu

Voice Vote:

All in Favor: 6, Ms. Vilanova, Mr. Bishop-Mbachu, Mr. Lisojo, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman, Ms. Pabon; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0

Motion passed

VII. 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 – Discussion with Board attorney about investigation

Personnel matters affecting employees of the public body

Confidential matters – HIB Investigation

Motion: Mr. Bishop-Mbachu; Second: Ms. Hernandez

Voice Vote: All In Favor: 6; Any Opposed: 0

The Board went into Executive Session at 7:21 pm.

Motion: Ms. Roman; Second: Ms. Hernandez

Voice Vote: All In Favor: 6; Any Opposed: 0

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:36 pm.

5. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Person approve the job description for the following position:

- Interim Administrator

Motion: Ms. Roman

Second: Mr. Lisojo

Voice Vote:

All in Favor: 5, Ms. Vilanova, Mr. Lisojo, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman, Ms. Pabon; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0

Motion passed

6. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Person approve the job description for the following position:

- Title III Immigration Specialist

Motion: Ms. Hernandez

Second: Mr. Lisojo

Voice Vote:

All in Favor: 5, Ms. Vilanova, Mr. Lisojo, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman, Ms. Pabon; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0

Motion passed

7. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Person approve the revision of Policy #4331 – Extra Pay (Second Read).

Motion: Ms. Roman

Second: Mr. Lisojo

Voice Vote:

There was a discussion between Board members and the Board attorney. There was a concern about the fact that the policy being revised was for Overtime while staff received Extra Pay as per their contract. The motion was not voted on as it needed to be discussed further with the labor attorney.

Motion was not voted on

8. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Person 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: Ms. Roman **Second:** Ms. Hernandez **Voice Vote:**

All in Favor: 5, Ms. Vilanova, Mr. Lisojo, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman, Ms. Pabon; **Any Abstained:** 0; **Any Opposed:** 0

Motion passed

9. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Person approve the revision of the Leave of Absence dates for Sara El Mejdoub from 2/28/22 – 6/30/22 to 3/1/22 to 6/30/22.

Motion: Ms. Hernandez **Second:** Ms. Roman **Voice Vote:**

All in Favor: 5, Ms. Vilanova, Mr. Lisojo, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman, Ms. Pabon; **Any Abstained:** 0; **Any Opposed:** 0

Motion passed

10. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Person approve the Leave of Absence dates for Abes Durmo from 2/9/22 – 2/24/22.

Motion: Ms. Hernandez **Second:** Ms. Roman **Voice Vote:**

All in Favor: 5, Ms. Vilanova, Mr. Lisojo, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman, Ms. Pabon; **Any Abstained:** 0; **Any Opposed:** 0

Motion passed

11. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Person approve a contract extension from Nirenberg and Verano to investigate at a cost not to exceed \$5,000 at an hourly rate of \$175. Services conducted by the two attorneys simultaneously will be billed as one individual.

Motion: Ms. Roman **Second:** Ms. Hernandez **Voice Vote:**

All in Favor: 5, Ms. Vilanova, Mr. Lisojo, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman, Ms. Pabon; **Any Abstained:** 0; **Any Opposed:** 0

Motion passed

12. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Person approve a contract with Don Marinaro to evaluate 2 administrators in the amount of \$3,000.

Motion: Ms. Hernandez **Second:** Ms. Roman **Voice Vote:**

All in Favor: 5, Ms. Vilanova, Mr. Lisojo, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman, Ms. Pabon; **Any Abstained:** 0; **Any Opposed:** 0

Motion passed

13. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Person approve an MOU with Empire Charter Consultants to assist AULCS with the Performance Framework at a cost of \$80,000 from March 2022 through June 30, 2022.

Motion: Ms. Hernandez

Second: Ms. Roman

Voice Vote:

All in Favor: 5, Ms. Vilanova, Mr. Lisojo, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman, Ms. Pabon; **Any Abstained:** 0; **Any Opposed:** 0

Motion passed

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The Board President entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Ms. Roman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Hernandez seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 8:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Long

Board Secretary