



ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
LIVE at 612 AMBOY AVE., PERTH AMBOY, NJ, ROOM C003
AND VIRTUAL MEETING on ZOOM
Wednesday, April 27, 2022
6:30 PM

I. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 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

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. Moment of Silence for the passing of Ms. Shirley Smojak, one of the Founding Board Members of AULCS.

IV. 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.

V. ROLL CALL

<u>Board Members:</u>		
Lisette Vilanova, President	Present	
Joshua Bishop-Mbachu, Vice President	Present	Attended via Zoom; Left at 8:00 pm
Angelo Abreu, Corporate Secretary	Absent	
Elba Ceballo, Trustee	Present	
Eloisa Hernandez, Trustee	Present	
Joshua Lisojo, Trustee	Excused	
Michelle Roman, Trustee	Present	
Stephanie Pabon, Trustee	Present	Arrived at 8:45 pm Attended via Zoom;
<u>Additional Attendees:</u>		
Dr. Mario C. Barbiere, Interim Lead Person	Present	
Dr. Elizabeth Duran Swinford, Principal	Present	Attended via Zoom
Peter Salek-Nejad, Director of Special Programs	Present	Attended via Zoom
Gail Long, Business Admin/ Board Secretary	Present	
Patricia Bombelyn (Board Attorney)	Present	

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Move that the Board of Trustees approve the regular meeting minutes from January 26, 2022.

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

Voice Vote: All in Favor: 5; Ms. Vilanova, Mr. Bishop-Mbachu, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman, Ms. Ceballo; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0

Motion passed

Move that the Board of Trustees approve the special meeting minutes from February 9, 2022.

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

Voice Vote: All in Favor: 5; Ms. Vilanova, Mr. Bishop-Mbachu, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman, Ms. Ceballo; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0

Motion passed

Move that the Board of Trustees approve the regular meeting minutes from February 23, 2022

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

Voice Vote: All in Favor: 5; Ms. Vilanova, Mr. Bishop-Mbachu, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman, Ms. Ceballo; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0

Motion passed

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence.

VII. PRESENTATIONS (30 minutes each)

Niche- Jesse Smith gave a presentation on Niche's services. Niche is a platform that provides families with school data, reviews and insights to assist parents in finding the right school based on their needs.

VIII. RECOGNITION -

Dr. Swinford presented recognition from both campuses.

IX. REPRESENTATIVES (5 minutes each)

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

X. LEAD REPORT

Dr. Mario Barbiere presented the Lead report. Enrollment as of 4/25/2022: 409

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Academic Excellence – Eloisa Hernandez – We need to talk about the uniform issue, summer school and NJ performance reports
- Human Resources and Recognition – Michelle Roman – Expressed frustration that administrators were not clocking in as there was no accountability. She also wants to discuss evaluations as soon as possible.
- Finance and Facilities – Joshua Bishop-Mbachu
- Lead Search – Lisette Vilanova mentioned that the position was posted

XII. MOTIONS – Consent Agenda

Remove from Consent Agenda under Human Resources and Recognition, motion # 4 and motion # 7.

Remove from Consent Agenda under Academic Excellence, motion # 2.

Motion Items: Academic Excellence motions # 1, 3; Human Resources and Recognition motions # 1,2,3, 5,6,8; Finance and Facilities motions # 1-2.

Motion: Michelle Roman

Second: Elba Ceballo

Roll Call Vote:

Lisette Vilanova: Yes; Joshua Bishop-Mbachu: Yes; Eloisa Hernandez: Yes; Elba Ceballo: Yes; Michelle Roman: Yes.

5 Yes; 0 Opposed; 0 Abstained.

Motion Passed

The Interim Lead Person recommends the following items for approval:

Academic Excellence

1. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator, approve the following field trips to the Perth Amboy Waterfront for 25 students and 3 chaperones per trip for an amount not to exceed \$1500 funded through the PAPERS (EPA) grant.

Dates	Students	Transportation
May 16 th 2022	25 9 th Graders	\$375.00
May 17 th 2022	25 10 th graders	\$375.00
May 18 th 2022	25 11 th graders	\$375.00
May 19 th 2022	25 12 th graders	\$375.00
May 20 th 2022	Rain date	(back-up, if needed)

3. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the purchase of signage and logo for the front and side of the building located at 612 Amboy Ave., PA from Ace Sign Company for a total of \$7,825.

Human Resources and Recognition

1. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator accept the following unpaid Leave of Absence for Carmen Vega, Food Handler, from March 29, 2022 to April 22, 2022.
2. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the appointment of the following staff member:

Name	Position	Date	Amount
Yaniry Rodriguez	Substitute Lunch Aide	4/28/2022	\$15.00 per hour

3. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the appointment of the following staff member:

Name	Position	Date	Amount
Afeez Abiodun	Assistant to the Business Administrator	4/28/2022	\$55,000 prorated from start of school year for 12-month employee

5. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the appointment of the following staff member for the 2022/2023 school year

Name	Position	Date	Amount
Evelyn Gonzalez	Paraprofessional	9/1/2022	\$35,500

6. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the appointment of the following staff members for the 21st Century program at a rate of \$40 per hour:

Name	Position	Date
Kelly Enny	English SAT/ESL	4/28/22
Antonio Sanchez	Karate Instructor	4/28/22
William Mugica	Guitar Instructor	4/28/22
Meltem Pak	Math Teacher	4/28/22
Munira Jamali	Math Teacher	4/28/22

8. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the appointment of the following staff members for the following position funded by the Title III Immigrant grant at a rate of \$40 per hour:

Name	Position
Carmen Nunez	Immigration Specialist

Finance and Facilities

1. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator, approve the Bill List from 3/31/22 to 4/27/22 in the amount of:

Payroll: 4/14/2022	\$236,102.09
Warrants from 3/31/2022 – 4/27/2022	<u>\$169,583.61</u>
Total:	\$405,685.70

2. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator, accept the Charter and Renaissance School Project Emergent and Capital Maintenance Funds in the amount of \$51,851

XIII. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

From Academic Excellence:

2. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the partnership with Niche for enrollment marketing for 1 year at the Standout Level of Service at a cost of \$14,990 contingent upon legal review

Motion: Eloisa Hernandez **Second:** Michelle Roman **Voice Vote:**

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

Motion Passed

From Human Resources and Recognition:

4. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the job descriptions for the following positions (original motion included job description for Vice Principal. Motion was amended to remove VP job description as this was not a new position and a JD already existed):

- Bookkeeper/Payroll – 12-month position

Motion: Michelle Roman **Second:** Eloisa Hernandez **Voice Vote:**

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

Motion Passed

7. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the appointment of the following staff members for the Saturday School funded by the Learning Acceleration Grant at a rate of \$40 per hour:

Name	Position
Danielle Dover	Saturday School Math Teacher
Jeriel Rojas	Security
Maria Sena	Classroom Monitor

Motion: Michelle Roman**Second: Elba Ceballo****Voice Vote:****All In Favor: 5 Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop-Mbachu, Michelle Roman, Eloisa Hernandez, Elba Ceballo; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0****Motion Passed****XIV. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comment.

XV. RECESS

At 8:00 pm, the Board went into recess when Mr. Bishop-Mbachu left the meeting early and lost quorum. At 8:45 pm Ms. Pabon arrived, the Board had quorum and immediately thereafter, went into Executive Session.

XVI. 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

RICE Notice

Motion: Eloisa Hernandez; Second: Stephanie Pabon**Voice Vote: All in Favor: 5; Any Opposed: 0****The Board went into Executive Session at 8:45 pm.****Motion: Eloisa Hernandez; Second: Stephanie Pabon**

Voice Vote: All in Favor: 5; Any Opposed: 0

The Board came out of Executive Session at 10:48 pm.

XVII. OTHER MOTIONS

1. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the following bill payments:

2nd Bill List \$7231.95

Motion: Michelle Roman

Second: Eloisa Hernandez

Roll Call Vote:

Lisette Vilanova: Yes; Stephanie Pabon: Yes; Eloisa Hernandez: Yes; Elba Ceballo: Yes; Michelle Roman: Yes.

5 Yes; 0 Opposed; 0 Abstained

Motion Passed

2. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the appointment of the following staff members for the following position funded by the PAPERS grant at a rate of \$40 per hour:

Name	Position
Mukherjee, Nabaneeta	Project Manager

Motion: Michelle Roman

Second: Eloisa Hernandez

Voice Vote:

All In Favor: 5 Lisette Vilanova, Stephanie Pabon, Michelle Roman, Eloisa Hernandez, Elba Ceballo; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

3. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the submission of the Project Lead the Way Biomedical Science (PLTW) Grant Application

Motion: Michelle Roman

Second: Elba Ceballo

Voice Vote:

All In Favor: 5 Lisette Vilanova, Stephanie Pabon, Michelle Roman, Eloisa Hernandez, Elba Ceballo; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

The Board President entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Roman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Ceballo seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 11:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Long
Board Secretary