



ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
VIRTUAL MEETING on ZOOM
Wednesday, July 28, 2021

I. The meeting was called to order at 6:44 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-Mbachu, Vice President	Present	Left by 10:18 pm
Angelo Abreu, Corporate Secretary	Present	
Elba Ceballo, Trustee	Present	Arrived 8:34; Left 8:45 pm
Eloisa Hernandez, Trustee	Present	
Joshua Lisojo, Trustee	Present	Arrived 8:25 pm
Stephanie (Valdieviezo) Pabon, Trustee	Present	
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	
Dr. Elizabeth Duran Swinford, Principal	Present	
Patricia Bombelyn, Board Attorney	Present	

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Move that the Board of Trustees approve the organization meeting minutes from June 9, 2021.

Motion: Michelle Roman **Second:** Angelo Abreu **Voice Vote:**

All In Favor: 5 Joshua Bishop, Angelo Abreu, Eloisa Hernandez, Stephanie (Valdieviezo) Pabon, Michelle Roman; **Any Abstained:** 1 Lisette Vilanova; **Any Opposed:** 0

Motion passed

Move that the Board of Trustees approve the regular meeting minutes from June 30, 2021.

Motion: Michelle Roman **Second:** Angelo Abreu

After a brief discussion, this motion was tabled as 6/30 minutes as presented were incomplete.

Tabled

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

No public comments

VII. LEAD REPORT –

Dr. Barbieri had Peter Salek Nejad report on Summer School. There were 163 students who showed up for summer school. Students were given a flexible customized work load. For students who didn't show up, they can do credit recovery starting September. Ninety-nine students, primarily from the high school haven't responded. A couple of students failed every class. They will be retained. Credit recovery, which started in February 2021 will be on-going. Mr. Salek stated that the school is working on juniors to proactively prevent what occurred with the seniors. Board members asked questions about working papers and students who did not attend summer school. Mr. Salek assured the Board that he did not sign working papers if the students were failing. In some cases, working papers were signed for a student who failed classes afterwards, but it was not possible to determine that a student would fail at the time the papers were signed.

The regular Lead Report was not available. Dr. Barbieri instead talked briefly about "Goals, Glows, and Groans" which was a recap of the past school year.

Ms. Roman asked about enrollment. She also said that she loved the updates made to the website.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Academic Excellence Committee – Eloisa Hernandez reported on the AE meeting held 7/12. She said the focus was on ELA, Math and SEL. They talked about the ESSER grants and IDEA, charter renewal and board goals. She mentioned the 266 student failures, and re-opening September 2021.
- Human Resources and Recognition Committee – The committee met last week. Michelle Roman reported that the MS Science Teacher appointment listed in the agenda was discussed. The committee will be conducting a 2nd interview for the Enrollment position. The school is looking to hire 10 teachers for curriculum for grades 7 – 9 in Math and ELA. Also mentioned was the need for an evaluation for Data Coaches in addition to teachers. The school wants to hire an Engineering Teacher.
- Finance and Facilities – Joshua Bishop reported that presently there are no updates as the committee did not meet this month; however, materials were distributed. Mr. Bishop did not have any issues/questions with the material but stated the committee would probably meet next week.
- Executive Committee – Ms. Vilanova deferred to Mr. Bishop who mentioned that the Board was looking to have a retreat Friday 8/20/21 from 4 or 5 pm and a second retreat in October.

IX. MOTIONS – Consent Agenda

The Interim Lead Person recommends the following items for approval:

Remove from Consent Agenda under Human Resources and Recognition, motion # 3, and under Finance and Facilities, motions # 2, 6, and 8.

Motion Items: Human Resources and Recognition motions # 1 & 2; Finance and Facilities motions # 1, 3 – 5, and 7.

Motion: Michelle Roman, Second: Angelo Abreu; Voice Vote:

All in Favor: 6 Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop, Angelo Abreu, Eloisa Hernandez, Michelle Roman, Stephanie (Valdiviezo) Pabon; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0

Motions Passed

a. Academic Excellence & Educational Equity

No motions

Human Resources

1. **Move** that the Board of Trustees of AULCS, upon the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the new appointments for the 2021/2022 school year:

Name	Title	Effective	Amount
Lombardo, Antonio	MS Science Teacher	9/1/2021	\$59,000

2. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the summer Program Coordinator from Assumption School to work the 21st Century Summer Program at a rate of \$40/hr.

Lizette Shumny

Finance

1. **Move** that the Board of Trustees of AULCS, upon the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the Bill listing from 7/1/21 – 7/28/21 in the amount of:

i. Warrants 7/1/2021 – 7/28/2021	\$367,795.69
ii. Payroll Register July 15, 2021	<u>\$64,066.54</u>
Total	\$431,862.23

3. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the submission of the ESEA grants for 2021/2022

4. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the submission of the IDEA Basic grant for 2021/2022 in the amount of \$97,621.

5. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve a contract with Mary Dickens as the PT Food Service Director for the

2021-2022 school year at an hourly rate of \$28 and a total cost not to exceed \$15,120. Ms. Dickens will provide contracted services and receive a 1099 at the end of the year.

7. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the stipend for Luis Vargas for his responsibilities as project director for the 21st Century grant program. The stipend will be \$24,000 for the period from July 1, 2021 – August 31, 2022.

X. MOTIONS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

From Human Resources:

3. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the AUL student summer IT interns to the 21st Century grant at a rate of \$15/hour as an amendment to the motion approved 6/30/21:

Chris Esteveez
Adriel Fernandez
Angel Liriano
Felix A. Peguero

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

All in Favor: 6 Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop, Angelo Abreu, Eloisa Hernandez, Michelle Roman, Stephanie (Valdiviezo) Pabon; **Any Abstained:** 0; **Any Opposed:** 0

Motion Passed

From Finance and Facilities:

2. Move that the Board of Trustees of AULCS, upon the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the transfer of funds from Title II and Title IV to Title I for the 2021/2022 ESEA grant:

Title I	Title II	Title IV
212,126	26,169	15,743
21,169	-21,169	
15,743		-15,743
249,038	5,000	-0-

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

All in Favor: 6 Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop, Angelo Abreu, Eloisa Hernandez, Michelle Roman, Stephanie (Valdiviezo) Pabon; **Any Abstained:** 0; **Any Opposed:** 0

Motion Passed

6. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve Galleros and Robinson LLP to conduct the audit for school year ending 6/30/2021 at a cost of \$25,000. Galleros and Robinson submitted the only RFP after the school publicly advertised for proposals in the Home Journal July 2021.

Motion: Angelo Abreu Second: Eloisa Hernandez; Voice Vote

All In Favor: 5: Lisette Vilanova, Angelo Abreu, Eloisa Hernandez, Michelle Roman, Stephanie (Valdiviezo) Pabon; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0

Motion Passed**XI. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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

Saad Syed, HS Science Teacher from Metuchen, NJ asked how teachers can make summer school sessions good for the students. He remarked that many students are not attending. He also mentioned that teachers do not have access to Realtime so they cannot reach out to parents.

XII. 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:

Personnel Items

Motion: Joshua Bishop; Second: Angelo Abreu

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

The Board went into Executive Session at 8:06 PM.

**Motion: Angelo Abreu; Second: Michelle Roman
Voice Vote: All in Favor: 5; Any Opposed: 0**

The Board came out of Executive Session at 10:18 PM

XIII. OTHER REMOVED MOTIONS

8. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the Charter School Annual Report.

Motion: Michelle Roman Second: Angelo Abreu; Voice Vote

All In Favor: 5: Lisette Vilanova, Angelo Abreu, Eloisa Hernandez, Michelle Roman, Stephanie (Valdiviezo) Pabon; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The Board President entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Eloisa Hernandez made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Angelo Abreu seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 10:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Long

Board Secretary