



ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
VIRTUAL MEETING on ZOOM
Wednesday, August 11, 2021

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-Mbachu, Vice President	Present	
Angelo Abreu, Corporate Secretary	Present	
Elba Ceballo, Trustee	Present	Arrived 7:05 pm
Eloisa Hernandez, Trustee	Present	
Joshua Lisojo, Trustee	Present	
Stephanie (Valdieviezo) Pabon, Trustee	Excused	
Michelle Roman, Trustee	Excused	
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 regular meeting minutes from June 30, 2021.

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

All In Favor: 6 Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop-Mbachu Angelo Abreu, Joshua Lisojo, Elba Ceballo, Eloisa Hernandez; **Any Abstained:** 0; **Any Opposed:** 0

Motion passed

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

VII. PRESENTATION LEAD REPORT – Dr. Mario Barbieri and Peter Salek-Nejad

- Summer School

VIII. MOTIONS

1. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve a transfer for Aileen Velez, Administrative Assistant from the Middle School to the High School effective 8/15/2021 at an annual salary of \$45,000 to cover additional duties in the HS.

Motion: Joshua Bishop-Mbachu Second: Angelo Abreu Voice Vote:

All In Favor: 6 Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop-Mbachu, Angelo Abreu, Joshua Lisojo, Elba Ceballo, Eloisa Hernandez; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0

Motion passed

2. **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
DeJesus, Claudia	MS Administrative Assistant	8/16/2021	\$40,000

Motion: Joshua Bishop-Mbachu Second: Angelo Abreu Voice Vote:

All In Favor: 6 Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop-Mbachu, Angelo Abreu, Joshua Lisojo, Elba Ceballo, Eloisa Hernandez; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0

Motion passed

3. **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
Alston, Lisa	HR/Guidance Assistant	8/16/2021	\$42,000

Motion: Joshua Bishop-Mbachu Second: Angelo Abreu Voice Vote:

All In Favor: 6 Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop-Mbachu, Angelo Abreu, Joshua Lisojo, Elba Ceballo, Eloisa Hernandez; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0

Motion passed

4. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator accept the following resignation:

Name	Title	Effective Date
Ho, Susan	MS Guidance Counselor	10/5/2021 or earlier if replacement is found

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

All In Favor: 6 Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop-Mbachu, Angelo Abreu, Joshua Lisojo, Elba Ceballo, Eloisa Hernandez; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0

Motion passed

5. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve a lateral transfer for Social Studies Teacher Ryan Spero from Middle School to the High School for the 2021/2022 school year at no increase in pay.

Motion: Joshua Bishop-Mbachu Second: Elba Ceballo Voice Vote:

All In Favor: 6 Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop-Mbachu, Angelo Abreu, Joshua Lisojo, Elba Ceballo, Eloisa Hernandez; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0

Motion passed

6. Move that the Board of Trustees of AULCS, upon the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve the following staff to do curriculum writing for 10 hours at a rate of \$40 hourly through October 2021 to be funded from the ESSER II grant not to exceed \$10,000:

Curriculum to be written:	Staff Member
Algebra I	Munira Jamali/Doug Frost
Algebra II	Munira Jamali
Career Readiness, Life Literacies & Key Skills	Rose Ann Berberich
ELA Teacher 7 & 8 Grade	Brittany Morgan
Pathway Program Introduction to Vocations	Rose Ann Berberich
Visual & Performing Arts	Susan Spiecker
Visual & Performing Arts	Nicholas Bushey
Math Teacher 7 & 8	Munira Jamali
Science Teacher 7 & 8	Syed Saad
Geometry Teacher	Douglas Frost
College Algebra	Douglas Frost
Mathematics of Money	Douglas Frost
ESL	April Gardner

Motion: Eloisa Hernandez Second: Angelo Abreu Voice Vote:

Mr. Bishop asked how we selected these teachers. Dr. Barbieri responded that the positions were posted and the teacher's applied. Also, it may take more than 10 hours for the teacher's to write the curriculum per course. Dr. Perna will oversee the curriculum writing.

All In Favor: 6 Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop-Mbachu, Angelo Abreu, Joshua Lisojo, Elba Ceballo, Eloisa Hernandez; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0

Motion passed

7. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve an FMLA Leave of Absence for Security Guard, Remee Barber from 7/7/2021 for three months until approximately 10/1/2021.

Motion: Angelo Abreu Second: Joshua Bishop-Mbachu Voice Vote:

All In Favor: 6 Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop-Mbachu, Angelo Abreu, Joshua Lisojo, Elba Ceballo, Eloisa Hernandez; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0

Motion passed

8. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator approve a Medical Leave of Absence for Rafael Puntiel from 8/3/2021 until 8/17/2021.

Motion: Angelo Abreu Second: Elba Ceballo Voice Vote:

All In Favor: 6 Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop-Mbachu, Angelo Abreu, Joshua Lisojo, Elba Ceballo, Eloisa Hernandez; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0

Motion passed

9. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Lead Administrator revise the stipend approved 7/28/2021 for Luis Vargas for his responsibilities as project director for the 21st Century grant program. The stipend will be \$4,000 for the period from July 1, 2021 – August 31, 2021.

Motion: Angelo Abreu Second: Joshua Bishop-Mbachu Voice Vote:

All In Favor: 6 Lisette Vilanova, Joshua Bishop-Mbachu, Angelo Abreu, Joshua Lisojo, Elba Ceballo, Eloisa Hernandez; Any Abstained: 0; Any Opposed: 0

Motion passed

IX. 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-Mbachu; Second: Angelo Abreu
Voice Vote: All In Favor: 6; Any Opposed: 0

The Board went into Executive Session at 8:03 pm.

Motion: Angelo Abreu; Second: Joshua Bishop-Mbachu
Voice Vote: All In Favor: 6; Any Opposed: 0

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:40 pm.

X. OTHER MOTIONS

XI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

XII. ADJOURNMENT

The Board President entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Ms. Hernandez made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Abreu seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Gail Long
Board Secretary