



ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Location: 612 Amboy Avenue, Perth Amboy, NJ
Monday, December 12, 2022
7:00 PM

I. The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm and presided over by Mr. Bishop-Mbachu

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:

Board Members		
Joshua Bishop-Mbachu, President	Present	
Lisette Vilanova, Vice President	Present	Arrived 7:11 pm

Stephanie Pabon, Corporate Secretary	Present	
Elba Ceballo, Trustee	Present	
Eloisa Hernandez, Trustee	Present	
Saad Syed, Trustee	Present	
Michelle Roman, Trustee	Present	
Additional Attendees:		
Dr. Jeff White, Chief Lead Administrator	Present	
Gail Long, Business Admin/Board Secretary	Present	
Dr. Elizabeth Duran Swinford, Principal	Excused	
Tobi Knehr, Interim Administrator	Excused	
Patricia Bombelyn, Board Attorney		Attended remotely for Exec. Session 7:13 pm to 7:30 pm

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. 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
Attorney-Client Privilege
RICE Notice

Motion: Ms. Ceballo; Second: Ms. Vilanova

Voice Vote: All in Favor: 7; Opposed: 0

The Board went into Executive Session at 7:13 pm.

Mr. Saad Syed recused himself from personnel discussions from 7:26 pm.

Motion: Ms. Roman; Second: Ms. Ceballo

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

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:30 pm

VII. MOTIONS

Academic excellence

1. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator revise the following field trip approved 11/30/22 as part of the Consent Agenda under Academic Excellence motion # 1:

Location	Date	# of Students/Staff	Responsible Person	Cost
Regal Hadley Theatre Stadium 16; South Plainfield, NJ 07080 (PBSIS Reward / Jaguar Points Incentive) to see; "Black Panther: Wakanda Forever"	12/15/2022	80 12 th Grade Students / 5 9 th graders; 1 10 th grader, 1 11 th grader and 9 Chaperones	Nathaniel Higgins -Dean of Culture and Climate	\$1,806 admission \$1,000.00 for 2 Buses Paid with ESSER III Funds

Motion: Ms. Pabon

Second: Ms. Hernandez

Voice Vote:

All in Favor: 7: Mr. Bishop-Mbachu, Ms. Vilanova, Ms. Pabon, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Ceballo, Ms. Roman, Mr. Syed; Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

Human Resources and Recognition

2. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator approve a correction of the HEDI raises for the 2022-2023 school year for the following staff member:

Susan Komosinski Certified School Nurse \$73,724.63

Motion: Ms. Roman

Second: Ms. Pabon

Roll Call Vote:

Joshua Bishop-Mbachu: Yes, Lisette Vilanova: Yes, Stephanie Pabon: Yes, Eloisa Hernandez: Yes, Elba Ceballo: Yes, Michelle Roman: Yes, Saad Syed: Yes

Yes: 7, Abstained: 0, Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

3. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator accept the rescinded appointment for Bernadette Pinto, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

Motion: Ms. Vilanova

Second: Mr. Syed

Roll Call Vote:

Joshua Bishop-Mbachu: Yes, Lisette Vilanova: Yes, Stephanie Pabon: Yes, Eloisa Hernandez: Yes, Elba Ceballo: Yes, Michelle Roman: Yes, Saad Syed: Yes

Yes: 7, Abstained: 0, Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

4. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator accept the resignation of Elizabeth Duran Swinford, Ed.D as Principal effective January 31, 2023.

Motion: Ms. Vilanova

Second: Ms. Hernandez

Mr. Syed recused himself before this vote was taken

Roll Call Vote:

Joshua Bishop-Mbachu: Yes, Lisette Vilanova: Yes, Stephanie Pabon: Yes, Eloisa Hernandez: Yes, Elba Ceballo: Yes, Michelle Roman: Yes

Yes: 6, Abstained: 0, Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Board President invites members of the public to present any additional comments to the Board.
No public comments

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The Board President entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Roman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Vilanova seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Long, Board Secretary