



ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
612 AMBOY AVE. PERTH AMBOY, NJ
Tuesday, March 21, 2023
6:30 PM

The meeting was called to order at 6:42 pm and presided over by Mr. Bishop-Mbachu.

I. CALL TO ORDER

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:

Mr. Joshua Bishop-Mbachu - President - Present
Ms. Lisette Vilanova – Vice President - Present
Vacancy – Corporate Secretary
Ms. Elba Ceballo - Present
Ms. Eloisa Hernandez - Present
Ms. Michelle Roman - Present
Mr. Saad Syed - Present

Additional Attendees:

Dr. Jeff White – Chief Lead Administrator - Present
Ms. Joyel Furges - Principal - Excused
Ms. Tobi Knehr- Interim School Administrator - Excused
Mr. Nathaniel Higgins - Dean of Culture of Climate - Excused
Ms. Bernadette Pinto – Interim BA/Board Secretary - Present
Ms. 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 comments for the public portion.

VI. Update on litigation regarding Lopac V. AUL

V. 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 Item: Lopak vs AUL

Motion: Ms. Roman Second: Ms. Vilanova

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

The Board went into Executive Session at 6:45 pm.

Motion: Ms. Roman; Second: Ms. Vilanova

Voice Vote: All In Favor: 4; Opposed: 0

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:39 pm.

VII. MOTIONS

The Board of Trustees hereby resolves to approve the Settlement Agreement and General Release presented by Iram Valentin, Defense Counsel for the Academy for Urban Leadership Charter School that will resolve all claims in the matter of Lopac v. AUL, Docket Number MID-L-3191-19.

Motion: Ms. Roman; Second: Ms. Syed

Voice Vote: All In Favor: 5; Abstain: 1 Opposed: 0

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The Board President entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 pm.

Motion: Ms. Roman; Second: Ms. Syed

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