



ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
612 AMBOY AVE. PERTH AMBOY, NJ
Wednesday, April 26, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 7:20 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
Ms. Elba Ceballo - Excused
Ms. Eloisa Hernandez - Present
Ms. Michelle Roman - Present
Mr. Saad Syed - Excused

Additional Attendees:

Dr. Jeff White – Chief Lead Administrator - Present
Ms. Joyel Furges - Principal - Present
Ms. Tobi Knehr- Interim School Administrator - Present
Mr. Nathaniel Higgins - Dean of Culture of Climate - Present
Ms. Bernadette Pinto – Interim BA/Board Secretary - Present
Ms. Patricia Bombelyn - Board Attorney - Present

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the regular meeting minutes from March 29, 2023.

Motion: Ms. Vilanova Second: Ms. Roman

All in Favor: 3: Mr. Bishop, Ms. Vilanova, Ms. Roman;

Ms. Hernandez, Abstained: 1; Opposed: 0 Motion Passed

V. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Thomas Mundy Peterson Day Letter - Mayor Helmin J. Caba

- VI. Motion to approve Ms. Yadira M. Puntiel - Hernandez as a Board of Trustee member effective April 26, 2023.

Motion: Ms. Hernandez Second: Ms. Roman

All in Favor: 4: Mr. Bishop, Ms. Vilanova, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman;

Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0 Motion Passed

VII. REPRESENTATIVES (Approximately 3-5 Minutes Each)

- a. Parent Representative - Mrs. Stralensky, Barclay Middle School Parent spoke regarding the multiple substitute teachers, ongoing instruction using computers, needed rigor and

extracurricular activities for students, middle school silent lunches, no ELA teacher, and student expectations and outcomes.

- b. Teacher Representative - Ms. Manuela Jimenez - spoke about the need to align her salary with other charter schools, revised school calendar, daily schedule request to leave after June 22, 2023.
- c. Student Representative - Mr. Audrick Franco, student spoke about the uniform policy and policy regarding the decoration of graduation caps

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Board President invites members of the public to present any comments to the Board (limited to 3 minutes). No public comment was made.

IX. PRESENTATIONS (Approximately 10 Minutes)

- a. Bipartisan Safer Communities Act -Stronger Connections Grant Program - Dr. Perna
- b. SY 2021-2022 School Performance Report - Mrs Joyel Furses

X. RECOGNITION

- a. Mr. Vasquez and the High School Drama Club - *Thomas Mundy Peterson Day Performance (March 31, 2023)*.
- b. Gustavo Merino Martinez - AULCS 12th Grade Scholar - Recipient of full Academic Scholarship to Harvard University (Majors: Economics and Computer Science).

XI. CHIEF LEAD ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

XII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Academic Excellence – Eloisa Hernandez
- Human Resources and Recognition – Michelle Roman
- Finance and Facilities – Lisette Vilanova
- Executive – Joshua Bishop-Mbachu

XIII. MOTIONS – Consent Agenda

The Chief Lead Administrator recommends the following items for approval:

Academic Excellence

1. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, approve the following field trip (As previously approved by the Board Executive Committee on April 6, 2023).

Location	Date	# of Students/Staff	Responsible Person	Cost
Fairleigh Dickinson University, Madison, NJ	April 19, 2023	14 Students/2 Chaperones	Kelly Howlett	\$650.00 (Transportation Costs/General Funds)

2. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, approve the following Professional Development (*As previously approved by the Board Executive Committee on April 6, 2023*).

Professional Development	Staff Member(s)	Date	Cost
Digital SAT Training/Staten Island, New York	Douglas Frost	April 24, 2023	\$0.00 for entrance/\$30.24 for transportation (Title 2A Funds)

3. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, accept the results of the SY 2021-2022 NJDOE School Performance Report.

Human Resources and Recognition

1. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, approve the following appointment:

Candidate Name	Position Title	Stipend	Start Date
Maria Sena	SY 2022-2023 Yearbook Advisor	Prorated \$1,000.00 (General Funds)	4/27/2023

2. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, approve the following appointment for Assumption Catholic School 21st Century Program:

Candidate Name	Position Title	Salary	Start Date
Nyaisa Torres	Robotics Club Teacher	\$40.00 / hour (21st Century Grant Funding)	4/27/2023

Motion: Ms. Vilanova

Second: Ms. Roman

All in Favor: 4: Mr. Bishop, Ms. Vilanova, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman;

Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

Finance and Facilities

1. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, approve the Bill List for the period from 3/30 /2023 to 4/26/23.
2. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, approve the Board Secretary's (A148) Report and Treasurer's (A149) Report, for the month ending March 2023. Be it further resolved, that the Board of Trustees upon the recommendation of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, approve the certification of funds, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)3, that as of March 30, 2023 no budgetary line item account has encumbrances and expenditures which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of 6A:23A16.10(a).
3. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, accept Grant Funding from the NJDOE in the amount of \$6,600.00 for the School Climate Change Pilot (Program duration April 1, 2023 to June 30, 2023).

Motion: Ms. Roman Second: Ms.Vilanova

All in Favor: 4: Mr. Bishop, Ms. Vilanova, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman;

Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

EXECUTIVE TEAM

- a. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, adopt the following policy:

Policy 2425: Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program

- b. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, approve the second readings of the following policies:

Policy 1643: Family Leave

Policy 6115.01: Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls – Allowability of Costs

Policy 6115.02 – Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls – Mandatory Disclosures

Policy 6115.03 – Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls – Conflict of Interest

Policy 6311 – Contracts for Goods or Services Funded by Federal Grants

- c. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, approve the first readings of the following policies:

Policy 0131: Bylaws, Policies, and Regulations

Policy 3134: Assignment of Extra Duties

Policy 3221: Evaluation of Teachers

Policy 3222: Evaluation of Teaching Staff Members, Excluding Teachers and Administrators

Policy 3223: Evaluation of Administrators, Excluding Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals

Policy 3224: Evaluation of Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals

Motion: Ms. Roman Second: Ms. Vilanova

All in Favor: 4: Mr. Bishop, Ms. Vilanova, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman;

Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

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:

1. Attorney - Client Privilege
2. Personnel
3. Student Discipline Update
4. Collective Bargaining Unit

Motion: Ms. Roman Second: Ms. Vilanova

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

The Board went into Executive Session at 8:47 pm.

Motion: Ms. Roman; Second: Ms. Vilanova

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

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

XIV. OTHER MOTIONS

- a. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, approve the revised policy:

Policy 5511: Dressing and Grooming

Discussion: Approval based on the removal of the earrings commentary

Motion: Ms. Vilanova Second: Ms. Roman

**All in Favor: 4: Mr. Bishop, Ms. Vilanova, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman;
Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0 Motion Passed**

- b. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, approve the application for the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, Stronger Connections Grant Program (Federal Funds) in the amount of \$1.38 million for SYS 2023-2025.

Motion: Ms. Roman Second: Ms. Vilanova

**All in Favor: 4: Mr. Bishop, Ms. Vilanova, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman;
Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0 Motion Passed**

- c. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, approve the application for the New Jersey Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Commission *I HAVE A DREAM* mini grant in the amount of \$5,000.00 for SY 2023-2024 (State Funds).

Motion: Ms. Vilanova

Second: Ms. Roman

All in Favor: 4: Mr. Bishop, Ms. Vilanova, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman;

Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

- d. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, approved the SY 2023-2024 Summer School Program/Extended School Year at a cost not to exceed \$88,560.00 (ESSER II Grant Funding).

Motion: Ms. Vilanova

Second: Ms. Roman

All in Favor: 4: Mr. Bishop, Ms. Vilanova, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman;

Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

- e. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, approve a one-time stipend of \$7,500.00 (General Funds) to Mabel Leonardo for serving in the capacity of the following roles for the district: 504 Coordinator, HIB Coordinator, Special Education Coordinator, Homeless Liaison, Home Instruction Coordinator and Substance Assistance Coordinator (SAC).

Motion: Ms. Roman

Second: Ms. Vilanova

All in Favor: 4: Mr. Bishop, Ms. Vilanova, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman;

Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

- f. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, approve the amendment to ESSER II and sub grant (see attached). -Tabled
- g. Move that the Board of Trustees approves the Fiscal Transfers for April (see attached).

Motion: Ms. Roman

Second: Ms. Vilanova

All in Favor: 4: Mr. Bishop, Ms. Vilanova, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman;

Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

- h. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, approve the ECC contract for SY 2022-2023. - Tabled

- i. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, approve the following Professional Development:

Professional Development	Staff Member(s)	Date	Cost
NJ Sustainable Summit, Holmdel, NJ	Patriama Roy	May 5, 2023	\$40.00 registration costs (Title 2A Funds)

Motion: Ms. Hernandez Second: Ms. Roman

**All in Favor: 4: Mr. Bishop, Ms. Vilanova, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman;
Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0 Motion Passed**

- j. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, accept the results of the SY 2021-2022 School HIB Grade (as Required by the New Jersey Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act).

Motion: Ms. Roman Second: Ms. Vilanova

**All in Favor: 4: Mr. Bishop, Ms. Vilanova, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman;
Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0 Motion Passed**

- k. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, approve the following field trips:

Location	Date	# of Students/Staff	Responsible Person	Cost
Montclair University National Hispanic Conference Fair	April 28, 2023	30 – 11 th grade 3 chaperones	K. Howlett	\$0 Costs to AULCS / Transportation provided by National Hispanic College Conference
Middlesex College, Edison, NJ	May 15, 2023	25 – 12 th grade	K. Howlett	\$475 Bus Costs (General Funds)
Sandy Hook National Park. Clean Ocean Action Summit	May 18, 2023	15 – 7 th grade 15 – 8 th grade 3 chaperones	T. Knehr	\$700 Bus Cost (Grant Funding - Climate Change Grant)
Eastern State Penitentiary Historical Site	May 23, 2023	35 students from 11th & 45 students from 12th 8 chaperones	R. Berberich	2 x \$1, 500.00 Per Bus Transportation = \$3,000 + \$643 entry fee = \$3,643.00 (General Funds)

Motion: Ms. Hernandez**Second: Ms. Roman****All in Favor: 4: Mr. Bishop, Ms. Vilanova, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman;****Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0****Motion Passed**

- I. Move the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, adopt and approve the following curriculum for SY 2023-2024.

Grades	Curriculum
7-8	7th Grade Math, 7th Grade Science, 7th Grade Social Studies (Civics), 7th Grade ESL, 7th Grade ELA, 8th Grade Math (Algebra), 8th Grade Math, 8th Grade Science, 8th Grade ESL, 8th Grade Social Studies, (World Civilizations), 8th Grade ELA, 8th Grade Pre-Algebra/Algebra
9-12	Algebra I, Algebra I - Honors, Algebra I, Biology, Geometry, Geometry - Honors, Algebra II - Honors, AP English Language & Composition, Applications of Algebra I, Biology - Honors, Government, Environmental Science, English 1, English 2, English 3, English 4, ESL 1, ESL 2, ESL 3, ESL 4, Chemistry, US History I, US History II, World History, College Writing, Concert Choir, Honors Human Geography, Intro to Law, Latin American History, Law & Criminology, Music I, SAT Prep ELA, SAT Prep Math, Political Science, Contemporary American Issues

Motion: Ms. Vilanova**Second: Ms. Roman****All in Favor: 4: Mr. Bishop, Ms. Vilanova, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Roman;****Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0****Motion Passed****XV. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

The Board President entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:41 pm

Motion: Ms. Roman; Second: Ms. Vilanova**Voice Vote: All In Favor: 4; Opposed: 0**