



ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
612 AMBOY AVE. PERTH AMBOY, NJ
Wednesday, June 28, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 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. Michelle Roman – Vice President -Present
Mr. Saad Syed – Corporate Secretary - Present
Ms. Elba Ceballo - Absent
Ms. Eloisa Hernandez - Present
Ms. Karina Lascano - Absent
Ms. Yadira Puntiel - Excused
Mr. Ambiorix Ramirez, non-voting member- Excused

Additional Attendees:

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

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the regular meeting minutes from May 24, 2023.

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

2. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the Organization meeting minutes from June 21, 2023.

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

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Discussion on FY 2022-2023 Collaborative Federal Monitoring Letter dated June 27, 2023.

VII. REPRESENTATIVES (Approximately 3-5 Minutes Each)

- a. Parent Representative
- b. Teacher Representative
- c. Student Representative

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

Sebastian Perez, senior student commented on June 21, 2023 correspondence in addition he spoke about a final and mentioned that he struggled and needed a break.

Stephanie Mal, student, commented on an enrichment online course. struggle with work and classes, in addition comments were made regarding AP online, and Internship Perth Amboy WIDA Program and Success Bound.

Genesis Soto, student, spoke regarding virtual learning and Pre-calculus Summer and AP course work.

IX. PRESENTATIONS (Approximately 10 Minutes)

- a. Benchmark Data Presentation - Ms. Rose Ann Beberich and Ms. Munira Jamali
- b. Instructional Strategies Action Plan SY 2023-2024 - Ms. Lauren Gonzalez

X. RECOGNITION

- 1. Class of 2023 Graduates
- 2. Future Class of 2027

XI. CHIEF LEAD ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**XII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- 1. Academic Excellence
- 2. Human Resources and Recognition
- 3. Finance and Facilities
- 4. Executive – Joshua Bishop-Mbachu

XIII. MOTIONS

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 Professional Development:

Date:	Location/ Title:	Staff Member:	Cost:
July 13, 2023	NJSPA - Monroe, NJ / 21st Century Directors In-Person Meeting	Blanca Blanco	Free / No cost to AUL or 21st Century Program

Motion: Ms. Roman Second: Mr. Syed

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

Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

2. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, approve the following instructional programs for SY 2023-2024 and funding sources. Be it provided a detailed implementation plan is presented at the subsequent Board of Trustees Meeting:

Program Name	Grade Level / Program	Costs	Funding Source
Achieve3000	7-12 (ELL)	\$3,81.00	Title III 20-241-100-600
Lexia English	7-12 / (ELL)	\$14,000.00	Title III 20-241-100-600
Imagine Learning	7-12 / (Credit Recovery)	\$41,000.00	Title IA 20-270-100-600
Lexia PowerUp Literacy	7-12 / (ELL)	\$18,855.00	Title III 20-241-100-600
NewsELA	7-12 / (General)	\$13,440.00	Title II: 20-270-100-600
BrainPop	7-12 (General)	\$3,138.75	Title II: 20-270-100-600

Motion: Ms. Hernandez

Second: Mr. Syed

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

Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

3. 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
Symposium on Chronic Absenteeism // 12 Centre Drive / Monroe, NJ	Maria Sena	July 26, 2023	\$50.00 (General Funds)

Motion: Ms. Roman Second: Ms. Hernandez

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 5/23/23 to 6/28/23.

Motion: Mr. Syed

Second: Ms. Roman

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

Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

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 May 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 May 31, 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).

Motion: Ms. Roman

Second: Mr. Syed

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

Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

EXECUTIVE TEAM

1. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, approve the adoptions of the following policies and regulations:

Policy 0131: Bylaws, Policies, and Regulations - Tabled

Policy 3134: Assignment of Extra Duties - Tabled

Policy 3221: Evaluation of Teachers - Tabled

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

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

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

Regulation 3432: Sick Leave: Teaching Staff Members

Regulation 4432: Sick Leave: Support Staff Members

Policy 4433: Support Staff Vacation

Policy 4439: Support Staff Bereavement

Policy 3450: Teaching Staff Members Bereavement

Motion: Ms. Roman

Second: Ms. Hernandez

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

Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

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

Policy 0145: Board Member Resignation and Removal

Policy 0164.6: Remote Public Board Meetings During A Declared Emergency

Policy 5330.01: Administration of Medical Cannabis

Policy 7425: Lead Testing of Water in Schools

Policy 2415: Every Student Succeeds Act

Policy 2415.02: Title I – Fiscal Responsibilities

Policy 2415.20: Every Student Succeeds Act Complaints

Policy 4125: Employment of Support Staff Members

Policy 6360: Political Contributions

Policy 9713: Recruitment by Special Interest Groups

Motion: Ms. Roman

Second: Mr. Syed

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

Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

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

Policy 2431 Athletic Competition (M) (Revised)

Regulation 2431.1 Emergency Procedures for Sports and Other Athletic Activity

Policy 5330.05	Seizure Action Plan
Regulation 5330.05	Seizure Action Plan
Policy 7510	Use of School Facilities
Policy 8330:	Student Records
Policy 8420	Emergency and Crisis Situations

Motion: Ms. Hernandez

Second: Mr. Syed

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

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. Personnel

The Board went back into Executive Session at 9:10 pm.

Motion: Ms. Roman; Second: Ms. Hernandez

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

The Board came out of Executive Session at 11:25 pm

Motion: Ms. Roman; Second: Mr. Syed

XIV. OTHER MOTIONS

2 weeks of Professional development prior to the students return in September, with payment to returning teachers for four additional days of work.

Motion: Ms. Roman

Second: Mr. Syed

All in Favor: 4: Mr. Bishop, Ms. Ceballo, Ms. Hernandez, Mr. Syed;

Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

6. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, approve the revised SY 2023-2024 Calendar to reflect the Letter of Side Agreement between the AULEA and AUL BOT.

Motion: Ms. Hernandez

Second: Mr. Syed

All in Favor: 4: Mr. Bishop, Ms. Ceballo, Ms. Hernandez, Mr. Syed;

Abstained: 0; Opposed: 0

Motion Passed

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Public bodies may meet in closed session when the matters under discussion are:

- (10) Matters made confidential by state, federal law or rule by court.
- (11) Disclosure would result in an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy, unless the person affected consents in writing.
- (12) Disclosure would impair the body's right to receive federal or state funds.
- (13) Collective bargaining.
- (14) Lease or acquisition of property, setting of banking rates, investment of public funds if disclosure would harm the public interest.
- (15) Investigations into violations of law.
- (16) 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.
- (17) 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.
- (18) Proceedings that could result in a suspension, civil penalty, or loss of a license or permit.

Discussion Items:

- 2. Personnel

The Board went back into Executive Session at 11:39 pm.

Motion: Ms. Roman; Second: Ms. Hernandez

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

The Board came out of Executive Session at 11:58 pm

Motion: Ms. Roman; Second: Mr. Syed

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

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 11:59 pm.

Motion: Ms. Roman; Second: Mr. Syed

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