



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Regular Meeting
 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES February 23, 2021

Maureen Hulings on behalf of Board President Andrew Nyaboga called to order the **Regular Meeting** of the Dr. Lena Edwards Academic Charter School Board of Trustees (DLEACS) on February 23, 2021 via Electronic Zoom Meeting at 5:35PM.

Recording Secy. Maureen Hulings advised “In accordance with New Jersey P.L. 1975, Chapter 231 (SUNSHINE LAW - OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT) adequate notice of this Board Meeting has been provided to the Offices of the City Clerk of Jersey City & the Hudson County Superintendent of Schools, the Jersey Journal and the Jersey City Reporter”.

Roll Call

<i>TRUSTEES</i>	<i>Present</i>	<i>Absent</i>
ANDREW NYABOGA	X	
JOSEPH DI FEO	X	
PHYLLIS FASONE	X	
JOHN SEAZHOLTZ	X	
EUGENE SQUEO	X	
PATRICIA MADISON	X	
KEITH DAVIS	X	
SHARON SANTANA	X	

Also Present:

- Christopher Garlin, CEO
- Brian Falkowski, SBA Board Secy.
- Maureen Hulings, Recording Secy.
- James Brewer, Principal
- Jeffrey Mohr, Asst. Principal
- General Counsel Francis Schiller

Maureen Hulings called for a Motion to approve the Minutes of the January 26, 2021 Regular Meeting

Vote: 8-0

Maureen Hulings called for a Motion to approve the Minutes of the February 2, 2021
Special Meeting

Vote: 6-0 2 abstain

Maureen Hulings asked if there were any public speakers; she then called for a Motion to close Public Speaking;

Vote: 8-0

Dr. Brian Falkowski met with Finance Committee; that all financial issues that put school on Financial Probation were resolved; that it looks like school will be taken off Financial Probation; that Finance Dept. was recommending; that he discussed Budget vs. Actual with finance committee; that school will have access to 1 Million dollars from Care Act II; that this money can be used to get school facility and students back up to speed; Phyllis Fasone said that Brian had answered all Finance Committee's questions satisfactorily; that the Finance Committee reviewed the Business Office Package and recommended approval by the Board; she thanked Brian for all he did to get the school off Financial Probation; Phyllis said our enrollment seems to stay at 390 which is close to our budgeted amount for 392 students.

Maureen Hulings called for a Motion to Approve January 2021 Board Secy Report, Treasurer's Report & Bill List.

Vote: 8-0

No questions regarding Principal's Monthly reports.

Joe DiFeo discussed the Interim Data Report; K-1 scored in the high 90s and other grades go down to the 45-50% area; why is this happening; Asst. Principal Jeffrey Moore said you are correct, that lower grades are getting help at home sometimes while learning ; John Seazholtz said scores are terrible as you go up to higher grades; Mr. Moore said we are not where we need to be; that he spoke with Link It about the trends in other districts statewide; students appear to be doing better in ELA than math; that students who were proficient in high performing districts 2 years ago are expected to drop by 10%; we are trying to pinpoint where we can make gains; Patricia Madison asked if there were kids taking the 2nd test that had not taken the first test; Mr. Moore will check; she said that a lot of kids are not taking the assessment test; Mr. Moore said they call the families to try and get the students to take each test; Teachers are reaching out to families; Phyllis Fasone asked what was Teacher's reaction to Interim Date results; they are not happy; John Seazholtz suggested more TAs are needed to help; Mr. Moore said Summer School will be to mitigate the loss of this past year; Principal James Brewer said they had a team meeting regarding summer school, that more students are asking to come into the classroom; since we are already hybrid we are ahead of the curve with the JC school district which is totally virtual; that the recent shootings and fires in our area have affected some of our students; Phyllis asked if Lavinia looked at the Link It scores; do we have any suggestions from them; Teachers are very satisfied with Lavinia; Mr. Brewer met with Lavinia today; Gene Squeo asked how many children are coming each day; Chris Garlin said 38-56; Principal advised some children are coming in 4 days a

week, approximately 18; Chris Garlin said prior to Christmas we had 50 students coming in for each 2 day cohort for a total of 100 students; Phyllis said that means we have well over 200 totally virtual students; Gene requested that Principal get the number of students coming in 2 days and the # coming in 4 days; Joe wants school to encourage students to come in 4 days per week; that we should be communicating this to parents; Principal said a virtual tour was being prepared to show parents how the school is prepared to reopen; that we have not had a rapid spread of covid; Chris said we previously sent a full reopening plan package to all families; Counsel Schiller suggested we encourage Teachers to get vaccinated; Sharon Santana said she has 3 children in school; that parents are hesitant to send; Principal is outside daily talking to parents and students encouraging them to attend classrooms; that they met with the state today and a lot of schools are no where near as prepared as we are to reopen; Phyllis asked what are we planning for Summer Program now that we can use Cares Act \$; that we should be fully prepared by April; John suggested hiring college juniors to work the summer program; Phyllis said we need a number of ideas for a good summer program which we must plan in a short time; that hopefully the current consultants have some creative ideas; Joe asked Brian how much we had to spend on the summer program; Phyllis wants the Finance Committee involved in the Summer Program planning; she asked Chris if we had a speaker for graduation; not at this time; will probably be a virtual graduation; Counsel Schiller asked how many staff members have been vaccinated; Chris does not know at this time.

Maureen Hulings called for a Motion to approve:

**Res. No. 2/21/2 APPROVE HIRING TEACHER ASSISTANT
VOTE: 8-0**

**Res. No. 2/2132 APPROVE ANNUAL SEMI WAIVER
Vote: 8-0**

Maureen Hulings asked if there was any new business; she then called for a Motion to adjourn Regular Meeting:

Vote: 8-0

*Next Board Meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday March 23, 2021**- @ 5:30pm via Electronic Zoom Meeting or in the alternative at the Maher Learning Center located at 513_ Bramhall Avenue, Jersey City, NJ*

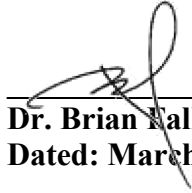
Meeting adjourned at 6:44pm

February 23, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes were approved on March 23, 2021

Vote 6 – 0 2 absent

<i>TRUSTEES</i>	<i>Aye</i>	<i>Nay</i>	<i>Abstain</i>	<i>Absent</i>
ANDREW NYABOGA	X			
JOSEPH DI FEO	X			
PHYLLIS FASONE	X			
JOHN SEAZHOLTZ				X
EUGENE SQUEO	X			
PATRICIA MADISON				X
KEITH DAVIS	X			
SHARON SANTANA	X			

Certified to be a true copy



Dr. Brian Falkowski/SBA/Board Secretary
Dated: March 23, 2021