



**Amber Charter Schools
November Board Minutes
November 13, 2024**

MEETING CHAIR:

Amador Centeno

MEETING SCRIBE:

Clarisse Alvarado

MEETING LOCATION: ACS East Harlem, 220 E. 106th Street, New York, NY 10029

ATTENDANCE:

Board: Amador Centeno, Timothy Day, Li'Esha Garcia, Dr. Miguelina German, Soledad Hiciano, Lindsay Marino Long, Luina Muñoz-BlueSpruce, Brad Olsen, Khiera Peña

Staff: Veronica Almedina, Clarisse Alvarado, Sashemani Elliott, Christine Ganey, Kirsys Gomez, Emily Griffin

Absent: Robyn Epps, Dr. John Gutierrez, Kim Ramos

Call to Order

Amador Centeno called the meeting to order at 6:14 pm

I. Check-In

II. Development Committee Update - Reported by Development Committee Chair and Chief Communications Officer

- The development committee chair updated the board about the possible venue at the Radio Hotel and suggested we host the celebration on a Thursday in October 2025.
 - There are two parking garages near the hotel to accommodate guests.
 - The development committee stated we need to secure 10 donors to cover "ten tables."
 - The development committee revised the number of invitees to 100 instead of 150 and proposed the price per ticket start at \$250.
- Sponsorship for celebration
 - The development committee chair discussed expenses and the budget with the board.
 - There could be levels of sponsorship in conjunction with Amber values- Achievement, Community, Responsibility, Honesty, and Respect.

- There will be sponsorship benefit packages for donating.
- A board member suggested setting goals and dates to keep us organized and on task to host the celebration next year.
 - A board member explained we need to secure sponsors first.
 - A board member suggested giving “Package of Amber” to start speaking to sponsors.
 - A board member suggested sending out a sheet about who they think could sponsor the event.
 - A board member suggested speaking to families and finding out if any own a restaurant or a chef to help with future events.
- The board chose to have the popcorn fundraiser from Friday, November 29th to Friday, December 13th.

III. Co-CEO Report - Reported by the Co-CEOs

- Co-CEO reported that 3rd to 8th-grade students started mock ELA & Math computer-based testing.
- Friday, November 15th, there will be a PD for teachers to work together and unpack the data from the mock testing.
- MDA reported about a new platform called LinkIt! They will use it during the PD and create an instructional plan based on the results of the mock testing.
 - November 13th, Staff developers and Data Managers were trained on the new platform called LinkIt!
 - The platform shows different ways to look at reports
 - Different levels of data groups from school to classroom to specific grades etc.
- The Co-CEO reported we need more typing programs for our students.
 - Our students need motor skills, zooming in/out, and geometry skills when using laptops.
 - Programs are very monotone and not engaging. We need human readers to boost engagement.
- As a Network, we finished workplace harassment training and workplace violence training.
- The Co-CEO reported on “Voice to Vision” focus groups.
 - Safe space for our families to share their ideas and feedback with us.
 - Board members suggested a possible parent association group where our parents can work alongside our schools for future events.
 - The goal of the focus groups is to see if there is a need for afterschool PDs, and enrichment centered on what parents and students want & need.
 - A board member suggested hosting a workshop on Zoom for parents.
- The Co-CEO presented two different board platforms that we could use.
 - Boardable & Boardontrack
 - Presented video by Boardontrack
 - The board agreed to move forward with using a board platform.
 - The Co-CEO will negotiate the cost of the Boardontrack platform before finalizing the contract.
- The Co-CEO presented a Facilities update

- The Co-CEO reported facade and roof repair project updates.
- The Co-CEO presented a new budget: \$1.6 million.

IV. Board Chair Report - Reported by the Board Chair

- December meeting location to be determined. The location is being secured at the moment.

XI. Motion to approve the October 2024 meeting minutes

- Move: Miguelina
- Second: Li'Esha
- Aye: All
- Nay: None
- Abstain: Soledad

XII. Motion to adjourn the meeting

- Move: Soledad
- Second: Li'Esha
- Aye: All
- Nay: None
- Abstain: None

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm