



AGENDA

For

Board Meeting

February 26, 2025

6:30 PM

Academy for Urban Leadership Charter School
Perth Amboy, NJ

Dr. Paul Oliveira
Lead Administrator

Ms. Bernadette Pinto
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Ms. Norma Diaz
High School Principal

Mrs. Tobi Knehr
Middle School Administrator

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	Additional Attendees	
Ms. Eloisa Hernandez, President	Ms. Norma Diaz, High School Principal	
Mr. Ambiorix Ramirez, Vice President	Mrs. Tobi Knehr, Middle School Administrator	
Ms. Mayra Mercado, Corporate Secretary	Ms. Patricia Bombelyn, Board Attorney	
Ms. Cecilia Vaquero, Board Member		
Dr. Jose Aviles, Board Member		
Mr. Carlos Rei, Board Member		
Ms. Bernadette Pinto, SBA/Board Secretary		
Dr. Paul Oliveira, Chief Lead Administrator		

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to approve the public and closed Session Minutes of the Board Meeting held on: (Provided to the board of members).

i. January 29, 2025 - Regular Board Meeting

Board Members	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Ms. Eloisa Hernandez, President					
Mr. Ambiorix Ramirez, Vice President					
Ms. Mayra Mercado, Corporate Secretary					
Ms. Cecilia Vaquero, Board Member					
Dr. Jose Aviles, Board Member					
Mr. Carlos Rei, Board Member					

VI. CORRESPONDENCE:**VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS (agenda items only):**

The Board President invites members of the public to present any comments to the Board (limited to three minutes). Please begin your comments by stating your name and address. Individuals are invited to speak on one topic at a time, and no individual will speak more than once until all individuals so desiring have spoken once. The public is reminded to ensure the efficient and orderly operations of the meeting; members will be limited to speaking on agenda items for three minutes.

VIII. PRESENTATIONS:**IX. STAKEHOLDERS REPORTS:****X. CHIEF LEAD ADMINISTRATORS REPORT: February 2025****XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

1. Academic Excellence
2. Human Resources and Recognition
3. Finance and Facilities
4. Executive/Governance

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

The Academic Excellence Committee, upon recommendation of the Lead Administrator, presents the following motions to the Academy for Urban Leadership Charter School Board of Trustees for approval:

1. Approve the following staff Professional Development requests. Title II, Acct.
#20-270-200-300-000-096.

Professional Development	Staff Member	Date(s)	Location	Funding Source
HIB Prevention	Norma Diaz	3/10/2025	Virtual	No Cost
School Safety Specialist Academy	Norma Diaz	3/7/2025, 3/11/2025 3/21/2025, 3/28/2025 4/4/2025	NJ Forensic Technology Center auditorium, 1200 Negron Drive, Hamilton Township	No cost
Closing Math Learning Gaps	Norma Diaz	3/13/2025	Carteret Board of Ed. 599 Roosevelt Ave. Carteret, NJ	No Cost
Middlesex County Women's Leadership Council	Norma Diaz	3/25/2025	B2B 20 Washignton St. New Brunswick, NJ	No Cost
Provisional Educator Process	Norma Diaz	4/2/2025	Virtual	No Cost
AASA Conference Update	Dr. Oliveira	March 4-8, 2025	New Orleans, LA	Cost Registration & Conference \$1,505.00 Hotel \$1,258.32 Flight \$565.62 Not to exceed \$3,700.00
ASCD Conference	Norma Diaz	June 30-July 2, 2025	San Antonio, Texas	Cost Registration & Conference \$714.00 Flight \$747.14 Hotel \$1,180.53 Not to exceed \$2,900.00
2025 NJASBO Annual Conference	Bernadette Pinto	June 4-6, 2025	Atlantic City, NJ	Registration & Conference \$500.00 Hotel \$336.00 Not to exceed \$1,200.00

2. Approve the revision of the school calendar following school dates:
 - a. June 2-6, 2025, finals week (this will enable the school to finalize grades by June 13, 2025). Finals week will be regular school days. Teachers will administer exams during regular class periods.
 - b. June 20, 2025, Field Day at Washington Park (Rain Date Monday, June 23, 2025)
 - c. June 23-30, 2025, half-day schedules to allow for end-of-school closing activities.
 - d. Dissolve the early dismissal schedule for students and staff for June 17-19, 2025.
3. Approve the cost of the Fun Day end-of-year celebration for students and staff on June 20, 2025, with a rain date of June 23, 2025.
4. Approve the graduation(s) costs for the 8th and 12th Grade students, not to exceed \$1,790.00.
5. Approve the cost of prom decorations (June 5, 2025) and 8th grade (June 18, 2025), students' celebration event, not to exceed \$4,628.00
6. Approve the purchase of yearbooks from Lifetouch for all students in grades 7-12 at a cost not to exceed \$6,946.92.
7. Approve AULCS Field Trips. Provided to the board of members. Acct. #11-000-270-500-000-072.

HUMAN RESOURCE AND RECOGNITION

The Human Resource and Recognition Committee, upon recommendation of the Lead Administrator, presents the following motions to the Academy for Urban Leadership Charter School Board of Trustees for approval. All appointments and reappointments are contingent upon and may be modified based on student participation and the district's receipt of sufficient State School Aid and other revenue funding.

1. Accept the resignations of the following staff:

#	Employee Name	Position Title	Effective Date
1.	Juan De Los Santos	Computer Science Teacher	02/27/2025
2.	Bradford Pazant	Social Studies Teacher	04/08/2025

2. Accept the rescinding of the following staff:

#	Employee Name	Position Title	Effective Date
1.	Sylvia Saracho	Part-Time Aide	01/30/2025
2.	Salwa Saadeh	English Language Arts Teacher	01/30/2025
3.	Dr. Leslie Kruten	Special Education Teacher	01/30/2025

3. Approve the utilization of Ms. Jessica Yost as administrator in charge if Ms. Diaz or Dr. Oliveira are away from the building at no cost.

4. Appoint the following staff as listed for 2024-2025 Stipend Position Correction:

#	Candidate Name	Stipend Position	Stipend Amount
1.	Aileen Velez	Senior Class Advisor	Prorated \$2,150..00

5. Approve the medical leave of absence of the following employee #15419 as of February 3, 2025.

6. Approve the medical leave of absence of the following employee #15495 as of February 11, 2025.

FINANCE AND FACILITIES

The Finance and Facilities Committee, upon recommendation of the Lead Administrator and the School Business Administrator, presents the following motions to the Academy for Urban Leadership Charter School Board of Trustees for approval.

1. Approve the Bills List for the period of January 24, 2025 - February 18, 2025.
2. Approve the Board Secretary Report and Treasurer Report for January 2025.
3. Discussion regarding the St. Michael's utilities payment agreement.
4. Discussion regarding the St. Michael's lease payment agreement.
5. Discussion regarding the Barclay lease payment agreement.
6. Discussion regarding Niche Agreement.
7. FY24 ACFR (Annual Comprehensive Financial Reports) Presentation and approve the submission.
8. Approve a one-time severance package not to exceed \$8,000.00 for all employees and 1099 vendors who fulfill their contractual obligation with AULCS through June 30, 2025.
9. Approve a one-time severance package of COBRA for July for all employees who fulfill their contractual obligation with AULCS through June 30, 2025, not to exceed \$75,000.00.
10. Approve all employees who fulfill their contractual obligation with AULCS through June 30, 2025, to sell their unused vacation and personal days at their full daily rate of pay **(est)**.

EXECUTIVE/GOVERNANCE

The Executive/Governance Committee, upon recommendation of the Chief Lead Administrator, presents the following motions to the Academy for Urban Leadership Charter School Board of Trustees for approval:

*Second reading of the following policies:

1. **Policy #5516 Use of Electronic Communication Devices**

*First reading of the following policies:

1. **Policy #2365 Acceptable Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) (New)**
2. **Policy #5111 Eligibility of Resident-Nonresident Students (M) (Revised)**
3. **Policy #5460 High School Graduation (M) (Revised)**
4. **Policy #5512 Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying (M) (Revised)**
5. **Policy #5533 Student Smoking (M) (Revised)**
6. **Policy #5701 Academic Integrity (Revised)**
7. **Policy #5710 Student Grievance (Revised)**
8. **Policy #7441 Electronic Surveillance in School Buildings and On School Grounds (M) (Revised)**
9. **Policy #8500 Food Services (M) (Revised)**
10. **Policy #9163 Spectator Code of Conduct for Interscholastic Events (M) (New)**
11. **Policy #9320 Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies (M) (Revised)**

*First reading of the following Regulations:

1. **Regulation #5533 Student Smoking (Revised)**
2. **Regulation #7441 Electronic Surveillance in School Buildings and On School Grounds (M)(Revised)**
3. **Regulation #9320 Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies (M) (Revised)**
4. **Regulation #9323 Notification of Juvenile Offender Case Disposition (NEW)**

Consent Agenda Items

Board Members	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Ms. Eloisa Hernandez, President						
Mr. Ambiorix Ramirez, Vice President						
Ms. Mayra Mercado, Corporate Secretary						
Ms. Cecilia Vaquero, Board Member						
Dr. Jose Aviles, Board Member						
Mr. Carlos Rei, Board Member						

XIII. OTHER MOTIONS:

Board Member	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstention
Ms. Eloisa Hernandez, President					
Mr. Ambiorix Ramirez, Vice President					
Ms. Mayra Mercado, Corporate Secretary					
Ms. Cecilia Vaquero, Board Member					
Dr. Jose Aviles, Board Member					
Mr. Carlos Rei, Board Member					

XIV. 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 the 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: Attorney-Client Privilege

Motion to move into Executive Session:

Time Entering

Board Member	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstention
Ms. Eloisa Hernandez, President					
Mr. Ambiorix Ramirez, Vice President					
Ms. Mayra Mercado, Corporate Secretary					
Ms. Cecilia Vaquero, Board Member					
Dr. Jose Aviles, Board Member					
Mr. Carlos Rei, Board Member					

Time Returning _____

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Members of the public desiring to make a public comment may come forward at this time. Please begin your comments by stating your name and address. Individuals are invited to speak on one topic at a time, and no individual will speak more than once until all individuals so desiring have spoken once.

The public is reminded that to ensure the efficient and orderly operations of the meeting, members of the public will be limited to speaking on items for three minutes.

NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:****XIV. ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to Adjourn

End Time

Board Member	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstention
Ms. Eloisa Hernandez, President					
Mr. Ambiorix Ramirez, Vice President					
Ms. Mayra Mercado, Corporate Secretary					
Ms. Cecilia Vaquero, Board Member					
Dr. Jose Aviles, Board Member					
Mr. Carlos Rei, Board Member					