



MINUTES

For

Special Board Meeting

October 23, 2024

Academy for Urban Leadership Charter School
Perth Amboy, NJ

Dr. Paul Oliveira
Lead Administrator

Norma Diaz
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Norma Diaz
High School Principal

Tobi Knehr
Middle School Administrator

I. CALL TO ORDER:**START TIME: 6:58 PM**

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. Elosia Hernandez, President	x	Ms. Norma Diaz, High School Principal	x
Ms. Michelle Roman, Vice President	x	Mrs. Tobi Knehr, Middle School Administrator	Absent
Mr. Saad Syed, Corporate Secretary	Absent	Ms. Patricia Bombelyn, Board Attorney	x
Ms. Mayra Mercado, Board Member	x		
Ms. Lyner Perez, Board Member	x		
Ms. Yadira Puntiel, Board Member	x		
Mr. Ambiorix Ramirez, Board Member	x		
Mr. Paul Oliveira, Chief School Administrator	x		
Ms. Norma Diaz, SBA/ Board Secretary	x		

Ms. Roman interrupted Ms. Hernandez to speak about Ms. Knehr. Ms. Roman was advised not to mention any names and she logged off the call at 7:04 pm.

At the time, the quorum was lost and the meeting went into recess.

Ms. Roman logged back into the meeting, which resumed at 7:25 pm.

President Hernandez proceeded to explain why she called this special meeting to address the name of a sergeant of arms and to address the implementation of the revised budget.

Mr. Oliveira presented his recommendations and asked Ms. Pinto to confirm that the revised budget was approved in the August regular meeting. She further stated that the budget must be implemented as is, or a revised budget must be presented.

President Hernandez asked Dr. Oliveira to present his report on the revised budget cut recommendations. Dr. Oliveira presented the budget shortfall and reasoning for his reduction in force recommendations and asked Ms. Pinto to confirm that the revised budget was approved in the August regular meeting. Ms. Pinto further stated that the budget has to be implemented as is, or a revised budget would need to be presented.

At 8:06 PM Ms. Mercado moved to a closed session and was seconded by Ms. Perez. Ms. Roman once again left the meeting and the board went into recess. At 8:36 Mr. Ramirez joined and the meeting resumed.

At that point, the board attorney, Ms. Bombelyn, advised the board that a BOT meeting could not start after 8 p.m. Ms. Pinto was asked if that was correct, and she stated she believed that was not accurate based on the Bylaws but would need to confirm. As per the board attorney's recommendation, the meeting was adjourned.

IV. SEGARGENT of ARMS APPOINTMENT - Tabled

Board Member	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstention
Ms. Eloisa Hernandez, President					
Ms. Michelle Roman, Vice President					
Mr. Saad Syed, Corporate Secretary					
Ms. Yadira, Puntiel, Board Member					
Mr. Ambiorix Ramirez, Board Member					

Ms. Lyner Perez, Board Member					
Ms. Mayra Mercado, Board Member					

V. FINANCE AND FACILITIES

Board Member	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstention
Ms. Eloisa Hernandez, President					
Ms. Michelle Roman, Vice President					
Mr. Saad Syed, Corporate Secretary					
Ms. Yadira, Puntiel, Board Member					
Mr. Ambiorix Ramirez, Board Member					
Ms. Lyner Perez, Board Member					
Ms. Mayra Mercado, Board Member					

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: Attorney-Client Privilege

School Budget

Personnel Matters

Lease

Motion to move into Executive Session:

Time Entering _____

Board Member	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstention
Ms. Eloisa Hernandez, President					
Ms. Michelle Roman, Vice President					
Mr. Saad Syed, Corporate Secretary					
Ms. Yadira, Puntiel, Board Member					
Mr. Ambiorix Ramirez, Board Member					
Ms. Lyner Perez, Board Member					
Ms. Mayra Mercado, Board Member					

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION TIME: _____

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:

TIME: 9:00 PM

Board Member	Motion	Second	Aye	Nay	Abstention
Ms. Eloisa Hernandez, President					
Ms. Michelle Roman, Vice President					

Mr. Saad Syed, Corporate Secretary					
Ms. Yadira, Puntiel, Board Member					
Mr. Ambiorix Ramirez, Board Member					
Ms. Lyner Perez, Board Member					
Ms. Mayra Mercado, Board Member					