Board of Director's Meeting

July 27, 2026

General Session 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

I) Preliminary

a) Welcome to Visitors
b) Pledge of Allegiance
c) Director's Roll Call
d) Reading of Team Norms
e) Approval of Last Meeting Minutes
   i) May 4, 2026
   ii) June 3, 2026
f) Approval of Tonight's Agenda

II) Committee Reports

a) Board Development
   i) Board Working Sessions
      - August 17th (Monday)
   ii) Back to School Night

b) Finance Team
   i) No Report

c) Growth Feasibility
   i) Revisiting the Asphalt Project
   ii) Finalizing Rental Agreement Update
   iii) Owner's Representative and Master Planning
      - Forming a Committee

d) Personnel
   i) No Report

e) School Accountability
   i) No Report

III) Administrator's Report

IV) Public Comment

(Comments will be given 2 minutes each)

V) Discussion Items

a) Open Items

VI) For the Good of the Cause

VII) Adjournment of General Session

Next Meeting
August 29, 2026

All meeting dates are available online

<u>Team Norms</u>
AACS Board of Directors

- We all commit to having integrity before, during, and after meetings.
- We commit to listening, hearing, and respecting each person's point of view.
- We commit to coming prepared, being engaged, and professional in all our meetings.
- We will all fulfill our commitments and obligations.
- We will review our norms every meeting and evaluate ourselves twice a year.

Created March 2014

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*A **team** is a group of people working interdependently to achieve a common goal for which members are mutually accountable.*

Board of Directors Meeting
May 4, 2026

General Session

I. **Preliminary**
Called to Order 6:02 p.m.

a) *Welcome to Visitor(s)*
   i. Katie Corey

b) *Roll Call*
   ii. Ms. Akerly – Presiding
   iii. Ms. Manuel
   iv. Ms. Horne
   v. Ms. Lang
   vi. Ms. Tracy – Administrator (Not Present)

c) *Reading of team norms by Ms. Horne*

d) *Approval of the last meeting minutes*

   i. Motion to approve the meeting minutes from March 16, 2026, by Ms. Horne
   Motion carried unanimously.

e) *Approval of tonight's agenda*

   i. Motion to approve the April 6, 2026 Meeting Minutes, as presented, by Ms. Horne
   Motion carried unanimously
   ii. Motion to approve tonight's agenda, as presented, by Ms. Horne
   Motion carried unanimously

II. **Committee Reports**

a) *Board Development - Facilitated by Ms. Akerly*
   i. Board of Director Evaluation Results
      1. Following last month's verbal evaluation report, an attached Board Evaluation Report was provided and discussed.
   ii. Board of Director Roles
      1. Ms. Akerly initiated the conversation around future board transitions, noting she has two years left on the Board. Discussion also includes
         i. Ms. Horne's strong rhythm and leadership as Treasurer
         ii. Ms. Lang's bandwidth and interest in continuing in a Director role, including capacity for the upcoming school year
         iii. Continued interest in adding community members to the Board
         iv. Consideration for the Secretary role, Ms. Akerly is proposing Ms. Manuel, who is open to the transition
      2. Roles for the School Year 2026-2027
         i. President, Racquel Akerly
         ii. Vice President, OPEN SEAT
         iii. Treasurer, Kayla Horne
         iv. Secretary, Tonoa Manuel
         v. Directors
            (a) Megan Lang – *Will focus on the Board Training and is still reconsidering her role and availability on the Board*

3. Plan to set up a Google option/link for community members to join meetings, acknowledging potential engagement for the future.

iii. Summer Read – Aligned Influence

iv. Board Retreat
1. Considerations for July 24-26
2. Ms. Horne and Ms. Manuel will lead planning for Board approval
3. Final duration and agenda items to be confirmed May 18th

v. Meeting Calendar
1. Ms. Arnold is working on the meeting dates based on the approved calendar for the School Year 2027

b) *Finance Team – Facilitated by Ms. Horne*

i. No Board Recommendation

ii. Enrollment is currently higher than usual around this time of year

iii. Budget is being built conservatively, based on historical trends
1. Waiting for the official PP percentage
2. Currently budgeting at 2%

iv. Mr. Bart Skidmore will attend our next Board Meeting

c) *Growth Feasibility - Facilitated by Ms. Akerly*

i. No Board Recommendation
1. No GFC Meeting this month

ii. Ms. Akerly will provide a timeline for Administrative Renovation via email
1. Projected completion – August 5th or earlier
2. Additional calendar days have been built into our approved calendar and the start date can be adjusted if needed

iii. Ongoing coordination with Rob from Van Vleet regarding the exterior envelope project

iv. Asphalt costs have increased by 6% sense our last BID

e) *Personnel*

i. No Report

f) *School Accountability*

i. No Report

g) *Principal's Report*

i. Ms. Tracy was not available for the Administrator's Report

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III. Open Items

a) 8th Grade Graduation

i. May 20th

ii. Doors Open – 5:45 p.m.

iii. Ceremony Begins – 6 p.m.

iv. Full Board Attendance Expected

b) Staff Training

i. Phishing training will be implemented due to recent PDF related security concerns

c) BEST Grant Presentation

i. May 13th

ii. Attendees: Ms. Tracy (Presenter), Bart (CFO), two MOA team members, Ms. Kristine Wille-Matney (AACS Owner Rep.), and Ms. Akerly (Board President)

iii. Preparing for the presentation, Ms. Tracy will complete 5 hours of video training to better understand what to expect.

d) Grant Scoring

i. Staff scoring accounts for 20% of the total score
1. AACS scored 9.5 out of 10

IV. Public Comment

Katie Cory reflected on Ms. Tracy's presentation at the last board meeting regarding the desire to change her title from Principal to Executive Director. She shared that she believes we have Ms. Tracy's best interests at heart, recognizes the culture of growth that has been created, and appreciates the board's fiduciary responsibility.

V. For the Good of the Cause

a) Ms. Akerly
   i. Appreciation to Ms. Tracy for the legislative progress she has made and for being a strong advocate for our school.
   ii. Enjoys the continued partnership with Ryan from Gadellnet, who is doing an incredible job restoring and strengthening our partnership
   iii. Town Hall was a great success, while there were initial concerns about turnout, it turned out to be an impactful event with great food, meaningful content, and strong community engagement. Special recognition to NJHS and the teachers leading the effort who, and continue to do an amazing job.
   iv. A huge thanks to all staff, teachers, and administrators for their dedication and effort during CMAS

b) Ms. Horne
   i. The GT Showcase also continues to be a highlight, showcasing strong student work and engagement
   ii. Shoutout to Ms. Daly for the Art Show at the Aurora Mall
   iii. Recognition to Ms. Corley, Ms. Gates, and Mr. Horsford for their wok on the Shrek production
   iv. Appreciation to all teachers who contributed to Fine Arts Night

VI. Adjournment of General Session at 6:47 p.m.

Executive Session pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(f) to discuss:

(f) Personnel – The annual review and evaluation of the principal contract

Executive Session entered at 6:54 p.m.
Executive Session adjourned 8:47 p.m.

Entered General Session Discussion 8:47 p.m.

Ms. Akerly moved the following:
RESOLVED that the Board approve a restructuring of the administrative titles as follows:

1) The current Principal position shall be retitled Executive Director, and the Personnel Committee is directed to collaborate with Ms. Tracy on moving forward with what is best for the school and
2) The current Assistant Principal positions shall be retitled Principal, for a total of three positions.
   a. This action is limited to title changes only and does not modify the existing salary schedule, compensation, or contractual terms for the retitled Principals.

Approved by unanimous consent

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors place the *newly* hired Principal at the beginning step of the current Assistant Principal salary schedule.
Approved by unanimous consent.

RESOLVED that the Board approve a two-year employment contract for the retitled Executive Director, including a 10% *total* increase over the current salary, with all other terms to be reviewed and finalized in coordination with the Personnel Committee.
Approved by unanimous consent.

Adjourned 8:58 p.m.

Board of Directors Meeting
June 3, 2026

General Session

I. Preliminary
Called to Order 6:02 p.m.

a) *Welcome to Visitor(s)*
   i. Bart Skidmore
   ii. Katie Corey

b) *Roll Call*
   iii. Ms. Akerly – Presiding
   iv. Ms. Manuel (present via phone)
   v. Ms. Horne
   vi. Ms. Lang
   vii. Ms. Tracy – Administrator (Not Present)

c) *Reading of team norms by Ms. Horne*

d) *Approval of the last meeting minutes*

   i. Review and approval of the previous meeting minutes was deferred to the next Board meeting because the draft minutes were not yet complete.

e) *Approval of tonight's agenda*

   i. Motion to approve tonight's agenda, as presented, by Ms. Arnold
   Motion carried unanimously

II. Committee Reports

a) *Board Development* - *Facilitated by Ms. Akerly*
   i. Board of Director Retreat
      1. Ms. Horne will send booking information for a virtual review of the upcoming Board Retreat
   ii. Board Content Calendar
      1. Ms. Akerly requested that the Board offer support in building out the Board calendar collaboratively during the retreat.

b) *Finance Team* – *Facilitated by Mr. Skidmore and Ms. Horne*
   i. Mr. Skidmore, the Academy's CPA, presented the proposed budget for Aurora Academy, provided historical financial context, and responded to questions from the Board. Discussion centered on the school's fund balance, reserves, anticipated facility needs, and strategic financial planning to support the school's long-term sustainability.
   ii. Board Recommendation
      1. Create a Fund Balance Policy to protect the school's long-term sustainability.
   iii. Approval of the 2026-2027 Fund Expenditure Budget
   Ms. Horne moved to approve the 2026-2027 Fund Expenditure Budget
      Be it resolved by the Aurora Academy Charter School Board in Arapahoe County that the amounts shown in the following schedule be appropriated to each fund as specified in the "Original Budget" for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027. Original
      General Fund $ 9,980,302
      Building Fund $ 800,000
      Total Appropriation $10,780,302
      Motion Passes Unanimously.

c) *Growth Feasibility - Facilitated by Ms. Akerly*
   i. No Board Recommendation
      1. No GFC Meeting this month
   ii. Administration Renovation and BEST Grant Overview
   iii. Victory Fire Protection
      1. $11,900 Quote
      2. Identifications of multiple deficiencies within the Academy's fire sprinkler system, including leaking sprinkler heads, outdated components, missing protective devices, required five-year inspections and testing, and other code-related maintenance items. The Board discussed the importance of maintaining a safe learning environment and determined that completing the recommended work was necessary to support the school's life safety systems and ongoing code compliance.

e) *Personnel*
   i. No Report

f) *School Accountability*
   i. No Report

g) *Principal's Report*
   i. **Ms. Horne moved to approve the updated phone policy as presented.**
   Motion Passes Unanimously.

Technology Policy:
Maintaining a safe environment conducive to learning is of utmost importance. To this end, personal electronic devices are not allowed to be used at school unless students are given express permission by staff.

- Cell phones/"Communication Devices": At school, there is no need for a student to use a cell phone/communication device. Parents needing to get messages to a student can do so through the main office. Some middle school parents wish their child to carry a cell phone. In such cases, cell phones will remain turned off and in the student's locker during the day, and are not to be turned on until the student has left campus.
  - After school, a student may be given permission to use their cell phone/communication device to call home. Permission must be requested and granted or the phone will be confiscated.
  - If a cell phone/communication device is used on school grounds without express permission then the device will be confiscated, and the student may retrieve their device from the staff member at the end of the day.
  - The second time a cell phone/communication device is used on school grounds without express permission, it will be confiscated, and a parent must pick up the device from the Main Office.

(A "*Communication Device"* is any personally owned device capable of communication, recording, internet access, or digital media use including but not limited to cell phones, smartwatches, and smartglasses.)

- Earbuds and headphones are not allowed on or with students UNLESS the student has been specifically told by a teacher they may use them in class. If a student is seen wearing earbuds or headphones at any other time, those earbuds/headphones will be confiscated. This means: no earbuds or headphones in the halls, at recess, in the lunchroom, etc.
- Smart Watches are allowed; however, they must be on "airplane mode". Placing the watch in this mode prevents the watch from sending and receiving text messages and phone calls. If they become a distraction or a student is seen using communication capabilities, it will be confiscated. The student may then retrieve the watch from the front desk at the end of the school day. Should a student's watch be confiscated a second time, a parent will be required to collect the watch.
- During any state standardized testing, students will be required to turn off and place all personal electronic devices (e.g. cell phones, smartwatches, and any similar items) in their lockers or backpacks as required by the Colorado Department of Education.
- Accommodations and Equity: Aurora Academy is committed to equitable access for students with documented needs. Student Communication Device access may be permitted if explicitly required by IEPs, 504 Plans, and legally reviewed Health Plans. Principals can make exceptions for specific educational purposes

It has been our experience that personal items, especially technology, are easily lost or damaged in a school setting and may serve as a source of conflict between students. Aurora Academy is not responsible for the loss or damage of any item deemed inappropriate for school.

III. For the Good of the Cause

a) Ms. Manuel
   i. Shout out to the administration for another successful year

b) Ms. Horne
   i. Shout out to the eighth-grade graduation success and all that went into planning

IV. Adjournment of General Session at 6:33 p.m.