



**ACADEMY FOR URBAN LEADERSHIP
REGULAR BOARD MEETING AGENDA
612 AMBOY AVE., PERTH AMBOY, NJ
7:00 PM
Wednesday, January 31, 2024**

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:

Mr. Joshua Bishop-Mbachu - President
Ms. Michelle Roman – Vice President
Mr. Saad Syed – Corporate Secretary
Ms. Eloisa Hernandez
Ms. Yadira Puntiel
Mr. Ambiorix Ramirez

Additional Attendees:

Dr. Jack Perna – Interim Chief Administrator
Ms. Tobi Knehr - Middle School Administrator
Ms. Joyel Farges - Principal
Ms. Lauren Gonzalez – Interim Director of Curriculum, Assessment, and Support Services
Ms. Patricia Bombelyn - Board Attorney
Ms. Bernadette Pinto – Interim BA/Board Secretary
Dr. Natasha Howard – Outgoing Interim Chief Administrator

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Move that the Board of Trustees approve the meeting minutes from December 20, 2023.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

USDA Farm to School Status Report

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Board President invites members of the public to present any comments to the Board (limited to three minutes).

VIII. PRESENTATIONS

1. FY 23 Audit Presentation
2. Revised FY 24 Budget Presentation

IX. STAKEHOLDER REPORTS

X. INTERIM CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Academic Excellence

2. Human Resources and Recognition
3. Finance and Facilities
4. Executive

XII. MOTIONS

Academic Excellence

1. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Interim Chief Administrator, approve the following field trip request:

Field Trip	Students/Sponsor	Date(s)	Location	Cost
Middlesex County Teen Arts Festival	67 (all grades)/S. Spiecker	March 13, 2024	Middlesex College	Admission - \$400.00 Two buses – approx. \$1,600.00 funded by ARP ESSER
Bowlero	40 (all grades)/M. Leonardo	March 21, 2024	Bowlero, Hazlet	\$1500.00 funded by ARP ESSER
Paradox Museum – JAG points reward	25 (7 th and 8 th gr)/E. Stark	Feb 13, 2024	Paradox Museum, E. Rutherford	\$1400.00 funded by ARP ESSER
Rutgers Basketball	40 (HS teams)/D. Hannan	Feb 13, 2024	Rutgers University	\$1000.00 funded by ARP ESSER

Human Resources and Recognition

1. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Interim Chief Administrator approve the following appointment:

Candidate Name	Position Title	Salary	Start Date
Shruthi Jadazshivajirao	Building Based Substitute	\$200/Daily	2/1/24

2. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Chief Administrator approve the following appointment:

Candidate Name	Position Title	Salary	Start Date
Eamonn Flynn	Daily Substitute Teacher	\$200/day	2/1/24

3. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Chief Administrator approve the following appointment for the 2023-2024 school year:

Candidate Name	Position Title	Stipend*	Start Date
Nabaneeta Mukherjee	Virtual Home Instructor	\$40/hr	2/1/24

*Up to 10 hours per week as needed for a total cost not to exceed \$16,000.00

4. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Interim Chief Administrator, approve the following appointment:

Candidate Name	Position Title	Prorated Salary	Start Date
Fiorela Martinez	Paraprofessional	\$32,000.00	2/5/24

5. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Interim Chief Administrator, approve the following appointment:

Candidate Name	Position Title	Stipend	Start Date
Andrew Greenstein	Student Government Advisor Middle School	\$750.00	2/1/24

6. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Interim Chief Administrator, approve the following appointment:

Candidate Name	Position Title	Stipend	Start Date
Kyle Fisher	Head Baseball Coach	\$7,500.00	3/1/2024

7. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Interim Chief Administrator, approve the following appointment:

Candidate Name	Position Title	Stipend	Start Date
David Hannan	Assistant Baseball Coach	\$4,500.00	3/1/2024

8. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Interim Chief Administrator, approve the following appointment:

Candidate Name	Position Title	Stipend	Start Date
Jeriel Rojas	Head of Security	\$ 7,000.00	10/26/23

9. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Interim Chief Administrator, approve the following appointment:

Candidate Name	Position Title	Stipend	Start Date
Luis Cartagena	School Safety Specialist	\$5,000.00	10/26/23

10. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Interim Chief Administrator, accept the following employment separation:

Name	Position	Effective Date
Claudia DeJesus	Administrative Assistant	01/19/2024

Finance and Facilities

1. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Interim Chief Administrator, approve the Bills List for the period of 12/22/23 to 1/31/24.

2. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Interim Chief Administrator and School Business Administrator, approve the Board Secretary's (A148) Report, Treasurer's Report and transfers for the month ending December 2023. Be it further resolved that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Interim School Business Administrator/Board Secretary approve the certification of funds pursuant to N.J.A.C 6A:23A-16.10(c)3, that as of December 31, 2023, no budgetary line item account has encumbrances and expenditures that in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of 6A:23A16.10(a).

3. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Interim Chief Administrator, accept The Auditor's Management Report (AMR) & Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2023.

4. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Interim Chief Administrator, to approve the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Waiver for Fiscal Year 2025.

XIII. OTHER MOTIONS

AE / Executive Team

1. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Interim Chief administrator, approve the submission to the NJDOE, on or before February 29, 2024, a competitive grant application in the amount of \$31,875, entitled, "*Expanding Access to Climate Change Education and the New Jersey Student Learning Standards through Interdisciplinary Learning and Community Resilience Projects*" to expand equitable access for students to standards-based climate change education, project-based learning in location-based climate change solutions, and student-led community resilience projects focused on climate action from June 1, 2024 to May 31, 2025.

2. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Interim Chief administrator, approve the submission to the NJDOE, on or before February 13, 2024, a competitive grant application in the amount of \$50,000, entitled, "*Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate Course Expansion*, to train or hire additional teachers for Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) classes, to expand the opportunity for equitable access to college-level AP/IB courses to traditionally disadvantaged students whose access to college-level coursework is not always accessible.

3. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Interim Chief Administrator, approve the following professional development request:

Professional Development	Staff Member(s)	Date(s)	Location	Cost
Monmouth University Educational Opportunity Fund Luncheon	Kelly Howlett, Guidance Counselor	February 5, 2024	Monmouth University	\$0

4. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Interim Chief Administrator, approve a medical leave of absence from 2/5/24 to 3/29/24 as requested by Employee ID #19.
5. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Interim Chief Administrator, approve an unpaid leave of absence from 3/8/25 to 4/15/25 as requested by Employee ID #20.

Human Resources Team / Executive Team

6. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Interim Chief Administrator, approve the below staff members to be funded out of the IDEA CCLC Supplemental grant to provide support to students after school effective February 1, 2024.

Staff Name:	Position:	Hourly Rate:	Not to exceed:	Account #
Dehnz, Jess	Special Ed. Teacher	\$45	\$10,000.00	20-452-100-100-000-097
Pak, Meltem	Paraprofessional	\$40	\$4,000.00	20-452-100-100-000-097
Leonardo, Mabel	Social Worker	\$40	\$4,000.00	20-452-200-100-000-097

7. Move that the Board of Trustees, under the recommendation of the Interim Chief Administrator, approve the following applicants for the 21st Century Afterschool Programs at AUL and Assumption Catholic School to be funded by the 21st CCLC Grant and not to exceed 2 hours a day through June 14, 2024:

Staff Name:	Position:	Hourly Rate:	Account #
Bielak, Jaimie	ACS Arts and Crafts	\$40	20-451-100-100-000-097
Sena, Ariana	Spring Showcase	\$40	20-451-100-100-000-097

8. Move that the Board of Trustees under the recommendation of the Interim Chief Lead Administrator approve the posting for a Substitute Administrator.

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Board President invites members of the public to present any additional comments to the Board (limited to three minutes).

XV. 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:

1. Attorney-Client Privilege
2. Kelly v. AUL
3. Negotiations Update
4. Personnel
5. HIB report
6. Ongoing Investigations

XVI. ADJOURNMENT