

**AECI CHARTER SCHOOL NETWORK  
838 BROOK AVENUE  
BRONX, NEW YORK**

**MEETING OF THE BOARD**

Date: Tuesday, August 10, 2021  
Time: 6:00 pm  
Location: VIA REMOTE VIDEO CONFERENCE

1. Welcome Role Call: Present were Carlo Schiattarella, Robert Burton, Paul Comrie, Ricardo Cosme Ruiz, Shameeka Gonzalez, Alberto Villaman, Irma Zardoya (at 8pm)

CEO: Derick Spaulding  
Principal AECI I: Colin Healy  
Principal AECI II: Dr. Charles Gallo  
BoostEd: Joshua Moreau  
Counsel: Flora Edwards, Esq.

2. Approval of Minutes of July 12, 2021

Moved by Robert Burton and seconded by Shameeka Gonzalez to approve the Minutes of Organizational Meeting held on July 12, 2021. Approved unanimously

3. Principal's Report - AECI I

- a. There are 500 students enrolled which includes 126 Freshmen.
- e. Summer school; The third session finishes this week and the fourth and final session begins next week with 98 students registered in at least one class.
- f. Preservice Planning was held with a focus on
  - I. Goals for the new year which include increasing the quality of student work assigned and student work submitted and to have students submit work in a more timely manner.
  - ii. Freshman Orientation
- g. Facilities
  - I. Gym construction is scheduled to being on Friday, August 11,2021
  - ii. Smartboards have been installed on the 2nd Floor

- iii Doors are being installed
- iv. Café upgrade is in progress

4. Principal's Report AECI 2

- a. Summer School session ended on August 6th. Of the 44 students enrolled, 33 students who made up credits received regents waivers. Counselors are reaching out to parents of the 10 students who did not pass summer school.

- b. Grade Accumulation

94% of the students in Grade Nine completed 11 credits compared to the City average of 85% and the Bronx county average of 81%

94% of the students in Grade Ten completed 11 credits compared to the City average of 82% and the Bronx county average of 76%

Counselors are working with the remaining students to provide support services for students not progressing as required,

- c. Enrollment for the 2021-2022 school year is projected to be 372 students with 167 students enrolled in grade 9.
- d. Lehman College Now Program is currently accepting applications for their Fall 2021 session. Students entering grade 11 are eligible to apply for college credit online classes. The notice was sent out to all juniors and parents. Applications close August 16 and counsellors and students will be notified of students who are accepted. Courses include Principles of Business Management; Computer Information Systems, English Composition I, English Composition II, Introduction to Creative Writing, Latinos in the United States, Introduction to Statistics, Introduction to Philosophy, Contemporary Moral Issues, General Psychology, Fundamentals of Sociology and Criminology.
- e. Facilities

AECI vacated the 138th Street location and has moved into the new location on 161st Street. All painting and plastering have been completed. Student lockers are being installed this week and additional student lockers are on order. New student desks and chairs have been ordered. Internet and phone service are being set up the week of August 9. Parking lot spaces will be painted and numbered for ease of use during the week of August 16. FDNY inspection is scheduled for the end of August.

f. Grants and Funding

AECI 2 has applied for grants and is currently awaiting a response from the Emergency Connectivity Fund and the Hyde & Watson Foundation

5. Old Business:

a. Food Service

Moved by Shameeka Gonzalez seconded by Robert Burton to authorize the Chair to enter into an Agreement with Red Rabbit, LLC, the lowest of three responsible bidders, to provide food services to AECI I and II at a cost not to exceed \$493,249.50 for the 2021-22 school year. Approved Unanimously.

b. Health Insurance

WHEREAS provision of comprehensive health insurance important to the health and well being of AECI's faculty and staff; and

WHEREAS, the cost of benefits have increased for the coming year; and

WHEREAS, AECI has performed a careful review of its financial condition in order to assess the impact, if any, on the academic program; and

WHEREAS, after careful review AECI has determined that it is able to absorb the incremental cost of insurance for the coming year;

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the chair be authorized to execute an agreement with TriNet III for the maintenance of all existing coverage at an incremental cost not to exceed \$1,130,00.00. Approved unanimously.

c. Human Resources Director

A job description and salary range for the HR Director will be finalized and circulated by the September Board meeting.

Candidates will be presented to the Personnel Committee by the October Board meeting.

d. Committee Assignments

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Board recognizes the need for a Personnel Committee and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board establish a Personnel Committee to address Human Resource and Personnel matters and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following persons be elected to serve on the Personnel Committee until the next annual meeting of the Board of Trustees and until such person's successor is elected and qualified, or until such person's earlier resignation or removal, in accordance with the First Amended and Restated Bylaws of AECI Charter Schools Network:

Shameeka Gonzalez  
Irma Zardoya (Chair)  
HR Director (ex-officio)  
Flora Edwards (ex-officio)

Note: Following a straw poll the Board voted for legal counsel to join the Committee ex-officio with objections noted by Ricardo Cosme Ruiz and Shameeka Gonzalez

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the following changes be made to the Committee Assignments:

Shameeka Gonzalez - to Chair the Finance Committee  
Ricardo Cosme Ruiz - to Chair the Facilities Committee  
Alberto Villaman - to resign from the Facilities Committee  
Irma Zardoya - to join the Facilities Committee and the Personnel Committee

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED to dissolve the Committee on Family Engagement and Outreach. The general outreach functions of the Committee will be performed by Ricardo Cosme Ruiz and Family Engagement for AECI I will be performed by Paul Comrie and for AECI II by Shameeka Gonzalez.

Moved by Alberto Villaman and seconded by Robert Burton Approved unanimously.

10. New Business: AECI I

a. New Hires

Moved by Ricardo Cosme Ruiz seconded by Paul Comrie to hire the following:

Jameelah Jones	ELA
Jerri Castillo	Art (Leave Replacement)
Theodore Chin	Chemistry

Approved unanimously

b. Purchase of Chairs

WHEREAS the chairs assigned to AECI I from AECI II do not fit in the space required; and,

WHEREAS a delay in the purchase of the chairs will compromise delivery for opening of classes; and

WHEREAS, Worthington Direct is the lowest of qualified bidders with the capacity to deliver on time;

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Executive Director be authorized to purchase 112 9000 Services School Chair in navy and 112 Open Front Desk with Metal bookbox at a cost not to exceed \$18,020.80

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED in order to complete the order requirements by the time school opens, the Executive Director be authorized to purchase 112 Virco Student Chair, Navy, Soft Plastic Shell, 18" Seat Height, Chrome Frame chairs at a cost and 100 ECR4Kids 24" x 18" Adjustable Open Front Student Metal Book Bo, desks from Amazon at a cost not to exceed \$48,684.28

Moved by Robert Burton seconded by Ricardo Cosme Ruiz. Approved unanimously.

11. New Business: AECI II

a. New Hires

Moved by Robert Burton seconded by Paul Comrie to hire the following:

Temitope Isaac Ayeni	Teacher	Mathematics
Sally Elam	Operations Associate	Operations
Leonard Moretti	Teacher	Science
Jeena Lee-Walker	Teacher	English

Approved Unanimously

b. New Settlement College Partnership

Moved by Shameeka Gonzalez seconded by Robert Burton to authorize the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with the New Settlement College partnership to provide college counseling resources including professional development for AECI college counselors in technique to prepare students prepare for college as well as other resources including, but not limited to trips, workshops, guest speakers, counseling services at a cost not to exceed \$77,000.00

Approved unanimously.

c. SAT Prep Classes for all Juniors

Moved by Shameeka Gonzalez seconded by Ricardo Cosme Ruiz to authorize the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with Prep for Success, the lowest responsible bidder which met the needs and requirements of the AECI II program for the implementation of an SAT Prep class at a cost not to exceed \$109,286.00.

Approved unanimously.

d. Venture Promotions Signs and Marketing

Moved by Ricardo Cosme Ruiz seconded by Paul Comrie to authorize the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with Venture Promotions Signs and Marketing the sole responsive bidder, for the creation of need floor directories, bathroom signs, floor plan diagrams posted in elevator and each room, in addition to vinyl wraps to enhance the campus. Two electric solar powered signs will be mounted on the outside of the building; the school's logo and various other campus appropriate images will be printed on vinyl and applied to specific areas. These

include the cafeteria, gym, main entrance, and hallway. In addition, the outside windows will be vinyl wrapped in order to cover the window tint at a cost not to exceed \$74,389.00.

Approved unanimously

e. Student Desks and chairs

Moved by Robert Burton seconded by Alberto Villaman to authorize the Executive Director to purchase 275 student desks and chairs from School Outfitters at a cost not to exceed \$47,669.71, the sole bidder of the three responses able to fill the order as the remaining two bidders reported that the merchandise was out of stock. Approved unanimously

f. CDW-G CCTV Cameras

Moved Robert Burton seconded by Alberto Villaman to authorize the Executive Director to purchase CCTV System Hardware from CDW-G, Inc., the lowest of three bidders at a cost not to exceed \$33,932.66. Approved unanimously.

g. Janitorial Services

Moved by Shameeka Gonzalez seconded by Paul Comrie to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract for janitorial services with ABC Janitorial Services for the 2021-22 school year at a monthly cost not to exceed \$11,040.00 exclusive of supplies, subject to approval of counsel.

12. Executive Session

Moved by Robert Burton seconded by Paul Comrie at 8:24 pm to go into Executive Session to discuss real estate. Approved unanimously.

Moved by Robert Burton seconded by Alberto Villaman at 8:53pm to return to the record. Approved unanimously.

13. Adjournment

Moved by Alberto Villaman seconded by Paul Comrie at 9:00pm to adjourn, Approved unanimously.