

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

MEETING OF THE BOARD

Date: Tuesday, September 14, 2021
Time: 6:00 pm
Location: 116 East 169th Street Bronx New York

1. Welcome Role Call: Present were Carlo Schiattarella, Paul Comrie, Ricardo Cosme Ruiz, Shameeka Gonzalez, Alberto Villaman, Irma Zardoya

CEO: Derick Spaulding
Principal AECI I: Colin Healy
Principal AECI II: Dr. Charles Gallo
BoostEd: Joshua Moreau
Counsel: Flora Edwards, Esq.
Guests: Leonard Holland - Parent
Saroya Holland - Student

2. Approval of Minutes of August 10, 2021

Moved by Shameeka Gonzalez and seconded by Irma Zardoya to approve the Minutes of August 10, 2021. Approved unanimously

3. CEO Report

- a. Facilities

- I. AECI I renovations are complete
- ii. AECI moved to the new facility is complete

- c. Network Budgeting and Fiscal Procedures

- I. Uniform process for approval of all expenditures
- ii. Establishing process for CC use and purchases
- iii. On-going coordination with Boosted to ensure fiscal responsibility
- iv. Review of hiring practices for the Network as to demographic distribution of staff.

- v. Professional Development was held for all Network employees which included teaching and support staff. Topics covered were bias, how race has played a part of the educational process and effective teaming.
- vi. New Initiatives
 - a. AECI engaged a new food service company to improve the quality of food service.
 - b. Long range initiatives are being discussed
- d. Professional Development
 - I. Network PD topics
 - School specific pd to build on Network
 - ii. Board acknowledgment
- 4. Principal's Report - AECI I

Summer school ended with 4 two-week sessions. Credit Completion data for summer School is as follows:

	9th Graders	10th Graders	11th Graders
2020-2021 School Year	95.83%	87.39%	86.78%
2019-2020 School Year	91%	88%	86%
2018-2019 School Year	83%	88%	82%
2017-2018 School Year	88%	80%	89%

- b. There are 486 students enrolled which includes 117 Freshmen.
- c. Following Network AECI held PD with the theme was “Supporting Students Physically, Academically, and Emotionally in their Return to School.” Each day PD was focused in one of those areas. Teachers worked on the creation of school wide behavior policies
- d. Ninth Grade Orientation was held on September 10, 2021. 108 out of 117 students attended with their parents. Each student received a uniform shirt, welcome packet with school supplies, schedule, a gift bag, and their lock for their locker. During the

three hour session, students o me their 9th grade teachers and administration, and went to each of their classrooms to learn about the expectations of the school. Parents of 9th grade students had an academic and health/ safety informational session led by the Principal.

- e. The first day of school was September 13th. . 9th grade students had a regular day of instruction. Orientation was held for 10th-12th grade students to facilitate the return to in-person learning, enforcing health and safety expectation and culture building to get to know the school and the staff.

- f. Facilities

The offices in the gym have been removed. The gym is now full sized and able to accommodate larger groups of students. The new second floor classes were ready for the first day of school. New signage in front and throughout our building was installed and better represents the AECI brand. Due to the additional space each grade has its own floor (or with the exception of the 11th grade which had 2 floors) which reduces student movement and improves the quality of life.

5. Principal's Report AECI 2

- a. Enrollment - 360 students are currently enrolled with 162 students in Grade 9 , 91 students in Grade 10 and 107 students in grade 11.
- b. Parent online Zoom Meetings for reopening plan were held from 7:00-8:00pm on September 2, 2021 with 74 parents attendance and on September 9, 2021 with 82 parents in attendance.
- c. Professional Development was held on August 30-31 with a full complement of staff in attendance.
- d. Student Orientation was held on September 2, 9 and 10th. Students received all school supplies at no cost. ID pictures were taken and all new incoming students received 1 free uniform shirt and 1 free gym shirt.
- e. AECI2 will continue utilizing the Google Classroom Suite this year in order to be prepared for any issues that may arise due to COVID restrictions.
- f. All students received school supplies at no cost.
- g. School Facilities Report
 - I. The new facility is ready and occupied.
 - ii. Classrooms are set up for 32 students in each with desks 3 feet apart
 - iii. Painting, floor polishing, and proper signage are completed.

- iv. Fire inspection was performed on September 7
 - v. Student lockers and remaining furniture are scheduled for delivery by the end of September.
 - vi. Internet and phones are completed and functional.
 - vii. PPE items are available for all staff, students and visitors.
 - viii. HVAC requires further balancing to adjust the temperature in all the rooms.
- h. Grants and Funding
- Emergency Connectivity Fund winners will be selected this month.
6. Leonard Holland, a parent of a student in AECI I made a presentation questioning the mask mandate. Discussion with the Board followed.
7. Academic Affairs Committee
- An introductory meeting was held on September 14, 2021 to discuss the beginning of the school year. Future meetings will be scheduled for the second Tuesday of the month,
8. Report the Board Retreat Follow-up Plan
- a. A vision statement was developed and presented for Board review.
 - b. A follow up retreat will be scheduled for October to discuss the next steps in the implementation of the school's mission and strategic plans for the future.
 - c. The job description of the CEO will be reviewed and the Board will identify those issues which are delegable to the CEO and which actions require Board approval.
 - d. The desirability of engaging a coach for the CEO and the Board will be considered.
 - e. The template for committee minutes will be revised.
 - f. The roles and responsibilities of the Board members will be reviewed
 - g. A system of accountability for the Board members will be developed
 - h. Development of a calendar of board retreats was discussed. The next Board retreat is scheduled for December 5, 2021.
9. Old Business:
- a. Human Resources Director

A posting has been prepared for Board review to publish for solicitation of a human resource director for the Network.

10. Executive Session

Moved by Shameeka Gonzalez seconded by Ricardo Cosme Ruiz at 8:26 pm to go into Executive Session to discuss real estate. Approved unanimously.

Moved by Shameeka Gonzalez seconded by Irma /Zardoya at 9:10pm to return to the record. Approved unanimously

11. New Business: AECI I

a. New Hires

Moved by Irma Zardoya seconded Shameeka Gonzalez by to hire the following:

Yvonne Fitch	Security Guard/ Attendance Outreach
Jennifer Velez	Security Guard/ Attendance Outreach
Meghan Richards	Phys Ed/ Health
Christopher Sholkoff	Phys Ed
Felicia Thompson	Security Guard

Approved unanimously

12. New Business: AECI II

a. New Hires

Moved by Irma Zardoya seconded by Shameeka Gonzalez to hire the following:

Rickton Barron	General Building Maintenance
Martin Cedillo-Colibri	Physical Education Teacher
Glynnis Eldridge	Writing Teacher Grade 10
Brian Lee	Computer Science
Ernest Oliver	Security/School Aide
Eddie Turner	Physical Education Teacher

Approved Unanimously

13. Committee Assignments

Moved by Irma Zardoya seconded by Ricardo Cosme Ruiz to appoint Shameeka Gonzalez as chair of the Personnel Committee. Approved Unanimously.

14. Adjournment

Moved by Shameeka Gonzalez seconded by Ricardo Cosme Ruiz at 9:20pm to adjourn, Approved unanimously.