

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

MEETING OF THE BOARD

Date: Tuesday, December 14, 2021
Time: 6:00 pm
Location: remote video conference

1. Welcome Role Call: Present were Irma Zardoya (Chair Pro Tem), Paul Comrie, Shameeka Gonzalez, Ricardo Cosme Ruiz, Carlo Sciattarella, Alberto Villman

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 November 9, 2021

Moved by Ricardo Cosme Ruiz and seconded by Paul Comrie to approve the Minutes of November 9, 2021. Approved unanimously

3. CEO Report

- a. Resignation of Dr. Charles Gallo

WHEREAS Dr. Charles Gallo has served AECI since 2015, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Charles Gallo has submitted his resignation as Principal of AECI II effective January 1, 2022

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees thanks Dr. Gallo for his services and wishes him the very best in his future endeavors

Moved by Shameeka Gonzalez seconded by Alberto Villaman approved unanimously.

4. Principal's Report - AECI I

- a. There are 465 students enrolled which includes 119 Freshmen. Attendance is 90.5% for November, 2021.

- b. Saturday Academy for seniors in danger of not graduating began with 15 students on Saturday, December 11, 2021 and will continue for senior and staff who have been vaccinated.
 - c. All 9th graders have had X Period built into their schedule since the beginning of the school year. In addition, 30 sophomores and juniors requiring additional help have also been assigned to a mandatory X-Period during the week beginning the week of December 6th.
 - d. Parent Teacher Conferences were held on November 10th from 2pm-4pm and 5:30pm-7:30pm with 211 parents in attendance. First Quarter Report Cards were distributed at the conference and were also distributed by mail.
 - e. First Quarter Pass rates were comparable to pre-pandemic rates. There was a notable disparity between grades 9 and grades 10 and 11. Ninth graders had a 94.5% pass rate, 10th and 11th graders pass rates were around 70%.
 - f. Since the year began there have been 11 positive COVID cases, with 5 coming in the last 7 days. As a result of the increased incidence of COVID, the school has reinstated remote learning for the next 10 days with plans to resume in school instruction after winter recess on January 3, 2022.
 - g. College Admissions: 91% of AECI I students have applied to college, which includes an increase in the number of students applying to trade schools. Nine students have applied to Coop Tech- a certification program in the trades. Nine students have been accepted into the Hostos College Now Program which is designed to supplement our in-house SUPA program.
 - h. 9th grade students attended the Broadway show *Trouble in Mind* and ate lunch at a local restaurant. Seniors also attended an anime convention, a screening of the movie *Eternals*, and a trip to Korea Town. Additional trips are planned.
5. Principal's Report AECI 2
- a. Enrollment - 318 students are currently enrolled. Attendance is 89.3%.
 - b. The School continues to receive applications for the April 2022 lottery through Schola. Open House tours are ongoing with dates for December including December 2 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm and December 18 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.
 - c. Academics:
 - i. Parent Teacher conferences were held on November 10 from 2-4:00 pm and 6-8:00 pm with 175 parents in attendance. Report cards were distributed to

all parents during the conference and a copy of the report card was mailed to parents during the week of November 15.

- ii. Students in the Lehman College Now Program have received their final grades for the semester. Out of 14 students, 11 received a passing grade. This equates to a pass rate of 79%. Courses include English Composition 111, Problems in Philosophy 171, Intro to Statistics MAT 131, and Criminology SOC 230. Lehman has opened the application process for their spring 2022 College Now sessions and Grade 11 Counselor, Ms. Guzman, is assisting students in completing and submitting their applications.
- iii. X-Period is held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4-5:30 pm. Students will receive small group instruction for the next 25 weeks.
- iv. Saturday Academy will be scheduled in the near future.

d/. School Activities

- i. AECI2 has partnered with Roundabout Theatre Company and on November 17, thirty of our 9th and 10th graders went on our very first field trip to the theater where they attended a new Broadway hit "Trouble in Mind" .

e. School Facilities Report

- i. Facility is being cleaned and disinfected daily. PPE items are available for use including masks, wipes, air purifiers and UV disinfecting lights.
- ii. The gym floor must be removed and replaced due to previous water damage.
- iii. Lowitt Fire and Detection Alarm Company has scheduled a regular system maintenance call for December 28 when the building is not occupied to complete previous work and will perform a full building inspection to insure that the system installed conforms to the plans.

f. Grants & Funding

- i. AECI2 received \$84,498.75 for the purchase of 125 Chromebooks, 125 additional Hotspots for student use, and \$24,000 to help pay for the 100 Hotspots previously purchased from T-Mobile for student use. All materials have been received.

6. Academic Affairs Committee

The next meeting of the Academic Committee is scheduled for January, 2022

7. Finance Committee

The Committee met on December 13m 2021. The Committee was advised that the PPE Loan was forgiven in full. Planning for the 2022-23 budget will begin in January, 2022.

8. Facilities Committee

Moved by Shameeka Gonzalez seconded by Carlo Schiattarella to accept Ricardo Cosme Ruiz's resignation as a member of the Facilities Committee and to elect Alberto Villaman as a member and chair of the Facilities Committee. Approved unanimously,

9. Personnel Committee

The Committee met and discussed resignation of Dr. Gallo as Principal of AECI II and the search process for a new principal. In the interim, Derick Spaulding will assume the duties of the Principal pending the appointment of a new Principal for AECI II.

The search continues for the Human Resources Director

10. New Business

A. New Hires AECI I

Moved by: Alberto Villaman seconded by Ricardo Cosme Ruiz to hire the following:

Joseph McBride Security

Otto Malloy Security

Pierchon Watson Security

Approved unanimously

B. New Hires: AECI II

Moved by Ricardo Cosme Ruiz seconded by Carlo Schiattarella to hire the following:

John Fisher Teacher Computer Science

Leah Clark	Teacher	English Writing
Luis Fuentes	Coordinator Student Success	Student Services
Samuel Maldonado	College/Career Counselor	Student Services

Approved unanimously

C. Renovations AECI I

Moved by Ricardo Cosme Ruiz and seconded by Shameeka Gonzalez to authorize the chair to enter into a contract with Taurino Management to provide engineering and construction services to perform alterations on the first floor at a cost not to exceed \$155,356.00 subject to approval of counsel. Taurino is the lowest of two responsible quotes which responded to the solicitation for bids. Approved unanimously.

10. Executive Session

Moved by Shameeka Gonzalez seconded by Alberto Villaman at 7:24 pm to go into Executive Session to discuss real estate and personnel. Approved unanimously.

Moved by Paul Comrie seconded by Alberto Villaman at 8:20pm to return to the record. Approved unanimously

11. Adjournment

Moved by Alberto Villaman seconded by Paul Comrie at 8:30pm to adjourn, Approved unanimously.