

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

MEETING OF THE BOARD

Date: Tuesday, January 11, 2021
Time: 6:00 pm
Location: remote video conference

1. Welcome Role Call: Present were Carlo Sciattarella, Irma Zardoya, Paul Comrie, Alberto Villaman

CEO: Derick Spaulding
Principal AECI I: Colin Healy
Principal AECI II: Derick Spaulding (Acting)
BoostEd: Joshua Moreau
Counsel: Flora Edwards, Esq.
Guest: AECI I PTO President Gregory Kimble

2. Approval of Minutes of December 14, 2021

Moved by Alberto Villaman and seconded by Paul Comrie to approve the Minutes of December 14, 2021. Approved unanimously

3. Principal's Report - AECI I

- a. There are 464 students enrolled which includes 119 Freshmen. Attendance is at 82% which is higher than the citywide average in light of the COVID epidemic including quarantine and isolation.

- b. COVID Update

- I. Due to a report of 11 cases of COVID the week prior to December 14, 2021, the School reinstated remote learning from December 14, 2021 through December 24, 2021. The transition was fairly seamless.

- ii. In-person learning resumed on January 3, 2022 following the Christmas recess. At present there are 17 students and five staff members reporting positive for COVID. One on one instruction is available for students guaranteeing or in isolation. A Virtual meeting were held for parents regarding the return to in-person learning.

iii. Since the return to in-person learning, rapid tests have been very successful in catching asymptomatic and symptomatic cases.

c. Academics

I. Of the 111 students in the graduating cohort, 102 are on-track for graduation. Another 4 students require additional work to be eligible for graduation and six students are classified as “long term absentees”. Of these 3 are suffering from health conditions, two have joined the workforce and 1 student has been non-responsive.

ii. Acceptance rate for college is at 91% . Highlights of student applications are as follows:

School	<u>Number of</u>
Syracuse University	20
Binghamton University	10
Yale	1
Temple University	2
Pratt	9
Penn State University	7
New York University	11
N Y Institute of Technology	22
Fordham University	15
Cornell University	6
Co-op Tech and Trade Schools	13

4. Principal’s Report AECI 2

a. Enrollment - 318 students are currently enrolled with approximately 300 students on the wait list. Attendance is 83.1%. The School continues recruitment for the 2022-23 school year.

b. COVID Update

- I. Prior to the Christmas break we had only one substantiated teacher specific Covid case and two students that informed us of their positive results from an outside testing agency. Since that time there have been reports of 20 confirmed student covid cases during the break with approximately 20 students isolating because family members at home have test positive and/or been exposed. Nine staff members have tested positive since Christmas break, four 4 of which have returned to work and the rest scheduled to return in the coming days.
- ii. There are three shifts of cleaning services sanitizing during and after school to ensure the building is clean. We remain diligent about our masking, services, protocols for healthy environment

c. Academics

- I. Regents week will be dedicated to ensuring students are getting the extra support needed to maintain and/or improve grades for the second marking period and for the administration of mock regents examinations.
- ii. Professional development includes data driven assessment of student strength and weakness to ensure students have the skills necessary for them to succeed academically.
- iii. An X period has been established on Tuesdays and Thursdays to provide additional support for those students requiring additional assistance.
- iv. Recruitment of additional staff is on-going.

d. Facilities

- I. The alarm service company performed an inspection had an inspection by the alarm service company. There are potential building violations in connection with the space which is not occupied by AECI 2 These violations must be cured if the school is to expand into the additional space for the coming year.

- ii. The variance has been approved for the additional space and architectural and engineering plans will be submitted to ensure code compliance,
- iii. Planning is required for additional space for the 2022-23 school year.

e. School Events

School Events include College swag Thursdays, Basketball, soccer and volleyball games, a visit to Manhattanville College and a block party homecoming neighborhood celebration. Upcoming events include a Winter Ball - celebrating school spirit and 1st semester celebration.

5. Academic Affairs Committee

A meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee will be scheduled in February, 2021.

6. Finance Committee

The budgets for both schools is on track. Budget planning for the coming year will begin with plans for an initial draft in March.

The scope of the grants will be distributed for review by the Board.

7. Personnel Committee

- I. HR Director Search - interviews for the HR Director took place. The pool of candidates is limited

9. New Business

a. New Hires AECI I

Moved by Paul Comrie seconded by Irma Zardoya to hire the following:

Era Kovanxhi

Chemistry Teacher

Approved unanimously

- b. Moved by Irma Zardoya and seconded by Alberto Villaman to appoint Christopher Mastrocola as Director of Curriculum and Instruction. Approved unanimously.
- c. Moved by Paul Comrie and seconded by Irma Zardoya to appoint Avril Guzmán as Director of Student Life. Approved unanimously.

10. Executive Session

Moved by Irma Zardoya seconded by Alberto Villaman at 7:48 pm to go into Executive Session to discuss real estate and personnel. Approved unanimously.

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Moved by Paul Comrie seconded by Alberto Villaman at 8:30 pm to return to the record. Approved unanimously

11. Adjournment

Moved by Alberto Villaman seconded by Irma Zardoya at 8:45pm to adjourn, Approved unanimously.