

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

MEETING OF THE BOARD

Date: Tuesday, May 11, 2022
Time: 6:00 pm
Location: remote video conference

1. Welcome Role Call: Present were Carlo Sciattarella, Ricardo Cosme Ruiz, Irma Zardoya, Alberto Villaman

CEO: Derick Spaulding
Principal AECI I: Colin Healy
Principal AECI II: Santiago Taveras
Counsel: Flora Edwards, Esq.
Guests: AECI I PTO President Gregory Kimble
BoostEd - Josh Moreau

2. Approval of Minutes

Moved by Alberto Villaman seconded by Irma Zardoya to approve the minutes of the meeting of April 12, 2022. Approved unanimously.

3. CEO Report

- a. State mid-term visits for each school have been rescheduled for June 1st & 2nd. A focus group with the Board of Trustees is scheduled for June 1, 2022.
- b. The impact of college visits on student perceptions and aspirations was discussed
- c. The HR consultant is assisting in the search for n HR Director, reviewing the handbook policies to assure e up to date compliance. The Next step will be training to support the investigation process.
- d. Plans for summer school are proceeding as well as staffing and programs needs for the 2022-2023 school year.
- e. Development of new partnerships with Fordham University and SUNY Old Westbury & Relay Graduate School program

4. Principal's Report - AECI I

- a. There are 455 students enrolled which includes 168 Freshmen. Attendance for the year is 88.5%. And 87.4% for April. We have 781 applications for 125 seats for the coming 2022-23 year.
- b. Conflict prevention and resolution are continuing topics,
- c. The projected graduation is 96%.
- d. The dashboard was reviewed in terms of students performance..
- e. COVID Update

Over the past 30 days 6 staff members and 6 students have tested positive for COVID

f. Academics

- I. One of AECI I teachers has been accepted to an emerging school administrator program. Discussion continue regarding her role as a potential summer school AP/Director which would provide a good opportunity for her to get experience in a new role while under the supervision of the Principal.
- ii. A hiring committee comprised of grade team leaders has been established. The committee will be charged with evaluations of potential candidates for teaching positions
- iii. The Our Regents Prep program has begun in the algebra classes and will begin next week in the other classes. An additional algebra teacher is available to work with students this year and our part time teacher has increased her hours to support the students.
- iv. The beginning of Regents Prep has been timed summer school notifications to increase that sense of urgency. Fourteen teachers have applied for summer school, That and an increase in funds to support summer school will provide for more targeted interventions to ensure students are successful in the class and on the Regents.

g. School Activities

I. University Prep Day

To support the family of University Prep student Angellyh Yambo, who was killed in a violent incident, the school held University Prep Day on April 27,

2022. Students and staff were allowed to wear jeans in exchange for a \$5 donation and all were encouraged to wear University Prep colors of all green. Administration coordinated with UP to make sure the money went directly to the family. AECI raised \$638 for the Yambo family,

ii. Teacher Appreciation Week

The first week in May is Teacher Appreciation Week. Among the activities this week were:

- a. collection of positive comments from students and from teachers about their colleagues. Which were then and personalized display for each teacher that featured all the comments was created.
- b. Student Council members and Student Athletes went from room to room delivering coffee and candy baskets to each teacher.

iii. Senior Trip to the Movies

18 seniors went to see Doctor Strange

iv. Spring Pep Rally

Students participated in a pep rally in the AECI gym to support the Spring Student Athletes. Students did trick shots, danced, and participated in a drum line. AECI has 125 spring student athletes.

v. Preparation for College Visits and Career Day are in progress.

5. Principal's Report AECI 2

- a. Enrollment - 314 students are currently enrolled. The lottery was held with 693 applications with 125 seats.
- b. Attendance is 84.73% for April, 2022.
- c. COVID Update

One student has tested positive for COVID.

d. Academics

I. Fordham Prep

Students are invited every Tuesday after school to listen to Fordham University students talk about different aspects of college life. 20-30 students participated in the program

ii.. STEM Program

Fordham University STEM Program is a three-part series on Saturdays, where students do hands on projects using math and physics. This week they built a catapult and competed in small groups to see which group's catapult launched an object the furthest.

iii. Advanced Placement Exam

The College Board's AP Stats exam was administered to a small group of students on Thursday, April 5, 2022.

d. School Events

I. Teacher Appreciation Day

The staff was treated to lunch and given a small gift in appreciation of their work. Each teacher also received a handwritten thank you card from the Principal

ii. College Trip- Students in the 10th and 11th grade went on the school's second overnight College Trip to SUNY Cortland, Morrisville, Hardwick College. Students returning from the college trips have returned with new enthusiasm about college and now have an idea what is like to be at a suburban setting for college

iii. Sports

Both the girls softball team and the Boys Baseball teams have started their seasons.

iv. Nutrition Education Series- our parent coordinator arranged for a certified staff member from choosemyplate.gov to do an 8-part series on nutrition

v. Weekly lobby displays featuring student achievements was shared with the Board.

vi. The Book club which started last month has been a success. Over 30 students have joined the club and read the book Spades, which deals with many current topics on race, LGTBQ and discrimination.

e. Professional Development

I. Our aspiring principal has taken the New York State Certification Exam and will be completing his course work later this month. We expect him to start the 2022-2023 school year as our Assistant Principal.

ii. Our attendance coordinator continues to build her excel and power point skills. Analyzing and preparing presentations to identify student attendance patterns to develop individual student plans for incentivizing and encouraging

students to attend school daily.

6. Academic Affairs Committee

A meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee was held on May 3, 2022.

- a. The formatting of the dashboard was reviewed.
- b. The Committee discussed the assessment process for the development of common assessments tools to assess student progress.
- c. Summer planning was discussed in terms of student enrichment and advancement as well as for providing additional assistance for students who require additional help.
- d. The AP evaluation process for Assistant Principals and teacher recruitment will be on future agendas.

7. Finance Committee

- a. A meeting of the committee was held on April 25, 2022. Draft budgets were reviewed by the Principals with a view to finalizing the budgets for each school for the 2022-23. school year for both schools.

8. Facilities Committee

Additional space is being explored for AECI 2 for the coming academic year.

9. New Business

a. New Hires AECI I

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

Edlynn Williams- Chemistry

Valentina Valladares- Math

Approved Unanimously

b. AECI II

I. New Hires

Moved by Irma Zardoya seconded by Alberto Villaman to hire Carmen Gonzalez to teach Computer Science. Approved unanimously

iii. Computer Laboratories

WHEREAS up to date computer laboratories are essential to the fulfilment

of the school mission and whereas Best Buy is the lowest of three bidders able to deliver the equipment and furnishings in time for school to begin in September 2022,

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the chair be and here is authorized to enter in a contract with Best Buy to furnish computer and furnishings for three technology laboratories at a cost not to exceed \$125,000

Moved by Irma Zardoya seconded by Alberto Villaman. Approved unanimously

iv. Uniforms for Athletic teams

Moved Irma Zardoya and seconded by Alberto Villaman to authorize the purchase of team uniforms from BSN Sports, the lowest of three bidders at a cost not to exceed \$26,000.00. Approved Unanimously.

v. Tutoring Program

WHEREAS tutoring is integral element in ensuring the continued academic performance of our students who require additional support,

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED to allocate \$12,000 towards the payment of tutors in the areas of Algebra, Geometry and Living Environment

Moved by Alberto Villaman seconded by Irma Zardoya. Approved unanimously.

vi Gym Equipment

Moved by Irma Zardoya and seconded by Alberto Villaman to authorize the purchase of physical education equipment for cardio, strength, and flexibility for student use from American Fitness, the lowest of three bidders, at a cost not to exceed \$29/000.Approved unanimously.

vii. Athletics apparel

Moved by Alberto Villaman and seconded by Irma Zardoya to authorize the purchase of student/athlete equipment for traveling with their respective teams from BSN Sports, the lowest of three bidders at a cost not to exceed 12,000.00.

11. Executive Session

Moved by Alberto Villaman seconded by Irma Zardoya at 8:06 pm to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel and real estate. Approved unanimously.

Moved by Irma Zardoya seconded by Alberto Villaman at 8:56pm to return to the record.
Approved unanimously

12. Adjournment

Moved by Alberto Villaman seconded by Irma Zardoya at 8:59pm to adjourn, Approved unanimously.