

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

MEETING

Date: Tuesday, October 18, 2022
Time: 6:00 pm
Location: 116 E. 169th Street
Bronx, New York

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

CEO:	Derick Spaulding
Principal AECI I:	Colin Healy
Principal AECI II:	Santiago Taveras
BoostEd:	Joshua Moreau
Counsel:	Flora Edwards, Esq.

2. Approval of Minutes of September 13, 2022

Moved by Paul Comrie and seconded by Alberto Villaman to approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on September 13, 2022. Approved unanimously.

3. CEO Report

- a. A Network approach to augment the student recruitment process is being developed
- b. Finalized human resource director position has been developed and a candidate has been identified.
- c. The search for permanent a facility continues
- d. Development of a Network Foundation is in early stages.
- e. A set of Assistant Principal standards have been finalized and will be presented to the Academic Affairs Committee and then to the Board. The goal is the development a uniform set of standards for each position in the Network.
- f. Major Issues
 - a. The opening of the school year was very successful

- b. The dip in enrollment presented a challenge with a number of students moving out of the area
- c. The roll out of the AP standards began this year
- d. Partnerships were developed with “Schools That Can” to provide opportunities for counselors to develop skills around career counseling in the tech field

4. Principals’ Report - AECI I

- a. The year ended with 432 Students including 100 freshmen. Plans for outreach to middle schools are underway. Attendance was 89.68% for the month of September.
- b. Meetings were held with the STC Architecture program.
- c. A meeting was held with the School of Visual Arts Design Chair who will visit our school and is interested in seeing our Design classrooms with a view to expanding the partnership
- d. Harvest Fest was held on September 23rd. Students made “Class of…” tie dyed shirts, listen to music, and enjoy Fall themed food.
- e. The AECI Network had its 2nd Annual College Fair on September 28th. Thirty-five colleges participated. Advisory sessions were prepared for students for the event. In addition, a feedback form was sent to the representatives to provide their impressions of the event as a whole and to comment on the preparedness of our students.
- f. Club activities included the Chess Club field trip to Riverside Park; the Black Pearl visit to the Hall de Lumeniers in Manhattan, a Spanish Club trip to El Museo de Barrio and a visiting poet hosted by the Poetry Club. Upcoming events include a trip to see Hamilton on Broadway, the Hispanic Heritage Food Festival, and the senior trip to Lehigh University. Spirit Week scheduled for the week of October 5th will culminate with a dance.
- g. The School Store, which is student led and operated is now accepting credit cards and averaging \$140 per day with profits dedicated to supporting senior scholarships.
- h. Saturday Academy is providing assistance to Seniors who require help in meeting graduation standards.
- i. This year will continue the focus on capacity building among teachers and counseling staff, including identifying and supporting team leaders, teacher mentors and identifying potential candidates to grow talent from within,

- j. A representative from Princeton University visited the School and met with 10 students who are potential candidates for admission.
5. Principal's Report - AECI II
- a. There are 419 Students enrolled as of September 12, 2022 distributed as follows:
 - i. 124 students in 9th grade
 - ii. 117 students in 10th grade
 - iii. 84 students in 11th grade
 - iv. 94 students in 12th grade
 - b. Attendance is at 85.32% for September. Attendance for the beginning of October is closer to 90%. Efforts are underway to enhance the recruitment effort.
 - c. One teacher and one student tested positive for COVID.
 - d. Inquiry Project- One on one meetings with teachers are being held focusing on expectations and the observation process
 - e. College Fair- 11th and 12th grade students were bused to AECI 1 for a joint college fair. In addition, two representatives from Morehouse University visited the school spoke with our boys about the Morehouse opportunities
 - f. The first PTO meeting was held on September 15, 2022. Over 40 families attended.
 - g. One-half day orientation was held for 9th Grade Students on September 1, 2022.
 - h. On September 22, 2022, a Parent Orientation for 9th grade students provided parents with the opportunity to meet the teachers, counselor and to tour the school
 - i. Trip included two book signings for 10th grade students. In addition, NY Times Best Selling Author Adam Silvera visited the school and met with students. More than 100 students were in attendance.
 - j. The School has partnered with Hands and Minds to implement an Engineering program.. This is an extension of the program which was piloted in the Spring semester.
 - k. The school year opened on a very positive note with a genuine feeling of community. The biggest challenge this year has been accommodating the has been the increased enrollment within the available space.

- l. The counseling team is developing a 4-year high school curriculum based on the students' needs.
 - m. The computer classes include a SUPA course in animation, Python coding class, Microsoft & Google Certification courses.
 - n. Building capacity includes identifying teachers as team leaders and fostering growth and advancement from within.
6. Academic Affairs Committee Report
- The meeting will be rescheduled for November
7. Finance Committee Report
- The Finance Committee met on October 14, 2022 to review the Auditors' report for FY 2022. There were no material findings. The Committee will meet to discuss the budget modification process.
- Moved by Shameeka Gonzalez seconded by Gregory Kimble to accept the Audit Report for School Year ending June 30, 2022. Approved unanimously.
8. Facilities Committee
- To be discussed in Executive Session
9. Personnel Committee
- The meeting of the Committee will be held in November.
9. New Business - AECI II
- a. Moved by Ricardo Cosme Ruiz seconded by Alberto Villaman to hire Dulaina Almonte to teach Spanish. Approved unanimously.
 - a. Moved by Riccardo Cosme Ruiz seconded by Shameeka Gonzalez to authorize the CEO to enter into a professional services agreement with Dr. Judith Gouraige as a Science Consultant to provide mentoring and Curriculum Development at \$1,500 per day for 30 days at a cost not to exceed \$45,000.00. Approved unanimously.
 - b. Moved by Ricardo Cosme Ruiz seconded by Gregory Kimble to authorize the CEO to enter into a professional services agreement with Lissette Parra as a Spanish Language Consultant to provide mentoring and Curriculum Development at \$1,200

per day for 30 days at a cost not to exceed \$36,000.00. Approved unanimously.

10. Executive Session

Moved by Shameeka Gonzalez seconded by Riccardo Cosme Ruiz at 8:35pm to go into Executive Session to discuss real estate and personnel. Approved unanimously.

Moved by Riccardo Cosme Ruiz seconded by Alberto Villaman at 9:05pm to return to the record. Approved unanimously.

11. Moved by Alberto Villaman seconded by Gregory Kimble at 9:07pm to adjourn. Approved unanimously.