

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

MEETING OF THE BOARD

Date: Tuesday, March 12, 2024
Time: 6pm
Location: 838 Brook Avenue
Bronx, New York

1. Welcome Role Call: Present were Carlo Schiattarella, Irma Zardoya, Gregory Kimble, Paul Comrie,

CEO:	Derick Spaulding
Human Resources Director	Hector Rodriguez
Principal AECI I	Colin Healy
Principal AECI II	Santiago Taveras
Assistant Principal AECI II	Christopher Mastrocola
Director of Partnerships - AECI II	Avril Guzmán
Counsel:	Flora Edwards, Esq.
BoostEd:	Joshua Moreau

2. **Approval of Minutes of February 6 2024**

Moved by Paul Comrie seconded by Irma Zardoya to approve the minutes of February 6, 2024. Approved unanimously

3. **CEO Report**

- a. Development of evaluation standards for all major positions across the Network and member schools is close to completion.
- b. The State's determination on Charter Renewal and the amendment is anticipated in April.
- c. The Network was represented at the Somos conference in Albany: The meeting provided an opportunity to develop partnerships for our schools and to join the effort to secure lease aid funding for charter schools whose charter predated the legislation and are currently not eligible to receive lease aid.
- d. Current activities include planning of summer bridge programs, alignment of instructional practices and new school year transitions, reviewing the support (e.g. HR, Graduating students, etc) that the Network provides to the schools.

4. **HR Report**

- a. **HR Evaluation Process** - Evaluation template and Rubric submitted to CEO for

review and discussion

- b. **Termination Protocol / Severance Policy** - The policies were shared with the HR Committee and have been forwarded to labor counsel for review prior to adoption.
- c. **Employee Handbook** - The updated Employee handbook is under review and will be presented to the Personnel Committee for review prior to submission to the Board for adoption.
- d. **Leave(s) of Absence** - Development of guidelines and a form for requests of a leave of absence is under development.

5. **Principal's Report AECI I**

- a. **Enrollment** - Enrollment is at 447 students with 124 students enrolled in the 9th grade.
- b. **Attendance** for this month is 90.01%. The school wide attendance initiative continues.
- c. **Professional Development** this month focused on a review of Midterm Data
- d. **Release of School Quality Snapshot** - the 2022-23 Preliminary School Quality Snapshot rated the school as "Excellent" in all categories with the exception of "Supportive Environment" which was rated "good". Of note is the Graduation Rate is 96% in comparison with the comparison group of 88%
- e. **School Activities** - Celebration of Black History Month included a focus on Black History as well as Student lead discussions, bulletin board displays, a door decorating contest, a Day of the Arts, Black Panther Movie Night and a Food Festival and a trip to the Apollo Theater
- f. **School Trips included:**
 - a. An overnight trip students to Syracuse University SUNY for 40 students involved in the SUPA classes.
 - b. 30 students saw Spamalot on Broadway.
 - c. 20 students attend the New York Build Expro at the Javits Centers
 - d. NHS Bronx Food Pantry

6. **Principal's Report - AECI II**

- a. Enrollment is at 448 with 127 students enrolled in the 9th grade. As of this writing, 447 students applied for the 2024-2025 school year. Recruitment continues an Open House was held on February 7th and 9th.

- b. Attendance is at 86.58% . The school wide attendance initiative continues.
- c. **Release of School Quality Snapshot** - the 2022-23 Preliminary School Quality Snapshot rated the school as “Excellent” in all categories with the exception of “Supportive Environment” which was rated “good”. Of note is the Graduation Rate is 96% in comparison with the comparison group of 88%.
- d. **Regents Examination.** On January 20, 2024, a Saturday Regents Tutoring Session was held for 100 students from 10:am - 1:00 pm for the Regents Examination which was held January 23th -26th .
- e. **Professional Development Day**, held on January 29, 2024, focused on Social Emotional Timeline and Learning.
- f. Parent Teacher Organization held a meeting on February 8th. On February 2nd and 9th the PTO offered computer classes to parents,
- g. **Honor Roll Ceremony** was held on February 13th.
- h. **Activities**
 - i. January 9 Gene Luen Yang & LeUyen Pham
 - ii. January 10 Chess Tournament Part 2
 - iii. January 29- Senior Ice Skating Trip: Bryant Park
 - iv. February 7, 2024 - Domino Tournament

7. **Partnership Program**

Avril Guzman reviewed the development of the Leadership and Partnership Program which provides tutoring, career and college planning resources, connections with programs on and off campus, connection graduates with jobs. The focus of the internship program is strengthening the relationship between education and the work place through selective internships which provide students with an experience that bridges the gap between the classroom and the world of work.

8. **Academic Affairs Committee**

A meeting of the Committee was held on February 26nd. The Committee focused on student writing and the summer learning program for students entering the 9th grade supported by

Bridge Program Foundation.

9. **Finance Committee**

Meetings were held with the Principals of both schools regarding the status of the budget which is on target. The cessation of the COVID grants will reflect in a decrease in revenue. Development of the FY 2024-25 budget is in progress.

10. **Facilities Committee**

To be discussed in Executive Session

12. **Executive Session**

Moved by Irma Zardoya seconded by Gregory Kimble at 8:37pm to go into Executive Session to discuss legal matters and real estate. Approved unanimously.

Moved by Irma Zardoya seconded by Gregory Kimble at 9:00pm to return to the record. Approved unanimously

13. **Adjournment**

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Moved by Gregory Kimble seconded by Irma Zardoya at 9:15pm to adjourn. Approved unanimously.