

**AECI CHARTER SCHOOL NETWORK**  
**116 East 169th Street**  
**Bronx, New York**

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD**

Date: Tuesday, July 24, 2024  
Time: 6pm  
Location: 116 E. 169th Street  
Bronx, New York

1. Welcome Role Call: Present were Carlo Schiattarella, Irma Zardoya, Gregory Kimble, Robert Burton,

Human Resources Director	Hector Rodriguez
Director Post Secondary Readiness	Lauren Quigley
Principal AECI I	Colin Healy
Principal AECI II	Santiago Taveras
Assistant Principal AECI II	Christopher Mastrocola
Counsel:	Flora Edwards, Esq.
BoostEd:	Joshua Moreau

Guests:

Devan Prioleau, PRI-O-LEAU Development Group, LLC  
Peter Quiñones New York Edge, Inc.

2. **Approval of Minutes of June 11, 2024**

Moved by Robert Burton seconded by Alberto Villaman to approve the minutes of June 11, 2024. Approved unanimously

3. **Election of Officers & Committee Assignments**

Moved by Alberto Villaman and seconded by Robert Burton

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the following persons are elected or re-elected, as applicable, to the designated offices set forth below, to serve until the next annual meeting of the Board of Trustees and until such person's successor is elected and qualified, or until such person's earlier resignation or removal, in accordance with the First Amended and Restated Bylaws of AECI Charter Schools Network:

Chairperson	Carlo Schiattarella
Vice Chairperson	Irma Zardoya
Treasurer	Shameeka Gonzalez
Secretary	Gregory Kimble

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the following persons are elected or re-

elected, as applicable, to the designated committees set forth below, to serve until the next annual meeting of the Board of Trustees and until such person's successor is elected and qualified, or until such person's earlier resignation or removal, in accordance with the First Amended and Restated Bylaws of AECI Charter Schools Network

Executive Committee: Carlo Schiattarella (chair),  
Gregory Kimble  
Paul Comrie  
Shameeka Gonzalez  
Alberto Villaman  
Irma Zardoya

Finance Committee: Shameeka Gonzalez (chair)  
Alberto Villaman  
Gregory Kimble  
Josh Moreau (ex-officio)

Facilities Committee: Alberto Villaman (Chair)  
Carlo Schiattarella  
Irma Zardoya  
Flora Edwards, Esq (Ex-officio)

Academic Committee: Irma Zardoya (Chair)  
Paul Comrie  
Robert Burton  
Derick Spaulding -ex-officio  
Colin Healy - ex-officio  
Santiago Taveras - ex-officio

Human Resources Shameeka Gonzalez (Chair)  
Irma Zardoya  
Hector Rodriguez (ex-officio)  
Flora Edwards (ex-officio)

Moved by Alberto Villaman and seconded by Robert Burton. Approved unanimously

4. Board Calendar

Moved by Alberto Villaman seconded by Gregory Kimble to approve the Board Calendar for 2024-2025 . Approved Unanimously.

5. School Calendar

Moved by Gregory Kimble seconded by Robert Button to approve the School Calendar for 2024-2025 subject to confirmation that it is in full compliance. Approved Unanimously.

## 6. **HR Report**

- a. **SHRM Conference** HR Director attended the SHRM annual conference in Chicago.
- b. **Health Insurance Renewals** - Renewal with UHC wasn't competitive based on the short plan year and other factors. Broker's went to market to find a better rate for our renewal. Open enrollment is planned for the last two weeks of August.
- c. **Retirement Plan Audit** - Work continues with Network's third party administrator, Wells Thomas, to finalize the 5500 form. Working with N Cheng LLP to complete the audit on the plan. It is anticipated that the audit will be completed by October, 2024.
- d. **Financial Audit** - Began working with Josh Moreau on completing the end of year financial audit based on staff, student and financial data from the schools
- e. **Employee Handbook** - The Handbook has been reviewed and finalized. A copy will be sent to counsel for review.
- b. **Administrative Salary Review** - plans are under way to commission a compensation survey for Executive staff.

## 7. **Post Secondary Readiness Report**

- a. College Commitments  
100% of college bound students have committed to the college of choice in both AECI I and II
- b. Outcomes
  - I. 332% - two year institutions
  - ii. 51% - four year institutions
  - iii. 6.2% career/technical education
  - iv. 2.8% - military enlistment
  - v. Other- 7.4%
- c. Outcome distribution by type (for college going students)
  - I. CUNY: 52%
  - ii. SUNY: 14%
  - iii. Private: 27%
  - iv. Trade: 7%
- d. Admissions Highlights
  - I. First Posse Scholar- Lawrence University- full scholarship
  - ii. 4 students attending Syracuse University, 3 full scholarship
  - iii. 4 students attending Fordham University, 3 full scholarships

- iv. Increase in variety of schools includes acceptances to Drexel, Temple, Hampton, SVA, Vaughn
  - v. Increased number of students being admitted into selective majors, i.e. Architecture, Engineering, Nursing, CS
- e. Summer Planning
- I Posse and Questbridge Nominations submitted, working with students to prepare for round 1 interviews.
  - ii. College rep visit schedule and trip planning- This will be the first year AECI2 will have a full rep visit schedule
  - iii Network Post-Secondary Fair Planning- Our 4th annual Network Fair will be held on October 9th 2024. Location TBD.
  - iv. Onboarding new PSR teacher at AECI2 with a strong focus on curriculum building for PSR class.
  - v. Plans to fill PSP counselor vacancy at AECI1.

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

- a. Enrollment - As of today's date, 822 applications have been received for admission in the 2024 Fall term. Of these 145 students have completed all paperwork.
- b. Attendance for June was 80.20%.
- c. The graduation rate was 94.89%. Graduation took place at Hostos Community College on June 20, 2024. The graduation speaker was Truman Jones, a member of the AECI class of 2018.
- d. **School Activities**
  - I. Summer School is in progress. Thirty students are participating in the summer bridge regents prep program.
- e. The school is fully staffed for the coming year.

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

- a. We have 1,071 applications for the Fall term.
- b. Attendance for June was 88.90%. The attendance protocols are being reviewed with a view to improvement.
- c. Saturday tutoring took place on June 1, 8, 15 2024
- d. June 14-26 - Regents Examinations Regents scores were reviewed.
- e. June 6th - Parent Teacher Association Meeting

- f. June 13th marked the end of the 4th Quarter for Seniors. June 18th marked the end of the 4th Quarter for 9th, 10, and 11th Grades
- .g Events
  - I. June 10 - Senior Awards Ceremony
  - ii. June 11 - Senior Prom
  - iii. June 12- Sports Banquet
  - iv. June 17 - Karaoke- Cafeteria
  - v. June 19- Field Day
  - vi. June 25 - Staff Party
  - vii. June 26 - Last day of school for students
  - viii. The Boys baseball team won the Charter School Championship
  - ix. The Graduation rate for 2024 was 94.45%

10. **Finance Committee**

A number of ad hoc meetings were held to review necessary budget revisions

11. **Facilities Committee**

To be discussed in Executive Session

12. **New Business**

- a. AECI 1 - New Hires

Moved by Irma Zardoya seconded by Alberto Villaman to approve the appointment of

Mikal Norton                      Chemistry Teacher

Marisol Rodriguez                Living Environment Teacher

Approved unanimously

b. AECI I - Purchase of Chromebooks

Moved by Alberto Villaman seconded by Robert Burton to approve the purchase of 150 Chromebooks from Staples, the lowest of three qualified bidders, at a cost not to exceed \$32,204.50. Approved unanimously

c. AECI II

Moved by Alberto Villaman seconded by Robert Burton to approve the appointment of:

Ruben Alejo Youth Advisor

Kevin Bimbey Youth Advisor

Neil Rothman History Teacher

Nina Bihimani Counselor

Approved Unanimously

d. **Appointment of New Board Member**

Moved by Alberto Villaman seconded by Robert Burton

The AECI CHARTER SCHOOL NETWORK Board of Trustees, having conducted a thorough criminal history record check via fingerprinting which is deemed acceptable by NYSED, and having discovered no State or federal criminal history, or having provided information regarding such history to NYSED, if found, and having verified that any academic and/or professional credential or qualification presented by the proposed member is genuine, and having reviewed the application in its entirety, has voted to select DEVON PRIOLEAU as a member to its Board of Trustees, with a term expiring on July 24, 2029, pending approval by NYSED. The resolution approving DEVON PRIOLEAU is adopted upon NYSED's approval. Approved Unanimously

e. Appointment of General Counsel

Moved by Alberto Villaman seconded by Robert Burton to retain Flora Edwards Esq. as General Counsel for the period July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025 at a cost not to exceed \$35,000. Approved unanimously

13. **Executive Session**

Moved by Irma Zardoya and seconded by Robert Burton at 7:39pm to go into Executive Session to discuss real estate and personnel. Approved unanimously.

Moved by Irma Zardoya seconded by Robert Burton at 8:17pm to return to the record.  
Approved unanimously.

15. **Adjournment**

Moved by Irma Zardoya, seconded by Robert Burton at 8:30pm to adjourn. Approved unanimously.