APPROVED

AMPS
AMETHOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Amethod Public Schools

Minutes

Regular Meeting of the AMPS Board of Directors

Date and Time
Thursday April 20, 2023 at 6:00 PM

Location
1450 Marina Way South
Richmond, CA 94804

The Board of Directors (Board) and employees of Amethod Public Schools will be holding this meeting in person at **1450 Marina Way South, Richmond, CA 94804.**

Members of the public who wish to attend in person can join us at Richmond Charter Academy (RCA) at 1450 Marina Way South, Richmond, CA 94804. Or members of the public may meet via the Zoom meeting platform at:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83187954557

We also offer two-way teleconference locations for the public to attend in our Oakland school sites:
Oakland Charter High School- 2433 Coolidge Ave, Oakland, CA 94601
Downtown Charter Academy- 2000 Dennison St, Oakland, CA 94606
Oakland Charter Academy- 4215 Foothill Blvd, Oakland, CA 94601

Participating by Telephone: 669-900-9128 Meeting ID: 831 8795 4557

Public Comment: Members of the public attending in person who wish to comment on an agenda item please fill out a speaker card and submit it to a staff member. The Board Chair will call on you to enter the Boardroom. Members of the public who are join in via teleconference, please use raise hand tool in the reactions tab located at the bottom of the zoom screen or press star (*) nine

if joining by telephone. The Board Chair will call on you. Please note that comments are limited to two minutes. The Board Chair may increase or decrease the time allowed for public comment, depending upon the topic and number of persons wishing to be heard.

Access to Board Materials: A copy of the written materials which have been submitted to the School Board with the agenda relating to open session items may be reviewed by any interested persons on the Amethod Public School's website at www.amethodschools.org following the posting of the agenda. Amethod reserves the right to show or distribute additional information and/or documents to the School Board at the meeting, and will make copies of such documents relating to open session items available to the public upon request.

Disability Access: Requests for disability-related modifications or accommodations to participate in this public meeting should be made 72 hours prior to the meeting by calling (510) 965-4562. All efforts will be made for reasonable accommodations. The agenda and public documents can be modified upon request as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

ORDER OF BUSINESS MAY BE CHANGED WITHOUT NOTICE

Directors Present
A. Emmanuelli (remote), E. Gallegos, G. Lopez Jr., N. Driver

Directors Absent
E. Quiroz

Guests Present
E. Villa, S. Li

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

G. Lopez Jr. called a meeting of the board of directors of Amethod Public Schools to order on Thursday Apr 20, 2023 at 6:12 PM.

B. Record Attendance

C. Announcements

1 Public Announcement:

Board Member, Nick Driver says he and Mrs. Villa attended a conference in San Diego last week. The topic was about artificial intelligence and he is excited to see how this will impact education.

D.

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

No public comments on non-agenda items.

II. Closed Session

A. Chief Executive Officer Evaluation

No reportable actions.

III. Consent

A. Approve Minutes

E. Gallegos made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Meeting of the AMPS Board of Directors on 02-15-23.
N. Driver seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

N. Driver	Aye
G. Lopez Jr.	Aye
E. Gallegos	Aye
A. Emmanuelli	Aye
M. Obaid	Absent
E. Quiroz	Absent

B. Approval of FY23 Independent Auditor Selection

Nick Driver asks if the auditor has asked Amethod Public Schools to change the schedules for when things are due.

Marie Arce answers no, but the auditor is asking for audit materials to be presented earlier as it takes much more time. The auditor has also increased their cost.
N. Driver made a motion to approve FY23 Independent Auditor Selection.
E. Gallegos seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

G. Lopez Jr.	Aye
A. Emmanuelli	Aye
E. Gallegos	Aye
E. Quiroz	Absent
N. Driver	Aye
M. Obaid	Absent

C. Approval of Board OnTrack Membership Renewal for 2023-2024

E. Gallegos made a motion to Approve Board OnTrack Membership Renewal for 2023-2024.
A. Emmanuelli seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

A. Emmanuelli	Aye
E. Quiroz	Absent
N. Driver	Aye
E. Gallegos	Aye
G. Lopez Jr.	Aye

D. Approval of Drug Screening Policy

E. Gallegos made a motion to approve Drug Screening Policy.
N. Driver seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

G. Lopez Jr.	Aye
N. Driver	Aye
E. Quiroz	Absent
M. Obaid	Absent
E. Gallegos	Aye
A. Emmanuelli	Aye

E. Approval of Fit for Duty Policy

N. Driver made a motion to approval of Fit for Duty Policy.
E. Gallegos seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

G. Lopez Jr.	Aye
E. Gallegos	Aye
E. Quiroz	Absent
N. Driver	Aye
A. Emmanuelli	Aye

IV. Business

A. Approval to Remove Amethod Public Schools Board Member Mohamed Obaid

G. Lopez Jr. made a motion to Remove Amethod Public Schools Board Member Mohamed Obaid.
E. Gallegos seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

E. Gallegos	Aye
N. Driver	Aye
E. Quiroz	Absent
G. Lopez Jr.	Aye
A. Emmanuelli	Aye

B. Approval of Second Interim Financial Budget Report for 2022-2023

Marie presents her slideshow of the comparison between the first interim and second interim. She says by looking at the expenses, Amethod Public Schools have increased their revenue and the projections are that all sites will be breaking even or increasing their fund balance. She mentions that all sites are trying to increase their fund reserves to save for times of uncertainty. Marie shows the fund balances and hold harmless for the second interim.

Nick states that Richmond Charter Academy and John Henry High School is quite low. He asks if these two schools are the ones below the 3% threshold.

Elisa asks how long will the funds continue for the schools and if this funding is a one time thing.

Marie says this is a one time fund.

Gilbert asks if there are any other reporting the Finance Team need from the school sites to make sure Amethod Public Schools is on track with funding.

Marie says no other reporting is needed from the sites but the Finance Team is tightening up on how the sites will spend their funds. Marie then shares declining enrollment.

Evelia asks if the schools are aware that low enrollment is affecting their funding. She says this is a one time fund and school sites' should not spend all their funds.

N. Driver made a motion to approve Second Interim Financial Budget Report for 2022-2023.
E. Gallegos seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

E. Gallegos	Aye
E. Quiroz	Absent
N. Driver	Aye
G. Lopez Jr.	Aye
A. Emmanuelli	Aye

C.

Approval of Celebration Speech Group Master Contract 2022-2023 (revised)

E. Gallegos made a motion to approve Celebration Speech Group Master Contract 2022-2023 (revised).
N. Driver seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

G. Lopez Jr.	Aye
A. Emmanuelli	Aye
E. Gallegos	Aye
E. Quiroz	Absent
N. Driver	Aye

D. Approval to Pay E-Rate Funds to AT&T

E. Gallegos made a motion to approve Pay E-Rate Funds to AT&T.
A. Emmanuelli seconded the motion.
Dennis presents e-rate grant money that ATT provided. He is asking for approval to apply the lump sum of the e-rate money to ATT account.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

E. Gallegos	Aye
A. Emmanuelli	Aye
G. Lopez Jr.	Aye
E. Quiroz	Absent
N. Driver	Aye

Evelia Villa introduces Chloe Gia who has stepped up to the role since the departure of the previous Director of Special Education.

Chloe Gia explains the increase cost amount of the master contract is to cover extra services for all students.

V. Discussion

A. Special Education Update (SPED)

Chloe Gia shares an update on submissions of CDE files. Files were accepted by CDE and no further action is required. She also shares a general update on the special education department at 6 schools.

Nick Driver asks if we have had about the same number of 10% IEP students in the past few year.

Chloe says IEP changes depending on the school. Some schools are up and others are down on IEP.

B. California Charter School Association Research Project; John Henry High School

Evelia Villa introduces Jonathan from CCSA whom is doing a research on John Henry High School.

Jonathan explains his research is still a work in progress for John Henry High School. This year CCSA research is focused on John Henry High Schools' data. CCSA wants to research schools that have a large demographic of students who are underserved like John Henry High School. He has interviewed Ms. Roberson and others from the school to collect more documentation of data processes that the school is using. His findings were schools are emphasizing on culture, achievements, and student driven goal setting. His expected publication of the research is this summer.

Gilbert asks if there will be recommendations for the research.

Elisa asks what CCSA stands for.

Jonathan says it stands for California Charter School Association. They are the largest organization to represent Charter Schools in the state level.

C. Chief Academic Officer Instructional Update- Richmond Charter Academy (RCA)

Michael Bradley shares his presentation. He says there has been a leadership change in March 10th, 2023. Testing is currently underway and no data is available yet as testing is still in progress. He shares a snapshot that Richmond Charter Academy is in the 20th percentile. He shares changes in leadership, responsibilities, improving school culture, RCA had over $50,000 in damages prior, and what the leaders are doing to change school climate.

Evelia asks if data will be available after SBAC or before SBAC.

Michael says after SBAC to ensure every student has tested.

Gilbert asks when PD is happening.

Michael says PD is every Friday where the team collaborates and works together.

Elisa asks for more clarification about the 4 pillars.

Michael explains the culture is lack of leadership, change in leadership, covid, etc. Teachers have expressed concerns about what teachers need to do and what admins were doing when it came to intervention.

Elisa asks about change in uniforms.

Michael says in the past students slowly stopped wearing uniforms because the school was relaxed about the uniform policy. The staff has set expectations to hold the line and ensuring all students abide by the policy.

Evelia asks if the 4 pillars are held accountable at all 6 schools. She asks how do others schools hold themselves from becoming like another Richmond Charter Academy.

Michael says schools need to ask themselves "what is an AMPS school" and how can they ensure they stay align to AMPS values.

Gilbert says Richmond Charter Academy is here today because there were a lot of concerns about the school, test scores, and academics 2-3 months prior. He asks if wellness is available at the other 5 school sites.

Nick Driver asks if RCA has small group tutoring like the other school sites.

Michael says they are holding small group tutoring after school, training of NWEA knowledge with staff, and small groups in class. He says RCA is setting incremental goals for students and rewarding them if they make progress.

Elisa asks if Michael can bring in somebody to talk about trauma enforced care for the teachers during PD meetings.

Evelia mentions that while she was writing the grant, she is hoping that if the grant gets approved, AMPS can provide more wrap around services to the schools.

D. Chief Executive Officer Report

Evelia shares her presentation. She talks about enrollment, ADA, and P2. The sites are working on increasing their enrollment. She is concerned about Oakland Charter Academy who is on their 3rd year of low enrollment and are looking at collapsing 2 classes.

Maria says schools are currently actively doing enrollment and applications. Once enrollment closes and if there are no increases in enrollment, some schools will need to collapse classes.

Kindergarten teacher Ms. Wing shares her improved test scores. She shares the story of her student who did not speak English prior is now speaking English. Many students are performing above the national average.

Elisa congratulates Ms. Wing on her accomplishments.

Evelia continues her CEO report. She talks about recruitment teacher fairs, enrollment concerns, searching for a chief operating officer, Oakland Charter High School Unidos Clorox Grant, mountain bike team update, Downtown Charter Academy NASA visit, Spring site visits, and graduations.

VI. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

Gilbert says he attended a meeting a few weeks ago to listen about the number of complaints on John Henry High School whom Hector Garcia, a parent was the organizer. He encourages that we use the processes available to file a formal complaint. He does not feel that the meeting was organized in an open way and would like to attend more in the future to hear about the families concerns.

Nick proposes that in the next meeting, the board should raise the threshold amount for the CEO's approval.
There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
G. Lopez Jr.

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