

APPROVED



# Amethod Public Schools

## Minutes

### Regular Meeting of the AMPS Board of Directors

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#### **Date and Time**

Wednesday January 15, 2025 at 5:00 PM

#### **Location**

1450 Marina Way South, Richmond, CA 94804

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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 in the Home Office's Board Room 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- 2365 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. Members of the public who are joining 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](http://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 24 hours prior to the meeting by calling (510) 436-0172. 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

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**Directors Present**

E. Gallegos, E. Quiroz, G. Lopez Jr., M. Moncada

**Directors Absent**

A. Emmanuelli

**Guests Present**

A. Barnes, G. Barriga, M. Arechiga, M. Busby

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**I. Opening Items**

**A. Call the Meeting to Order**

E. Quiroz called a meeting of the board of directors of Amethod Public Schools to order on Wednesday Jan 15, 2025 at 5:02 PM.

**B. Record Attendance**

**C. Announcements**

WASC Presentation has been postponed. It is announced that Andres Emmanuelli, AMPS Board Member, is dealing with a family emergency and is unable to be here. Elisa Gallegos makes an announcement regarding La Peña Cultural center providing an immigration rights workshop for our community on Sunday January 19th from 1:30- 5pm. Board President requested a moment of silence to send thoughts and prayers to the devastating LA fires.

Prior to the meeting being adjourned, Gilbert Lopez, Jr., Board Member, speaks about always doing the greater good and doing the best that can be done. As he reflects over the last few months of the AMPS Organization, he feels very proud to be on the AMPS Board and be a part of the AMPS family.

**D. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items**

A public comment by Chris Moreno is made regarding the OCHS charter renewal.

**II. Consent**

**A. Approval of 12/11/2024 Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

E. Gallegos made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Meeting of the AMPS Board of Directors on 12-11-24.

M. Moncada seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

A. Emmanuelli Absent  
E. Gallegos Aye  
E. Quiroz Aye  
G. Lopez Jr. Aye  
M. Moncada Aye

**B. Approval of 12/13/2024 Special Board Meeting Minutes**

E. Gallegos made a motion to approve the minutes from Special Meeting of the AMPS Board of Directors on 12-13-24.

M. Moncada seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

A. Emmanuelli Absent  
G. Lopez Jr. Aye  
E. Gallegos Aye  
M. Moncada Aye  
E. Quiroz Aye

**III. Business**

**A. iReady/NWEA Data Presentation**

Interim Chief Academic Officer Mary Busby presents site leaders. Site leaders introduce themselves. Michelle Walker, Site Director for Benito Juarez Elementary, presents NWEA/iReady data. Action Steps and implementation interventions are explained. Sarah Carloni, Dean of Instruction for Richmond Charter Academy, presents reading and math

data showing improvements across the board. She then breaks down the Action Plan into Professional Development and Coaching, Schoolwide intervention block, and Student Action Plans. Monica Moncada, Board Vice Chair, commends RCA for their action plan to meet with students 1:1 to see how they can be helped, she believes it will be very impactful. Jocelyn Brooks, Site Director for Oakland Charter Academy, presents data and explains that although there appears to be a lack of improvement, the data shows that they are new incoming 6th grade students and we do not have previous data to show whether is it an improvement. She shows Action steps and lets the board know that Robert Moncada, External Affairs Manager, is a huge help by doing home visits, and connecting with the families, allowing OCA be more impactful within their community. John Lyons, Dean of Instruction for Downtown Charter Academy, presents reading and math data showing growth by cohort and substantial improvements across all grade levels in both reading and math. Jillianne Whitfield, Site Director for DCA, presents the Action Steps and explains what they are and how they will achieve this. Mr. Lyons explains that there was a very strong math tutor who really helped the kids excel. Elisa compliments DCA for their slide presentation and lets them know it was very easy to follow. Stacy Drakeford, Site Director for John Henry High School, presents its data. The data shows improvements for reading for all grades except for 10th. Math shows consistent improvements across the board. He mentions his action plan is to do small reading circles to improve reading efficiency by 7%. Monica Moncada thanks everyone and commends the work that they do.

**B. SARC SY23-24**

G. Lopez Jr. made a motion to Approve SARC SY23-24.

E. Gallegos seconded the motion.

Maria Arechiga, Chief Strategy and Compliance Officer, presents the School Accountability Report Cards for 2023-2024. She explains that it is a compilation of data that cannot be changed. This includes the information for all six schools. This is intended to be accessible to parents and will be uploaded online. There are some small changes across the board for all schools that is shown in the slides. Elisa is asking if anything can be done to improve the discrepancies on the data, Maria states they are working to ensure all data is correct without mistakes.

Gilbert makes a motion to Approve BJE SARC SY23-24 Elisa seconds

Elisa makes a motion to Approve RCA SARC SY23-24 Monica Seconds

Monica makes a motion to Approve OCA SARC SY23-24 Elisa seconds

Gilbert makes a motion to Approve DCA SARC SY23-24 Elisa seconds

Elisa makes a motion to Approve OCHS SARC SY23-24 Monica Seconds

Gilbert makes a motion to Approve JHHS SARC SY23-24 Monica Seconds

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

E. Quiroz      Aye

E. Gallegos    Aye

**Roll Call**

G. Lopez Jr. Aye  
M. Moncada Aye  
A. Emmanuelli Absent

**C. WASC Presentation**

This item has been tabled.

**D. Brown Act Training by Procopio**

Merrick Wadsworth from Procopio does a Brown Act and Conflict of Interest Training for the Board and CEO/COO, CAO, CSCCO, and Senior Director of Finance & Administration.

**E. Review and Consideration of Approval of Fiscal Policies and Procedures**

E. Gallegos made a motion to Approve Review and Consideration of Approval of Fiscal Policies and Procedures.

M. Moncada seconded the motion.

Adrienne Barnes, Interim Chief Executive Officer, presents the updated Fiscal Policies and Procedures and mentions that previously, the CEO could approve any salary agreement, but now it limited to \$100k, with any agreement over that amount needing board approval.

The updated Fiscal Policy also allows CEO to approve retention bonus for difficult to keep positions. The plan was to move payroll to Charter Impact, but payroll remains in-house.

The updated Fiscal Policy also removes salary advances to employees.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

M. Moncada Aye  
E. Quiroz Aye  
G. Lopez Jr. Aye  
E. Gallegos Aye  
A. Emmanuelli Absent

**F. Review and Consideration of Approval of Aya Education Master Contract**

M. Moncada made a motion to Approval of Aya Education Master Contract.

G. Lopez Jr. seconded the motion.

This subcontracting company provides OT teachers. This is important to keep Individual Education Plan's in compliance, AMPS has identified 35 students that are in need.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

E. Gallegos Aye  
E. Quiroz Aye  
A. Emmanuelli Absent

**Roll Call**

M. Moncada Aye  
G. Lopez Jr. Aye

**G. Interim CEO report**

Adrienne Barnes, Interim Chief Executive Officer, presents her report. She review CAP goals and updates the board on our progress and our goal deadlines.

**H. Financial Report**

Adrienne Barnes, Interim Chief Executive Officer, presents the Financial Report. She reviews the updated Governor's Proposed State Budget for the year and how it impacts our organization. She mentions that there is an enrollment decline across California for students in the classroom, Enrollment decline projected to continue at a rate of 1% per year for the next decade.

**IV. Closed Session**

**A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL— ANTICIPATED LITIGATION**

No reportable actions

**B. Public Employment**

**V. Open Session**

**A. Review and Consideration of Approval of Employment Agreements**

E. Gallegos made a motion to Approve Employment Agreements.

M. Moncada seconded the motion.

Adrienne Barnes, Interim Chief Executive Officer presents the Employment Agreement for Jillianne Whitfield, for the position of Site Director for Downtown Charter Academy.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

G. Lopez Jr. Aye  
E. Gallegos Aye  
A. Emmanuelli Absent  
M. Moncada Aye  
E. Quiroz Aye

**B. Review and Consideration of Approval of Compensation Comparability Study for Charter School Chief Executive Officer**

G. Lopez Jr. made a motion to Approval of Compensation Comparability Study for Charter School Chief Executive Officer.

M. Moncada seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

E. Quiroz Aye  
A. Emmanuelli Absent  
E. Gallegos Aye  
M. Moncada Aye  
G. Lopez Jr. Aye

**C. Oral Report of Salary, Salary Schedule, or Compensation Paid in the Form of Fringe Benefits to Acting/Interim Chief Executive Officer**

Shameka Henderson, HR Consultant, States that per the approved the compensation study, AMPS will pay the Acting CEO \$2500 per pay period until the CEO returns or until the end of the school year.

**D. Review and Consideration of Approval of Employment Agreement for Acting/Interim Chief Executive Officer**

G. Lopez Jr. made a motion to Approval of Employment Agreement for Acting/Interim Chief Executive Officer.

M. Moncada seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

M. Moncada Aye  
A. Emmanuelli Absent  
G. Lopez Jr. Aye  
E. Gallegos Aye  
E. Quiroz Aye

**VI. Closing Items**

**A. Adjourn Meeting**

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 11:22 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
E. Quiroz

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**THE ORDER OF BUSINESS MAY BE CHANGED WITHOUT NOTICE.** Notice is hereby given that the order of consideration of matters on this agenda may be changed without prior notice. **REASONABLE LIMITATIONS MAY BE PLACED ON PUBLIC TESTIMONY.** The Governing Board's presiding officer reserves the right to impose reasonable time limits on public testimony to ensure that the agenda is completed. **REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION WILL BE PROVIDED FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY.** Pursuant to the Rehabilitation Act of

*1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, any individual with a disability who requires reasonable accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting of the Governing Board may request assistance by contacting the Amethod Public School Inc., 1450 Marina Way South Second Floor. Richmond, CA 94804; telephone, (510) 436-0172 [gbarriga@amethodschools.org](mailto:gbarriga@amethodschools.org). **FOR MORE INFORMATION.** For more information concerning this agenda, please contact Amethod Public Schools Main Administration, 1450 Marina Way South Second Floor. Richmond, CA 94804; telephone, (510) 436-0172; Email: [gbarriga@amethodschools.org](mailto:gbarriga@amethodschools.org)*