APPROVED

AMPS
AMETHOD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Amethod Public Schools

Minutes

Regular Meeting of the AMPS Board of Directors

Date and Time
Thursday April 16, 2026 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 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:
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 Board of Directors 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 may distribute additional information and/or documents to the Board of Directors after the agenda is posted and at the meeting; these items and the full Board packet are available for inspection in the AMPS Board Room (located at 1450 Marina Way S, Richmond, CA 94804) and during the meeting. Any documents distributed to the Board of Directors during the meeting will be posted on the website Agenda following the meeting.

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) 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

Directors Present
D. Leung, J. Lerma, L. Martinez, M. DiGiorgio, R. Ornelas

Directors Absent
None

Guests Present
A. Barnes, M. Arechiga, S. Li

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

R. Ornelas called a meeting of the board of directors of Amethod Public Schools to order on Thursday Apr 16, 2026 at 6:01 PM.
Board Chair Rodolfo stated the meeting was originally called to order at 6:01 PM. Following the completion of the first several agenda items, it was brought to the Board's attention that technical difficulties had prevented the remote audience from hearing the audio for the first portion of the proceedings. In the interest of full transparency and to ensure meaningful public engagement, he announced that the Board would restart the meeting in its entirety.

R. Ornelas called this meeting to order at 6:36 PM

B.

Record Attendance

C. Announcements

There were no announcements.

D. Approval of the Agenda

R. Ornelas made a motion to move Business Item D. Richmond Charter Academy Women's History Month Presentation to go before Closed Session and move Approval of 02/26/2026 Regular Board Meeting Minutes to the next board meeting.
D. Leung seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

D. Leung	Aye
J. Lerma	Aye
R. Ornelas	Aye
M. DiGiorgio	Aye
L. Martinez	Aye

E. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

Former parent, Dulce Bernal expressed disappointment toward the Board for firing the Dean of Instruction from BJE, Ms. Galindo. Alleging these decisions were based on personal animosity toward the school's founder, Mr. Lopez. She urged the Board to stop and warned that their personal grievances are unfairly jeopardizing the stability of the schools and the community that parents and teachers fought to build.

Zoe Z described Ms. Galindo as a wonderful, hands on 5th-grade teacher who was deeply loved by students, parents, and staff alike. She shared Ms. Galindo's positive impact on her son’s education and character, urging the Board to recognize her as exactly the type of person who belongs on the school’s staff.

Karla Espinoza advocated for Ms. Galindo to receive a second chance, describing her as the best teacher her son has ever had due to her exceptional communication and dedication to student success. She urged the Board not to let her go, warning that losing such a rare and caring educator would be a significant loss for the school.

Angie Sandoval asked the Board to re-evaluate the decision to let go of Ms. Galindo, describing her as a dedicated role model who overachieved in both administrative and teaching roles. She highlighted Ms. Galindo’s impact on the school’s operational success and her commitment to student safety, calling her a foundational figure for the entire school community.

II. Consent

A.

Approval of 02/26/2026 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

This item was removed from the agenda and will moved to the Board Meeting in May.

B. Approval of March Check Registers

M. DiGiorgio made a motion to approve March Check Registers.
L. Martinez seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

R. Ornelas	Aye
M. DiGiorgio	Aye
J. Lerma	Aye
D. Leung	Aye
L. Martinez	Aye

III. Business

A. Richmond Charter Academy Women's History Month Presentation

Principal Landers initially presented this item; however, due to technical audio difficulties, the item was removed from the restarted agenda out of respect for the principal's time and to avoid requiring a repeat performance.

IV. Closed Session

A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL— ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

The board reconvened from closed session at 7:23 PM and there were no reportable actions.

B. Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Gov. Code, § 54957)

V. Business

A. Fiscal Oversight Committee Report

Committee Chair Davis shared they reviewed the February financials and discussed preferred formatting for future reports. He also noted that the committee is working on future financial planning that will also include the pending requests from the auditors.

B. CEO Report

Adrienne, CEO presented that BJE and RCA renewals are on track for July while outlining budget revisions and marketing partnerships with Trust Ed to address lower than projected enrollment. She also highlighted progress in governance and operations, including the hiring of a new business manager and the successful recognition of DCA at the FIA Raise the Bar Awards.

C. Finance Presentation

Adrienne, CEO reported for Charter Impact that year to date actuals as of February 28th show several schools currently trending lower on revenue due to the specific timing of state and federal aid schedules. She explained that while sites like DCA and BJE show temporary deficits, they are expected to reach a break even point once the remaining revenue catches up later in the year. RCA, JHHS, and OCA are projecting end of year deficits, primarily due to lower enrollment. Despite these projected losses, Adrienne noted that all schools maintain strong fund balances that will allow them to meet their mandated reserve requirements.

Board member Liz noted that while fund balances and variances remain on track, the Fiscal Oversight Committee is exploring new ways with Charter Impact to present financial data to prevent stakeholders from over focusing on expected mid year deficits, specifically by requesting a clearer accounting of deferred revenue and one time funds.

D. Review and Consideration of Approval of Innovare Invoices

Adrienne, CEO asked the Board to re-approve a contract for Innovare, a data dashboard system which was approved by a previous CEO in 2023. She noted that due to the significant dollar amount and an abundance of caution, the organization is holding off on paying two outstanding invoices until the Board formally reauthorizes the agreement.

Board Chair Rodolfo asked for clarification on the services they provide.

Mary, Senior Director of Student Services and Special Education described Innovare as a centralized internal dashboard used to process and visualize a wide range of data, including attendance, grades, and various assessments like NWEA, iReady, SBAC, and ELPAC. She highlighted its ability to generate graphs that allow the team to compare performance at the student, class, grade, and school levels, while noting that they are still working to determine which specific data points are most effective to prioritize within the system.

Board Chair Rodolfo mentioned PowerSchool is a powerful SIS and questions why the organization doesn't utilize its dashboards instead of the Innovare system. He suggests that since they already have a PowerSchool contract, switching to their robust native dashboards could potentially offer significant cost savings.

Mary explained that while the organization is transitioning to PowerSchool, the system is still new and complex for many staff members. She emphasized that because the school is data rich with information from various platforms like iReady, the Innovare dashboard currently serves as a more familiar, custom built centralized hub for streamlining that data. While she acknowledged a future move to PowerSchool is possible, and that it would require the entire team to learn a completely new system.

M. DiGiorgio made a motion to approve Innovare Invoices.
L. Martinez seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

L. Martinez	Aye
D. Leung	Aye
J. Lerma	Aye
M. DiGiorgio	Aye
R. Ornelas	Aye

E. Review and Consideration of Approval of Turf Project for Downtown Charter Academy

Marisol, Senior Director of Operations proposed a $91,624.52 agreement with Turf World Installations to replace and expand the turf at Downtown Charter Academy. She explained that the project is essential for student safety, as it replaces hazardous open seams with modern shock absorbent surfaces while also increasing the school's capacity for physical education and after school programming. To fund the project, she noted that $30,000 of the total cost would be covered by Measure G1 grants.

Board member Liz inquired about the long term maintenance costs and requirements for the new turf.

Marisol noted there is a 10-year warranty. The long term maintenance will be periodic refilling to ensure the surface remains in good condition but she will look in more detail about the long term maintenance.
D. Leung made a motion to approve Turf Project for Downtown Charter Academy.
L. Martinez seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

D. Leung	Aye
L. Martinez	Aye
J. Lerma	Aye
M. DiGiorgio	Aye
R. Ornelas	Aye

F. Review and Consideration of Approval E-Rate Contract and Info

Marisol, Senior Director of Operations presented a finalized E-Rate contract with AMS.net totaling $150,263.40 for critical firewall upgrades. She explained that the project utilizes a federal discount program for broadband and network equipment and is part of a newly developed five year strategic plan. Marisol confirmed that the refined scope remains within the previously approved budget and met the federal filing deadline of April 1st.
D. Leung made a motion to approve E-Rate Contract.
R. Ornelas seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

R. Ornelas	Aye
L. Martinez	Aye
J. Lerma	Aye
M. DiGiorgio	Aye
D. Leung	Aye

G. Review and Consideration of Approval of Contra Costa County Charter Coalition (5C) Proposed Scope of Work

Adrienne, CEO requested the Board's approval for a contract with the Contra Costa County Charter Coalition to assist with the charter renewal petition for BJE. She explained that the organization will focus on community engagement, helping families build capacity and connecting with local board members to support the petition's approval. The initial contract is for $20,000, but she requested approval for up to $30,000 to account for a potential appeal to the county if necessary.
L. Martinez made a motion to approve Contra Costa County Charter Coalition (5C) Proposed Scope of Work.
R. Ornelas seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

J. Lerma	Aye
L. Martinez	Aye
D. Leung	Aye
R. Ornelas	Aye
M. DiGiorgio	Aye

H. Review and Consideration of Approval of Edgenuity Credit Recovery Program for John Henry High School

Mary, Senior Director of Student Services and Special Education requested Board approval for Edgenuity, an accredited online platform aimed at increasing graduation rates at John Henry High School. She explained that the system will primarily be used for student credit recovery and potentially for Career Technical Education courses, ensuring all students have the necessary tools to advance in alignment with the school's mission.

Board Chair Rodolfo asked why Edgenuity was chosen over the other companies.

Mary recommended sticking with Edgenuity because of its familiarity and robust new features, including live on demand teachers and the upcoming EdgeEX platform. She noted that while other options like Edmentum and CyberHigh exist, Edgenuity has proven effective for the organization’s specific needs in the past.

Board member Liz advised the team to be proactive about student and parent resistance to online platforms, noting that students often perceive these courses as lacking a real teacher and may procrastinate. She emphasized the importance of structuring digital environments to feel like real classrooms and clearly communicating the necessity of consistent attendance and engagement to families.

Mary clarified that Edgenuity is not replacing traditional classrooms; instead, its use is limited to credit recovery and a small number of advanced students seeking extra credits. She also confirmed that the courses are A-G approved.
D. Leung made a motion to approve Edgenuity Credit Recovery Program for John Henry High School.
L. Martinez seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

L. Martinez	Aye
R. Ornelas	Aye
J. Lerma	Aye
D. Leung	Aye
M. DiGiorgio	Aye

I. Review and Consideration of Approval of Get Empowered for Richmond Charter Academy

Mary, Senior Director of Student Services and Special Education presented Get Empowered to support the upcoming summer enrichment program at Richmond Charter Academy. She explained that the organization will provide various clubs and activities such as cooking, nutrition, and graffiti art, alongside the necessary staffing and specialized training for RCA's internal team.
R. Ornelas made a motion to approve Get Empowered for Richmond Charter Academy.
D. Leung seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

J. Lerma	Aye
R. Ornelas	Aye
L. Martinez	Aye
D. Leung	Aye
M. DiGiorgio	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 7:48 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
R. Ornelas

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 sallyli@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: sallyli@amethodschools.org*