

APPROVED



## Athlos Jefferson Parish

# Minutes

## AAJP Board Meeting

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### Date and Time

Wednesday October 4, 2023 at 6:00 PM

### Location

Athlos Academy of Jefferson Parish

[979 Behrman Hwy](#)

[Terrytown, LA 70056](#)

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### Directors Present

H. Wier (remote), J. Holmes, J. Wright (remote), N. Berg (remote), T. Burns

### Directors Absent

E. Ketchens, K. Chambers

### Guests Present

B. Bressler (remote), C. Martin, Kathleen Wheeler, M. Galatas, Teresa Tate (remote)

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## I. Opening Items

### A. Call the Meeting to Order

Board Chair Dr. Holmes called this meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

J. Holmes called a meeting of the board of directors of Athlos Jefferson Parish to order on Wednesday Oct 4, 2023 at 6:04 PM.

### B. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Holmes led the Pledge Allegiance with the Board Members.

### C.

### **Record Attendance**

Director Wright joined the meeting around 5:40.

### **D. Board Member Resignation - Tiffany Nelson**

Chair Holmes stated that Tiffany Nelson turned in her board resignation.

<https://app2.boardontrack.com/org/QoZbWF/attachment/download/295612>

### **E. Call for Conflict of Interest**

None

### **F. Athlos Mission & Vision**

Chair Holmes recited the vision & the mission statements.

### **G. Board Chair's Message**

Chair Holmes read a Board Chair Message that discussed the current state of the school and the urgency to improve in specified areas including academic results, teacher recruitment and building culture.

<https://app2.boardontrack.com/org/QoZbWF/attachment/download/295607>

## **II. Consent Agenda**

### **A. Approve Agenda**

J. Holmes made a motion to approve the consent agenda items.

N. Berg seconded the motion.

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

#### **Roll Call**

H. Wier	Aye
J. Wright	Aye
E. Ketchens	Absent
T. Burns	Aye
J. Holmes	Aye

**Roll Call**

N. Berg Aye  
K. Chambers Absent

**B. Approve September 6, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Meeting Minutes**

J. Holmes made a motion to approve the minutes from AAJP Regular Board Meeting on 09-06-23.

N. Berg seconded the motion.

<https://app2.boardontrack.com/org/QoZbWF/minutes/downloadPdf/66113>

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

**Roll Call**

E. Ketchens Absent  
T. Burns Aye  
N. Berg Aye  
J. Wright Aye  
K. Chambers Absent  
H. Wier Aye  
J. Holmes Aye

**C. New Hires & Stipends**

The New Hires & Stipends were approved.

**III. Public Comment**

**A. No comments at this time.**

NONE

**IV. Administrative Reports**

**A. Board Dashboard**

Dr. Bressler shared the new board dashboard and reviewed the layout and content with Board members. For future dashboards, the team will add the monthly financials.

**B. Executive Director's Report & Strategic Plan**

The Executive Director's Report & Strategic Plan is attached.

<https://app2.boardontrack.com/org/QoZbWF/attachment/download/295609>

**Mrs. Martin's shared recent Business Bests:**

- Sports teams' progress in the Crescent Charter League
- New Athlos Academy Athletics Eligibility
- Instructional Leader Team progress
- Hispanic Heritage Festival & Community Health Fair
- City Park night
- Start Date for Afterschool Tutoring
- Student, Staff, and Family Satisfaction Survey delivered this month.
- Staff Spotlight
- Storyteller –Laconia Therrio

Mrs. Martin elaborated on each topic in her Report and shared that she believed they are moving in the right direction for culture and academics for Athlos Academy.

Mrs. Martin also shared the upcoming school events in October:

- National School Lunch week
- Recruitment Fair / Open House - Oct 18th
- High School Career Fair - Oct 19th
- Fire Prevention Week (Fire Truck Presentation) - last week in October
- School Supply Drive with Office Depot starts in October

Director Burns asked for clarification on the assigned oversight of the sports & events eligibility report.

Chair Holmes asked for clarification on the required credentials of tutoring teachers. She also asked the eligibility requirements to receive tutoring and expected participation rates. Director Burns asked for clarification on how ESS and ELL students are supported for tutoring.

Chair Holmes asked for clarification on participation rates for the after-school program.

Director Burns asked for clarification on the process for tracking absenteeism.

Mrs. Martin then presented the draft School Improvement Plan for 23-24. The plan was a collaborative effort created by the Leadership & Instructional Team including feedback from the teachers. This was based on the plan from last year with additional strategies and targets added.

Ms. Wheeler shared improvement in student behaviors this year. She clarified the Leadership Team's focus on repeat offenders year over year. She also explained the addition of parent conferences that were being held after each suspension this year. In addition, Ms. Wheeler received formal training and is conducting student mediation meetings. Ms. Wheeler also explained the supervisory responsibilities and direct reports for the Assistant Principals this year. She also clarified their main tactics for oversight and support of their assigned staff.

## **V. Discussion Items**

### **A. CD Investments**

This discussion was tabled to the next meeting.

### **B. Salt Water Invasion Preparation**

Ms. Tate shared the action plan for the recent Salt Water Wedge issue that has been discussed in the news. Ms. Thomas has ordered a supply of bottled drinking water to cover the school for the 2-month window that is anticipated to be an issue. Quotes have been collected for hand washing stations and generators and will be ordered if needed, but it doesn't appear to be needed at this time.

### **C. Teacher Recruitment**

Ms. Tate discussed new recruitment strategies for the 24-25 school year. As budgets are limited, Ms. Tate asked board members to provide feedback on which strategies to prioritize.

Director Wier asked for clarification on the reasons we are being given for teachers leaving Athlos.

Chair Holmes shared recent retired teacher recruitment being done by Jefferson Parish School District. Additionally, that some schools are offering unique perks such as 4-day work weeks to attract teachers.

Board members that shared agreed on the following 2 recruitment strategies as the priority:

- Offer signing bonuses payable after XX days of employment to all positions; stay bonuses for returning staff.
- Focused recruitment on retired full or part-time teachers.

### **D. Board Retreat Agenda**

Chair Holmes reminded all Board members about the AAJP School Board Retreat on October 7th, Saturday, from 8:00-12:00. The retreat agenda includes board training from LAPCS and a discussion on board goals for the year.

## **VI. Action Items (public comment must be had immediately before each action item vote)**

### **A. Parent Involvement Policy**

Dr. Bressler shared the draft edits to the Parent Involvement Policy for this year to get in compliance with recent regulations.

A motion to approve the revised Parent Involvement Policy was made by XX.  
The motion was seconded by XX.  
The motion was unanimously approved.

## VII. Closing Items

### A. Adjourn Meeting

J. Holmes made a motion to adjourn meeting around 7:19.

N. Berg seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 7:19

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

#### Roll Call

E. Ketchens Absent

N. Berg Aye

J. Holmes Aye

T. Burns Aye

H. Wier Aye

T. Nelson Absent

J. Wright Aye

K. Chambers Absent

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:19 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
M. Galatas

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### Documents used during the meeting

- Resignation\_T Nelson 9.26.2023.pdf
- Board chair message\_Oct 2023.pdf
- AAJP Dashboard - draft.pdf
- 10\_4\_2023\_Athlos AAJP\_Executive Director Report\_Board Meeting.pptx
- AAJP 23-24 School Improvement Plan Draft.pdf
- Parent Involvement Policy AAJP.doc