



The Academy of Alameda Charter School Board

Minutes

Board Meeting

Date and Time

Thursday May 26, 2022 at 6:30 PM

Directors Present

A. Price (remote), C. Robie (remote), D. Forbes (remote), K. Welch (remote), K. Zimmerman (remote), R. Brown (remote), R. Whittaker (remote), T. Ruiz (remote), W. Schaff (remote)

Directors Absent

None

Guests Present

D. Espinosa (remote)

I. Opening Items

- A. Record Board Member Attendance (Roll Call)**
- B. Call the Meeting to Order**
- C. Closed Session: Conference with Labor Negotiator Agency Representative: Executive Director Unrepresented Employees: Director of Operations, Elementary School Program Dean of Students**
- D. Open Public Meeting and Report Out Any Actions From the Closed Session**
- E. Zoom Meeting Agreements and Protocol**
- F.**

The Board Reviews The Academy of Alameda's Mission and Envisioned Future Statements

G. General Public Comments

II. Consent Agenda

A. Draft Meeting Minutes

W. Schaff made a motion to approve the minutes from Board Meeting on 04-28-22.

R. Whittaker seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

R. Brown	Aye
K. Welch	Aye
W. Schaff	Aye
T. Ruiz	Aye
C. Robie	Aye
K. Zimmerman	Aye
R. Whittaker	Aye
A. Price	Aye
D. Forbes	Aye

B. Check Registers & Credit Card Statement

C. Annual AoA/AUSD Food Services Memorandum of Understanding (2022/23)

D. 2022/23 Board Calendar

E. Vote on Consent Agenda

III. Board Communications

A. Honor AoA's Salute to Education Recipients

Matt showed video acknowledging the job well done by our student counseling team. Leah acknowledged them as experts at their craft.

Patty Devlin and Jennifer Whatley shared their appreciation for the middle school counseling team and them always being able to help and remain calm.

Ebonie gave thanks to the wonderful community and the board for all they do to contribute to this.

Kristin Welch acknowledged this team is a huge asset to the school and she wanted to know how much they are appreciated.

Amy Price wanted to express gratitude for all that they do.

Christine wanted to thank this team as they see the kids in wide range of emotions and in, on occasions, their most fragile state. At times it is this back to back without moments for this team to decompress but they remain professional and always willing to support.

David gave his thanks and showed his admiration for them.

B.

Board Committee Reports

Bill- spoke about the projected 22-23 budget.

Kristin Welch adv. met May 12 and added some parent volunteers.

Ron- development committee did not meet.

Christine- Student success Math curriculum, more parent involvement for elementary school. Next year hiring multi tier interventional assignment. In the process of dissolving PTA in order to start a new k-8 PTA. More than 100 students signed up for after school per week, which consists of mixture of active and curriculum learning.

Bill- Government committee spent a lot of time with new hire, Christine.

Teresa- committee did not meet, planning day soon.

C. Financial Update: Preliminary Budget for 2022/23

Jean advised of 9.85% increase. Spoke of 1 time discretionary grant and would be an extra 400k. Current schools struggling with ADA can pick 3 options, 1.) use current ADA, 2.) use previous years as well as CALPEDS, 3.) use 22 ADA. STIRS AND PIRS increasing about 19%.

If ADA passed it would increase extra 273K for ES; For MS 942K that can be used for future years.

Ending year with a little above 1.1M 71 days cash on hand.

For 22-23 year:

LCFF COLA increasing 4.78%, STIRS increasing 2.18%. Staff increase of 2%. 1 Additional assistant coach position ending, 1 IT position changing from in house to contractor to save money. Adding Emerging Bilingual , Attendance, Mental Health and Instructional Aids. Payroll Manager is more experienced.

PPP (Payment protection plan) is ending. Revenue decreased by 1M and revenue increasing by 130k, and this does not include ADA. Ending cash projected at 3.3 M. Parcel tax is about \$404k and keeping a close eye on it so that we do not go under budget.

B. Schaff wanted to advise there are lots of large variables that can affect input and output noting that adjustment may have to be made. We are well reserved if we needed to use the reserves, he advised we are in a good position currently.

C. Robie spoke about how the HR and Payroll Manager is for a more experienced person and looking at a loss in budget for a potential of 3 years.

A. Price asked about special 1 time charges/payouts. Jean responded that any rates will be updated under 1 time state payouts.

M. Huxley wanted group not to worry about 3 year out budget deficit as it is unknown if we will have more enrollments which would change the budget.

D. Forbes advised we will need to see a more realistic case but there may be some major potential swings.

D.

Update on AoA's TK-8 Charter Merger

M. Huxley spoke of sending letters to all the families, superintendents, SELPA and county office of education about the merger.

Data Systems Manager contracted out until July 30th when we get our new employee.

Most of the platforms will be merged. Sharon Perkins is not too concerned about it and is taking the lead on it.

Principals are going to be more on top of their budgets. They will still have budget codes so as to middle or elementary school. Promote not as schools but as programs.

E. Enrollment Update

M. Huxley reported that we had about 8-9 enrollments for the middle school.

Strong waitlists for K, 1,3,4, and 5th grades.

ES 68% arriving are in district and MS arriving 48%. For the entire program we are at about 66% and for future k-8 it is projected 58%.

Sending postcards to 5 focused zip codes, strategically picked zip codes.

J. Whatley asked if there is any concern to keeping Alameda families at at least 50%. She asked why 6th grade enrollment is low as compared to 7th grade.

M. Huxley responded with 6th grade is low all over and some are being home schooled while others are going to private schools. He also advised that marketing is going to increase. During covid many had negative feelings toward charter schools overall. C. Chilcott advised hitting Oakland as some Oakland schools are closing.

A. Price is concerned about future of 6th graders continuing along with AoA and also wanted to know if there is a way of seeing enrollment of 6th graders for other schools.

K. Zimmerman wanted to know about the retention of 5th graders staying through 6th grade. M. Huxley advised only about 3 students not staying from 5th grade to the 6th grades.

K. Welch spoke about partnering with the teachers to get key highlights of their lessons and start some marketing materials to show benefits of the middle school. Word of mouth will also play a strong factor in helping leveraging them to provide positive knowledge.

R. Brown suggested about nice ad in theaters and also to push another postcard in Alameda around Sept in case it is not working with the school they are at currently.

T. Ruiz asked what is the reason why 7th grade is such a huge group. M. Huxley advised lost of families were not happy at their schools and decided to switch over.

C. Robie suggested to show more of the social justice programs we do and package it to entice the students and parents to want to join the school. Promote the brand more so.

R. Brown was inspired by the video shown showing the diversity of this school as well as the social support.

A. Price advised the next presentation for the student and family survey data should be used for the marketing data as this would be great to promote.

F. Student and Family Survey Data (Spring, 2022)

L. Rubin spoke about the summary of the student and family survey data. Sent 2 surveys from Panorama in order to assess the school climate. 93% responded favorable to academic rigor. 92% of students feel that the AoA adults support them. Area of growth is that 80% rated favorable to engagement. 63% students talk about what they learn while at home. 98% of families responded favorable to positive school climate. 99% parents responded favorably to believing their child enjoys going to school. 96% responded favorably to the discipline matched the students. L. Rubin will share with her team so that they can learn from and grow. Think of how to provide child care when there is a parent only event in order to have the parents engage more.

K. Welch was curious if we knew what % of families participated in survey. L. Rubin acknowledged it was 102 families, a little over 1/3. She provided feedback of possibly letting the parents know what their students are learning to share with the kids.

C. Robie was wondering if there was means of having the surveys translated in different languages and if they could be done around parent conferences, possibly while waiting for conference to begin. M. Huxley acknowledged surveys were in English and Spanish.

R. Whittaker advised he used to get a synopsis of what was being learned.

A. Price wanted to know about the translation as well. Also wanted to know if students with IEP's are feeling the same way.

C. Chillcott expressed her appreciation for building a great community that has responded.

M. Huxley advised 102 families participated in survey and was a little lower than the middle school. 80% felt that their teachers were excited to teach their classes. 94% felt they were treated fairly by the adults. 75% feel positive school energy. 91% felt that their teachers encouraged them to do their best. 37% of students say other people are "frequently" or "always" disrespected. Bullying is a huge issue in the middle school.

J. Whatley asked if there is a way to separate by grade level to see what they need to focus more so and if it decreases age appropriate according to our values.

M. Huxley said we can compare to other school's data and next year ask more questions focused on age group.

A. Price reports grave concern for the 42% feeling slightly or not at all connected to adults at the school. Would like better language used in the surveys.

R. Whittaker advised he likes the surveys and was wondering if we could use survey data to refine relevancy in the school. He asked if there is a plan to share this with the middle school students in order to for them to be aware of it and hopefully change. He would like to correlate this data with the end of the year assessments (ie. to know if we are getting responses from lowest scoring students possibly feeling more disengaged)

C. Robie asked about multiple ways of getting the data.

K. Welch asked about surveys not taking into account certain student personalities or abilities.

D. Forbes asked about % of students that took the survey. M. Huxley advised about 98% of students did.

G. AoA Board of Director's Nominations for New Three-year terms

A. Price and D. Forbes nominations will happen next month.

H. AoA Board of Directors: New Officer Nominations

No new nominees.

IV. Action Items

A. Expanded Learning Opportunity Program

\$100K grant that needs to be used by June 30. Since middle school is merging we need to use it by the end of the school year. Planning on using it for Cooking class, art and science supplies, professional development, curriculum and materials as well as after school and staff salaries. C. Chillcott explained a little of re-vamp for after school program, not to babysit but rather a teaching opportunity. C. Robie made a motion to amend the ELOP program for the 22-23 school year. W. Schaff seconded the motion.

K. Welch, R. Whittaker, and C. Robie expressed enthusiasm toward new program.

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

Roll Call

R. Whittaker	Aye
T. Ruiz	Aye
R. Brown	Aye
K. Zimmerman	Aye
K. Welch	Aye
W. Schaff	Aye
C. Robie	Aye
D. Forbes	Aye
A. Price	Aye

B. Title IX, Harassment, Intimidation, Discrimination & Bullying Policy

M. Huxley would like to work on it a bit more and add it to next month's meeting.
A. Price asked to engage some students in this policy due to the new results from the survey.
T. Ruiz wanted to confirm comments have been received.

C.

2022/23 New Salary Schedules

M. Huxley presented salary schedules for new positions such as the attendance & family engagement coordinator as well as the Bilingual coach.

R. Whittaker made a motion to approve the following salary schedules :
Elementary School Program Dean of Students, A certificated teacher salary schedule, a certified teacher with the masters salary schedule, director of operations, attendance and family engagement coordinator, data systems manager and special education coordinator.

K. Zimmerman seconded the motion.

J. Whatley asked about the 20-23 year step increase.

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

Roll Call

D. Forbes	Aye
K. Welch	Aye
K. Zimmerman	Aye
C. Robie	Aye
R. Whittaker	Aye
A. Price	Aye
T. Ruiz	Aye
R. Brown	Aye
W. Schaff	Aye

D. Approval of Board Findings Relating to Teleconference Meetings During State of Emergency

K. Welch made a motion to The Academy of Alameda Board of Directors approves continuing to hold Board meetings and board committee members virtually through June 30, 2022 due to the state of emergency related to covid-19 that continues to directly impact the ability of board members and attendees to meet safely in person pursuant to AB 361.

C. Robie seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

A. Price	Aye
W. Schaff	Aye
T. Ruiz	Aye
D. Forbes	Aye
K. Zimmerman	Aye
K. Welch	Aye
R. Brown	Aye
C. Robie	Aye
R. Whittaker	Abstain

V. Closing Items

A. Board Member Reports

Most members of the board showed their appreciation for Regina's work through her 3 years.

K. Welch reminded everyone to reserve their spot for Matt's retirement party.

B. Review of Key June 9 and June 23 Board Meeting Agenda Topics

D. Forbes reminded meetings are June 7 (correction to date) and June 23.

C.

Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 9:37 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
D. Forbes