APPROVED

The Academy of Alameda Charter School Board

Minutes

Special Board Meeting

26-27 Budget Reductions and Overall Next Steps for AoA

Date and Time
Saturday November 7, 2026 at 10:30 AM

Location
The Academy of Alameda
401 Pacific Ave
Alameda, CA 94501
Room 203

Directors Present
A. Cooley, A. Price, C. Robie, J. Laird, K. McCoy, R. Brown, R. Rentschler, W. Schaff

Directors Absent
None

Guests Present
C. Chilcott

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

J. Laird called a meeting of the board of directors of The Academy of Alameda Charter School Board to order on Saturday Nov 7, 2026 at 10:43 AM.

B. Record Attendance

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

A. Cooley read the Mission and Envisioned Future Statements.

D. Public Comment

Principal McGeorge shared that she really believes in the school and that we need to figure out a way to manage this situation. She started out teaching in middle school and we need to rebuild it. She doesn't want the board to give up. What we have at AoA is different and when Bill and David started AoA it came from a place of what was right for kids. She said everyone who is here wants to be here, does what is right for here, and is committed to doing the work.

II. Closed Session

A. Closed Session

The board went into closed session.

III. Open Session

A. Report Out

There was nothing for the board to report out from closed session.

IV. Board Communication

A. Vote to Approve an Exempt and Non-exempt Employment Agreement Template

B. Vote to Approve the Requirements for Teachers in Transitional Kindergarten Classes Policy

C. Financial Presentation and Discussion

ED Chilcott gave an overview of the deficit situation and the steps taken to get to the current decisions for reductions.

She shared how the original deficit number shared with at the 9/24/26 Board Meeting and then with the AoA staff on 9/30/26, based on 645 student enrollment, was
- $660k. When that number was adjusted for a more settled enrollment approximately two months after school started, the enrollment number was 630 students, which add -$189k to the -$660k for a total of -$849k. The board request the ADA for this year and outer

years be adjusted from 93.4% to 92% which added an additional -$118k. The new total deficit for 26-27 became -$967k.

The original reductions from the budget of unused services, readjusted Title Funds, and Health and Wellness (H&W) was a savings of savings of approx. $135k. Block grants from outer years and a reduction of one FTE this school 26-27 school year, plus planned staff leaves, still did not reduce the deficit enough. The final reductions were:

- Two FTE RIF (Reduction in Force) 12/18/26, 26-27 school year
- Block grants from 27-28 and 28-29 ,moved to 26-27
- Savings in unused services, readjusted Title Funds, and Health and Wellness (H&W), discontinued SEL (Social Emotional) program, unused stipends that will be discontinued, a reduction in a professional development program, a reduction in start up costs for the new TK class in 27-28, a reduction in food costs, and an unexpected staff departure salary savings.

These reductions bring the projected 26-27 deficit to -$388,286 with a projected 16.9% reserves.

V. Open Session

A. Report Out

There was no action taken in closed session.

B. Vote on 26-27 Budget Reduction Recommendations

C. Robie made a motion to Approve the 26-27 Budget Reduction Recommendations as presented.
A. Cooley seconded the motion.
J. Whatley gave public comment to clarify what was being voted on. J. Laird that the board was voting to approve the 26-27 Budget Reduction Recommendations as presented.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

W. Schaff	Aye
C. Robie	Aye
R. Rentschler	Aye
A. Price	Aye
K. McCoy	Aye
A. Cooley	Aye
J. Laird	Aye
R. Brown	Aye

VI. Closing Items

A. Individual Board Member Reports

J. Laird shared that the board acknowledges that none of these decisions were easy and there will be an impact on staff and students at AoA no matter what decisions are made.

B. Executive Director Report

ED Chilcott shared that she acknowledged the staff's patience and understanding through this process as well since no part of this has been easy for anyone. She also informed the board that the impacted RIF staff would be informed on Tuesday, 11/10/26, and then the school community and AoA community afterwards.

C. Upcoming Board Meetings

J. Laird shared that the upcoming board meeting would be on 11/19/26 and there would be a presentation on special education.

D. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 1:51 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
C. Chilcott