

APPROVED



Aurum Preparatory Academy

Minutes

Aurum Preparatory Academy

Date and Time

Thursday October 26, 2023 at 6:00 PM

Location

1034 66th Ave., Oakland, CA 94621

Directors Present

C. Pehl, J. Huddle, V. Hayes

Directors Absent

E. Cardona

Guests Present

D. Vincent, F. Sassin (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

V. Hayes called a meeting of the board of directors of Aurum Preparatory Academy to order on Thursday Oct 26, 2023 at 6:16 PM.

B. Roll Call -- Establish Quorum

C. Approval of the Agenda

Dir. Huddle motioned to approve the agenda.

Dir. Pehl seconded the motion.
Motion was approved unanimously.

II. Consent Items

A. Board Meeting Minutes

C. Pehl made a motion to approve the minutes from Aurum Preparatory Academy Board Meeting on 09-28-23.

J. Huddle seconded the motion.

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

III. Information and Discussion

A. Public Comment

Rocky -

- This is my children's first year at Aurum
- I don't see half of the kids from last year
- What's being expressed to me at home is that what we were told last year isn't happening
- Inquires about Ms. Ray
- Where are the women? What happened to them?
- The only women I see are the young lady at the front desk and coach Lockett
 - we had a change in leadership

* Director Hayes responds:

- Now dr. Vincent is here and there have been a change in senior employees.
- "It's not lost on us that we need diversity in faculty and staff."
- We have hired an office manager, director of operations and back positions that are opened.
- Rocky Struthers responds:
 - Is it normal for senior leaders to call kids "buddy"
 - Is that typical?
 - Her name is Sinai and his name is Curtis?

Jessica Majerus:

- These are letters from the founding class
- You are failing these students

- Women in this school are pushed out
- Mr. Vincent asked me to leave a meeting in this room
- There's no PD or coaching since Ms. Ray and I have left.
- There's been no map data analysis
 - Dr. Vincent said he had hired out but teachers said that the data hadn't been presented to them.
 - Please look at my data to confirm I am an expert in this meeting
- The lobby is empty and cold
- The website is unfinished
- The priorities the director has named have not been improved upon
- There's a teacher who could get certification in an easier way and isn't being helped
- Please inquire about the suspension rate. Black students seem to be suspended more than other students.
- People with power in this school are not doing what they can to serve the best interest with this school.

Shannon Coleman -

- Her daughter is Serenity
- Been here since the sixth grade
- I need a word about a "hard R" word
- I have brought this to the administration
- We need to do something about this
- This administration here is lacking
- We have turn over because of condensation, not being heard; and when I was in a meeting with him, I wasn't being heard.
- I am thinking about taking my daughter out of school. I'm trying not to.
- This is her last year.
- Mr. Vincent - I think you need to step back and take a look at your self and look at the big picture.
 - The bigger picture isn't about you it's about these kids
 - These kids who are losing teachers they are accustomed to.
 - The latino kids is not the only kids that's here either
 - Ms. Coleman has asked that the racial slur incident that targeted Serenity be addressed.

- Director Vincent responds: He is committed to responding to this incident and expresses that this is high priority for him.

- Director Huddle responds: he agrees with Director Vincent and states that if Aurum is not supporting Black families and Black students, then Aurum is not succeeding. Director Huddle also states that he wants this racial slur incident to be dealt with definitively.

Jessica Majerus offered a final comment questions the boards commitment to the values the board says the board prioritizes.

B. Working Group Updates

Working group update was deferred to discuss search for new school location later in the agenda.

C. Executive Director's Report

Dr. Vincent gave a report on the following items:

- Successful Hispanic Heritage Month celebration
- Approval of G1 grant funding (\$88,524.56)
- Submission for Google Ad grant totaling \$120,000 for use with student recruitment.
- Site visit with Alameda County of Education
 - Positive review of school.
- Updates to facility including the following:
 - AC repairs
 - New phone system to be installed.
 - New cameras and door locks that can be accessed via faculty cell phones.
- Highlighting winter sports programs
- Discussed staffing needs to include the following:
 - Dean of Instruction (Interview process ongoing)
 - Instructional Assistant (Interview process ongoing)
 - Credentialing support being provided by outside consultant
- Discussed upcoming DEI training for staff
- Discussed excitement around upcoming Week without Walls programming
- Covered the student enrollment and attendance data.

D. Back Office Provider Financial Report

Franci Sassin from ExED provided the financial report.

- She shared insights on how the school will have a net loss for the school year due to decreased head count vs budgeted head count
- Allowed Board members to decide if full monthly detail would be needed in future reports.
 - Board requires full check register in all reports going forward.

E.

New Property Search for Aurum Prep

- Aurum has contracted with Kava
- Director Hayes broke down why we need to prioritize facility this year
- Dr. Vincent shared that the Bishop will work with Aurum if we find we're without a serviceable community.

IV. Closing Items

A. Board Comments

- Director Huddle states that winning with parents and students is our Executive Director's top priority

B. Next Board Meeting

Next board meeting will be November 16th, 2023.

C. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:08 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
V. Hayes