

APPROVED



Pharos Academy Charter School

Minutes

Pharos Academy Charter School Board Meeting (Zoom)

Date and Time

Thursday February 16, 2023 at 6:30 PM

Location

Pharos Academy Charter School
1001 Intervale Avenue
Bronx, NY 10459

<https://bronxlighthouse.zoom.us/j/5239033349>

All meetings of the Board of Trustees of the Pharos Academy Charter School are held in compliance with New York State Open Meeting Law.

Date: February 16, 2023

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: 1005 Intervale Avenue, Bronx, NY 10459

Other Location(s): <https://bronxlighthouse.zoom.us/j/5239033349>

ALL ARE INVITED TO ATTEND!

**PHAROS ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
DE LA JUNTA ADMINISTRATIVA**

Realizamos todas las reuniones de la Junta Administrativa de la escuela Pharos Academy Charter School conforme a la Ley de Reuniones Abiertas del Estado de Nueva York.

Día: 16 de febrero, 2023

Hora: 6:30 p.m.

Lugar: 1005 Intervale Avenue, Bronx, NY 10459

Otros Lugares: <https://bronxlighthouse.zoom.us/j/5239033349>

Trustees Present

J. Lopez-Molina (remote), J. Sowell (remote), K. Shah (remote), R. Granado (remote), S. Beier (remote), S. Jean-Jacques (remote), S. Sutherland (remote), T. Perez (remote), T. South (remote)

Trustees Absent

B. Thompson

Guests Present

Arabia Williams (remote), C. Russell (remote), M. Dorsey (remote), T. Brown (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance and Guests

B. Call the Meeting to Order

J. Lopez-Molina called a meeting of the board of trustees of Pharos Academy Charter School to order on Thursday Feb 16, 2023 at 6:34 PM.

II. Public Comments

A. Public Comments

No public comments

III. PHACS Staff Presentation

A. PHACS Staff Presentation

Kindergarten Teacher : Arabia Williams
Provided presentation to the Board of her history and current role as a Kindergarten Teacher at Pharos Academy Charter School.

IV. Board Governance

A. Approve Minutes

J. Lopez-Molina made a motion to approve the minutes from Pharos Academy Charter School Board Meeting on 01-19-23.

J. Sowell seconded the motion.

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

B. PHACS Bylaws

The ED was not added with the potential integration of the Culture Committee.

It would be best to discuss these two items,

Executive Director hiring contract notes on how the ED should be evaluated. Legal team advised that this be added to the by laws and not the job description. This is a written document which the Board has contributed to.

Culture Committee is technically not in the by laws but this committee should be added to the by laws.

These items will be in the sent to the Board for review.

C. Discipline Process

Amendments discussed related to the Discipline Process:

Lesser Grievances

Appeals for Expulsions & Suspensions

Short Term defined as 1-5 Days

Long Term defined as Longer than 5 Days

Suspension items/topics discussed and amended within the documentation presented during the Board Meeting.

In-School Suspensions explained and discussed with the Board of the procedures.

Goal for this topic was to codify the idea of resources to provide a parent the option to appeal.

To be continued and discussed at the next Board Meeting

D. PHACS 2023 Scholarship

Scholarship Program has been operating for 2 Years

Committee members requested to serve on the Scholarship Committee.

Committee Volunteers for the Scholarship:

1. Tahina Perez
2. Sharon Beier
3. Tamara South
4. Jarrod Sowell
5. Stacey Sutherland

V. Finance Committee Review

A. Finance Committee Report

Finance Committee met on Tuesday

No notable changes. Tax returns were reviewed as a committee and attached for the Board to review.

Vote on the Financial Marketing Proposal - Additional information was presented by Principal Brown at the January 2023 Board Meeting. The Earners Academy

Four Items of discussion:

1. Financials
2. Earners Academy
3. 990
4. FY24 Budget Process - Timeline Presented

PHACS FY24 Financial Action Plan presented and discussed with the Board.

Draft of the Budget to be presented to the Board by April 2023 and to have the budget finalized in the month of May 2023.

990 - Tax Draft Filing

p.7 Change Travis Brown to officer
Review LHA to independent changes

Auditors recommended that the Board approve the following 990 documents;

2021 BLCS Property Holding Company Inc 990
2021 Pharos Academy Charter School 990
2021 Bronx Support Corporation 990

School feels comfortable with moving forward with the drafted documents and request the Board to vote subject to the changes presented today.

K. Shah made a motion to The Earners Academy.

J. Lopez-Molina seconded the motion.

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

K. Shah made a motion to approve the January 2023 Financials.

J. Lopez-Molina seconded the motion.

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

B. Investment Account Update

C. Expenses Over 50K, Navigating Forward

D. Tax Draft Filings

990 - Tax Draft Filing

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School feels comfortable with moving forward with the drafted documents and request the Board to vote subject to the changes presented today.

J. Lopez-Molina made a motion to conditionally approve the (3) 990 documents with the adjustments mentioned during the meeting.

K. Shah seconded the motion.

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

VI. COVID-19 Updates

A. COVID-19 Updates

School has been operating pretty fine. 5 Cases of COVID and the uptake may be due to the upcoming break.

Lice outbreak K-2, approx. 12 cases. All was resolved and set up for treatment.

Testing supplies will be distributed prior to the Mid-Winter Recess in preparation for the return after the Mid-Winter Recess Break.

VII. Academic Committee Report

A. Academic Committee Report

Interim Data (All Cycles) 2022-2023 report was shared and discussed with the Board. 3-8 ELA and 9-12 ELA Scores were shared and discussed in detail with the Board. ELA & Math scores are trending higher. Positive results in Regents with still more work and progress to be made. Areas of decline discussed with the Board related to Instructional staffing and development.

Principal requested to provide previous year data for comparison and review for the Board.

PTA Inquiry:

Former PTA members to have an election to create a new PTA President and Council. PTA is established typically from parents with the school providing the space to hold meetings.

Ms Harper has been the last acting PTA President. The Principal/School may need to get involved and hold an election.

Honor Roll appreciation program inquiry presented.

VIII. Facilities

A. Facilities Update

Facility Updates presented related to :

Vape Detector - Zeptive: Process, Sales and Installation was successful and smooth. 13 units installed and active.

Parents have responded positively. The vaping device has been successful in preventing the vaping activity. Vaping is frequent in the HS Grades (10-12)

Vaping, Liquid Marijuana, Gummies - Principal recommended that Health Education to be extended to lower grades.

Security System- Versig Evaluation, Products and Repairs were discussed with Board.

IX. Executive Session

A. Personnel Matter

Board Entered Into Executive Session at 8:09 PM

Board Exited out of Executive Session at 9:19 PM

Invited to Executive Session:

Susan Briggs

Maria Dorsey

Travis Brown

Courtney Russell

Personnel Matter discussed

X. 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 9:19 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

M. Dorsey