



Pharos Academy Charter School

Minutes

Pharos Academy Charter School Board Meeting (Zoom Only)

Date and Time

Thursday June 15, 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: June 15, 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: 15 de junio, 2023

Hora: 6:30 p.m.

Lugar: 1005 Intervale Avenue, Bronx, NY 10459

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

Trustees Present

B. Thompson (remote), J. Lopez-Molina (remote), J. Sowell (remote), K. Shah (remote), S. Beier (remote), S. Sutherland (remote), T. South (remote)

Trustees Absent

R. Granado, S. Jean-Jacques, T. Perez

Guests Present

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 Jun 15, 2023 at 6:37 PM.

II. Board Governance

A. Approve Minutes

J. Lopez-Molina made a motion to approve the minutes from Pharos Academy Charter School Board Meeting (Zoom Only) on 05-18-23.

J. Sowell seconded the motion.

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

B. July 2023 - June 2024 Board Meeting Calendar

New dates are available in Google Calendar and Board on Track.
3rd Thursday of Every Month, will remain in place.

C. Annual Meeting

Discussion related to renewal status for - Class A & Board Chair:

1. Javier Lopez-Molina
2. Briar Thompson
3. Keyur Shah
4. Stacy Sutherland
5. Tamara South
6. Jarrod Sowell

J. Lopez-Molina made a motion to Approve for 2 Year Renewal for Class A.

J. Sowell seconded the motion.

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

J. Lopez-Molina made a motion to Renew all Officer positions for those who already in position.

J. Sowell seconded the motion.

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

J. Lopez-Molina made a motion to Approve another year for the already existing Executive, Finance, Education & Accountability.

B. Thompson seconded the motion.

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

J. Lopez-Molina made a motion to Approve for renewal of the existing Bronx Support Corp.

K. Shah seconded the motion.

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

D. PHACS Bylaws

No current meeting or activity to report for this meeting.

Item to removed from future agenda.

E. Discipline Process

Brief Progress Report:

Working group using the Dept. of Education Discipline Code as a base. Tasking ourselves with Level 3-5, serious things that students can do, and see where Pharos is philosophically. Looking through the discipline code line by line to see where we agree with and question our philosophy against the DOE discipline activity

Goal is to keep scholars in school, if at all possible

Expulsion and Long Term Suspension discussed in detail.

These items would warrant an Expulsion:

1. Possession of Weapons (Knives, Guns, etc)
2. Physically causing harm or substantial risk for severe injury
3. Giving or selling drugs, controlled substances
4. Inciting a riot

Special Needs Scholar: If the incident is in manifest of the disability for special needs scholars

1. Physically causing harm or substantial risk for severe injury (K-6 & Teachers)
2. Giving or selling drugs, controlled substance
3. Cyber bullying
4. Original behavior that persisted to service the point of escalation.

School Hearing procedures reviewed with the Board.

1. Resource for representation
2. Resource for available support
3. Case that leads to a School Hearing

School transfers- DOE can do, Charter can not do, so transfers for us mean expulsion

Recommendations to establish a partnership with:

1. Professional help and support
2. Behavior Scientist
3. Community Service

Open item - Who will handle appeals.

Sample of case where a person brings a gun, will merit expulsion. If there is mental health concerns with the scholar, the committee would like to be able to provide support for that scholar.

Advocates for Children, as a resource, was shared with the Board.

All are welcome to attend the next meeting.

F. ED/Principal Evaluation

Principal evaluation to me done every year.
This is just a note that this process will be started and in place.

G. 2023 - 2024 Calendar

Calendar 2023-2024 shared with Board

Goal:

Holidays and Breaks to match and be in alignment with the Department of Education.

Yom Kippur added to the calendar

Winter, MidWinter and Spring Break aligned with DOE

Good Friday added to the calendar

No voting at this time needed by the Board, but will circle back around in July.

H. 23 - 23 Personnel Handbook

Handbook Review - Few Changes highlighted

Military Leave Language

Exempt Employees - Safe Harbor

Calendar Year changes

PTO Updates - Vacation & Sick Days

Facility Staff - Vacation Days increased

Business Days & Critical Days updated

Board to approve tonight in preparation for July 1, 2023

J. Lopez-Molina made a motion to approve the 2023-2024 Personnel Handbook.

J. Sowell seconded the motion.

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

I. 23 -24 Registration/Enrollment Update

Weekly enrollment tracker shared with the Board.

Scholar enrollment staff member is in place to support this data and enrollment activity.

June 30, 2023 - Goal to be fully enrollment

In good position 87 seats filled with 39 remaining.

No problems foreseen and overall Pharos is on target and in a much better position than in the past years.

J. Post-Graduation Survey Follow Up

Three responses for the survey, to be discussed in the upcoming Board meetings,

III. Finance Committee Review

A. Finance Committee Report

Financial meeting was held with highlights:

On target with all financials

K. Shah made a motion to Approve the financials for the month of May 2023.

J. Lopez-Molina seconded the motion.

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

B. Investment Account Update

IV. COVID-19 Updates

A. COVID-19 Updates

No Covid updates to report

V. Academic Committee Report

A. Academic Committee Report

Data - Calendar shared with Board:

June Graduation data.

July - Regents Data (High School)

August - Math & ELA test scores (Grades 3-8)

1. Graduation Data - Rate 92%

Cohort - 2019 (Freshmen in 2019) 59 Registered in 2019

June & August 2023 Graduates are considered on time.

5 Students - 3 will graduate in January 2024 / 2 will graduate in June 2024

2. College Selections for 2023 Class (May)

38 Scholars - 4 Year College

7 Scholars - 2 Year College

2 Scholars - Trade Schools

Last Year Graduation Rate was 75%

VI. Executive Director's Report

A. Executive Director's Report

Board Member visits - Stacy Sutherland came to the school.

Stacy Sutherland thanks for the hosting with a colleague

VII. 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 7:44 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
J. Lopez-Molina