APPROVED

Pharos Academy Charter School

Minutes

Pharos Academy Charter School Board Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday October 19, 2023 at 6:30 PM

Location
Pharos Academy Charter School
1001 Intervale Avenue
Bronx, NY 10459

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: October 19, 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: 19 de octubre 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, K. Shah, S. Jean-Jacques, S. Sutherland, T. Perez

Trustees Absent
J. Sowell, R. Granado, S. Beier, T. South

Guests Present
C. Russell, Gustavo Garcia, Karyn Fernandez, M. Dorsey, T. Brown

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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 Oct 19, 2023 at 6:51 PM.

II. PHACS Staff Presentation

A. PHACS Staff Presentation

Ms. Karen Fernandez
1st Year Teacher at Pharos Academy
Shared her persepective/experience as a new teacher at Pharos Academy Charter School .
1st Year Advantages, Challenges and Areas of Support.

III. Executive Director's Report

A. Executive Director's Report

3-8 MATH & ELA STATE RESULTS shared and discussed by Principal Travis Brown:
Grades 3-8 Test Scores- Highlights

1. District 12 was the lowest performing district in terms of percentage of students proficient for 22-23.
2. Pharos doubled the proficiency rate of the District and beat the city by double digits in both Math and ELA.
3. We are within range of our Charter goals for the first time in Pharos/Bronx Lighthouse history
4. There is almost no achievement gap between Pharos Middle School students and their Asian and White counterparts. The longer students stay in the Pharos System the stronger they become.

Pharos ELA + Mathematics Results vs. NYC Top Districts were discussed in detail
Zip code matters in NYC especially in education. Pharos' proficiency data has shown that we have, at least for our students, changed the narrative. Pharos has become a positive deviant.

Pharos SPED versus NYC SPED District
1. Pharos beat the City Proficiency Sped Rate by 16+ points in both mathematics and ELA.
2. Pharos beat the District Proficiency Sped Rate by 25+ percentage points. More than 3x higher than the District average in both.
3. Data shows that Pharos' support of scholars with special needs is on par with the best community school districts in NYC.

Overall Summary
Pharos Academy is situated in District 12 which is the lowest performing school district in NYC. Our scholars are defying the odds and showing what is possible and showing that we are a Lighthouse. This places us closer to reaching our Educational Goals.

Charter Center will release data in the near future, which will allow Pharos to see where we stack up with other Charter Schools. This data will be shared with the Board, upon release.

IV. COVID-19 Updates

A. COVID-19 Updates

No updates

V. Board Governance

A. Approve Minutes

J. Lopez-Molina made a motion to approve the minutes from Pharos Academy Charter School Board Meeting on 09-21-23.

S. Jean-Jacques seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. ED/Principal Evaluation

To be discussed at the November 2023 Board Meeting

C. Post-Graduation Survey Follow Up

To be discussed at the November 2023 Board Meeting

D. Enrollment Update

Current enrollment is at 711, still pushing to 715.
Enrollment is still in progress and continuing the effort.

VI. Finance Committee Review

A. Finance Committee Report

FInancial Budget standpoint with all things looking well with enrollment currently at 711 to reach 715.
Audit was discussed at the finance call with all things moving well.

Credit Card Limit discussed to increase from $10,000 to $50,000.
Board has been asked to update the FFP to approve this credit line increase.

Credit Card approval procedures to be discussed with a safeguard and a method of sign off to be discussed with the Financial Committee.
J. Lopez-Molina made a motion to Amend the FFP to increase the Credit Card limit from $10,000 to $50,000.
T. Perez seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
J. Lopez-Molina made a motion to give the Finance Committee the authority to create language to determine the method Dr. Brown will imploy to approve transactions on the credit card over decided amount.
T. Perez seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
K. Shah made a motion to Approve the September 2023 Financials.
J. Lopez-Molina seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Investment Account Update

C. Items Over 50K

D.

Arbitrage Report

E. Moody's Update

F. Reserve Fund Investment

G. Audit Update

VII. Facilities

A. Facilities Update

No major updates to discuss.

VIII. Board Interview

A. Board Interview

Gustavo Garcia (Board Interviewee)
Board & School Member introduction

IX. Executive Session

A. Discussion of Board Member Candidate

Executive Session Began 8:04 PM
Executive Session Ended 8:14 PM

X. Board Member Candidate

A. Board Member Candidate

J. Lopez-Molina made a motion to Approve Gustavo Garcia to the Board.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

R. Granado	Absent
K. Shah	Aye
S. Sutherland	Aye
T. South	Absent
J. Sowell	Absent
T. Perez	Aye
J. Lopez-Molina	Aye
B. Thompson	Aye

Roll Call

S. Jean-Jacques	Aye
S. Beier	Absent

XI. 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 8:16 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
M. Dorsey