

APPROVED



Pharos Academy Charter School

Minutes

Pharos Academy Charter School Board Meeting

Date and Time

Wednesday September 4, 2024 at 6:30 PM

Location

<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: September 4, 2024

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: 4 de septiembre, 2024

Hora: 6:30 p.m.

Lugar: 1005 Intervale Avenue, Bronx, NY 10459

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

Trustees Present

G. Garcia, J. Lopez-Molina, J. Sowell (remote), S. Jean-Jacques, S. Sutherland (remote), T. Perez (remote), T. South

Trustees Absent

B. Thompson, K. Shah, P. Wesonga, R. Granado

Guests Present

C. Russell, Joseph Rivera, M. Dorsey, T. Brown

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 Wednesday Sep 4, 2024 at 6:43 PM.

II. Board Governance

A. Approve Minutes

J. Lopez-Molina made a motion to approve the minutes from Pharos Academy Charter School Board Meeting on 07-18-24.

S. Jean-Jacques seconded the motion.

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

B. Scholarship Reflection

A discussion took place regarding reflections on the 2024 Scholarship Process. An observation was made that some scholars who are applying are those who already have financial supporting (such as in the form of a full-ride from the college, as one example).

The Board discussed a variety of topics, including:

-Working with alumni to consider having them apply later (such as in their third or second year of college)

- Exploring the idea of supporting scholars who have a serious financial gap which could ultimately be the determining factor on going to college or not
- Travel expenses to and from school to ensure scholars feel connected to their family and community at home
- Adding a need-based question to scholarship
- Multiple scholarship offerings, need-based and merit-based
- Confirm with the Finance Committee the balance on the scholarship fund
- Persistence of scholars providing documentation (proof of enrollment, tuition due bill) beyond first year
- Give recipients a deadline to submit their documentation and if they do not meet the deadline, the money rolls over into the needs-based scholarship pool
- Survey scholars in advance to ask what the gap is to be able to make an informed decision
- Javier and Courtney to develop a survey for current and past scholarship recipients to come back to the Board with more data

C. PHACS Scholar/Board Event

Last week in December 2024, before Winter Break

This year is 10th Graduating Class. Alumni targeting ideas and events discussed as an option to support the Scholar/Board event.

Tentative Date. 12/27/2024 at 7:30 PM

III. Finance Committee Review

A. Finance Committee Report

Surplus for FY24 -All metrics looking good.
Enrollment completed just under 700. Spoke of revenue and rental assistance.
Payment #1 was received for FY25 School Year.
OTP numbers discussed.

This month in the midst of standard audit and all is going well.

J. Lopez-Molina made a motion to Approve August 2024 Financials.

G. Garcia seconded the motion.

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

B. Investment Account Update

C. Items Over 50K

IV. Executive Director's Report

A. Executive Director's Report

Principal Brown shared the NYS Exam Results (Grades 3-8)

Mathematic scores very strong at Pharos Academy Charter School - 82.4%

ELA scores at Pharos - 65.9 %

Goal for Pharos is 99%.

These are the numbers the city looks at in relation to the strength of the school.

Suggestion to use this information for others promotional activities. School is happy and going back for the new year with a new group. The lower school has placed us at a good place.

London - Oxford University visit discussed with the Board with the following student event/project for studying abroad.

NYU Study Abroad at the Rowes Foundation House

January 26- February 1, 2025 - Earmarked for the abroad study. (Saturday - Sunday)

Cohort of approx. 12 scholars.

Javier suggested to connect with Briar as she is a Rowes scholar.

Financials will be discussed and students recommended will be Juniors.

V. Facilities

A. Facilities Update

No updates

VI. Board Interview

A. Board Interview

Joseph Rivera - Board Interviewee

Interview shared history and reason for wanting to be a part of the Board.

VII. Executive Session

A. Board Candidate

Entered into Executive Session: 7:50 PM

Exited Executive Session: 7:55 PM

VIII. Board Candidate

A. Board Candidate

J. Lopez-Molina made a motion to Approve Joseph Rivera as a new board member.

S. Jean-Jacques seconded the motion.

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

IX. 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 7:56 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

M. Dorsey