

APPROVED



Pharos Academy Charter School

Minutes

Pharos Academy Charter School Board Meeting

Date and Time

Thursday November 21, 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: November 21, 2024

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: 1005 Intervale Avenue, Bronx, NY 10459 11215

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

605 Pavonia Ave., Apt. 2614, Jersey City, NJ 07306

1255 North Ave., New Rochelle, NY 10801

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: 21 de noviembre, 2024

Hora: 6:30 p.m.

Lugar: 1005 Intervale Avenue, Bronx, NY 10459

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

605 Pavonia Ave., Apt. 2614, Jersey City, NJ 07306

1255 North Ave., New Rochelle, NY 10801

Trustees Present

J. Lopez-Molina, J. Rivera (remote), J. Sowell, K. Shah, P. Wesonga, S. Sutherland (remote), T. South, V. Angeles

Trustees Absent

G. Garcia, T. Perez

Guests Present

C. Russell, 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 Thursday Nov 21, 2024 at 6:37 PM.

II. PHACS Staff Presentation

A. PHACS Staff Presentation

No academic staff presentations for this meeting.

Discuss options for academic staff to present on an every other month cadence.

One on one preferred instead of group presentation.

III. Board Governance

A. Approve Minutes

J. Lopez-Molina made a motion to approve the minutes from Pharos Academy Charter School Board Meeting on 10-17-24.

P. Wesonga seconded the motion.

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

B. Scholarship Reflection

Only 4 responses from scholars. Several have returned to from previous years to receive funds. Courtney and Maria plan to work on a Google document to establish procedures for information needed from scholarship applicants and scholarship distribution.

Recommendation presented: Set aside scholarship funds for a dinner or event spent with the awardee. Public recognition to be considered as an encouragement to keep scholar awardees engaged.

Discussion related to funds allocated to full ride scholars versus funds for scholars based on need. Should a scholar receive funds, if their tuition has been fully funded, when there are other scholars who are in need of funds to support open balances?

If funds are sent to the school, the scholar can receive refunds from the school, if that be the case of a credit balance.

Timing of scholarship to be reviewed: Are we awarding at the correct time?

Scholarship Award Requirements:

Scholarship based on grades and needs

Scholarship awarded based on performance and presentation

Discussion related to scholarship funds distribution:

All scholarship funds are to go to the school. Remaining funds are to go towards the following year and to the school.

C. PHACS Scholar/Board Event

IV. Finance Committee Review

A. Finance Committee Report

Finance Committee call was held as scheduled with minutes available for review.

Meeting Highlights:

1. Expecting surplus for FY25 and all funds are currently in good standing
2. Enrollment was discussed - Max is 745 , currently trending lower at 695
3. Budget is being adjusted to 685 to trend lower to the current enrollment number

4. School is diligently working to establish local connections and has been practicing "on the ground" recruitment.
5. No need for a budget amendment at this time.
6. Surplus suggestion to be used as an incentive for staff members.
7. Coffee barrister discussed versus the new services currently in place for the staff.
8. No items over 50K presented for discussion or approval.

K. Shah made a motion to Approve the October 2024 Financials.

P. Wesonga seconded the motion.

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

B. Investment Account Update

C. Items Over 50K

V. Executive Director's Report

A. Executive Director's Report

Charter School comparison- Data received and results were shared with the Board.

Principal Brown provided details related to the most current student performance data for Grades 3-8 and Grades 9-12 .

Pharos had more students sit for the Physics Regents than the entire District 12.

Board suggestion to use this data as an incentive for marketing the school and the services that the school can provide for the prospective scholar.

VI. Culture Committee Report

A. Culture Committee Report

Academic and Culture committee to be considered to be combined.

Several resignations have occurred : Briar & Sarah

Board to discuss and revisit the reassignments in December 2024

Finance Committee - Add one

Education Committee - Chair has left (Briar)

VII. Facilities

A. Facilities Update

Facilities is operating fine and nothing to report.

VIII. Executive Session

A. Scholar Matter

Legal matter and expulsion discussed.

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 9:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
M. Dorsey