APPROVED

Pharos Academy Charter School

Minutes

PHACS Board Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday September 17, 2026 at 6:30 PM

Location
https://bronxlighthouse.zoom.us/j/5239033349

1005 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: September 17, 2026
Time: 6:30 pm
Location: 1005 Intervale Avenue, Bronx, NY 10459
Other Location(s): https://bronxlighthouse.zoom.us/j/5239033349
326 McClellan Ave, Mt Vernon, NY
1155 6th Ave 22nd floor, New York, NY

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: 17 de septiembre, 2026
Hora: 6:30 pm
Lugar: 1005 Intervale Avenue, Bronx, NY 10459
Otros Lugares: https://bronxlighthouse.zoom.us/j/5239033349
326 McClellan Ave, Mt Vernon, NY
1155 6th Ave 22nd floor, New York, NY

Trustees Present
G. Garcia, J. Lopez-Molina, J. Sowell (remote), K. Shah, P. Wesonga (remote), T. Perez (remote), T. South

Trustees Absent
J. Rivera, V. Angeles

Guests Present
C. Russell, M. Dorsey

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 Sep 17, 2026 at 6:38 PM.

II. Board Governance

A. Approve Minutes

J. Lopez-Molina made a motion to approve the minutes from PHACS Board Meeting on 08-20-26.
K. Shah seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
J. Sowell made a motion to Approve Special Meeting of the PHACS Board of Trustees on 08-10-26.
P. Wesonga seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Board Member Recruitment

C. Sick Time Policy - Payout

Sick Time Policy - Payout discussed in detailed related to the payout options discussed at the July 2026 meeting.

Insperity has advised that in NY, you can not offer a flat rate for sick payout.

Board advise to verify this information. Options are :

1. Use It or lose it
2. Accrue (Carrying Over) but not able to use more than 40 hours
3. Pay at Normal rate

Board to vote on the use it or lose it.

J. Lopez-Molina made a motion to Approve the Sick Policy " Use it or lose it ".
P. Wesonga seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

D. October School Visit Survey

Board has been invited to come to the school. A survey has been sent out for the Board to complete to establish and confirm the date.

E. Special Populations

III. Finance Committee Review

A. Finance Committee Report

Finance committee met this week. Investment discussion took place to confirm the future activities for the treasury ladder. Treasury investments will continue to mature.

Enrollment 703# current - Goal# 709 - Charter# 645
Waitlist remains and calls are being made to increase enrollment numbers. Lower and Upper Academy are activity being reviewed for enrollment.

Biggest opportunity is now, this is the time to introduce ourselves to the community.
School must forge the relationship with the schools that provide services K-8.
The community must know who we are and what we offer as a school. We need to start communicating and making connections with other schools.

Board inquiry on what they can do to support the school enrollment. Chairman has volunteered to support the enrollment process. PTA can provide support related to the scholar enrollment .

Less scholars, more schools. Principal is aware that Pharos must go in and remain relevant.
Pharos has to do more than the Billboard and High School Fars. Attendance has decreased for fairs and billboards may not always be the bet way to introduce and communicate what the school offers.

Suggestions related to PreK Services, relationships with Daycare Centers, Work at a place where we can do more and thinking out of the box. Is Pharos looking at the option to consider being a PreK service provider.

Funds have been set aside to support the enrollment process, in the event the enrollment numbers do not increase to the goal numbers. First thing is to math out the areas that we can approach to successfully increase to our goal numbers.

K. Shah made a motion to Approve the August 2026 Financials.
J. Lopez-Molina 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

School has been open and all is well. All teachers are in and quite a bit of work with facilities .
Painting, floor, furniture and all facility updates. Student classrooms and hallways.

Smooth school year opening with no major concerns. The biggest concern and opportunity is to continue to support enrollment.

April - June & July we can lay the plans for the school visits to support enrollment for the next school year. Who do we need to talk to and when do we need to talk to other schools.

V. 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 7:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
M. Dorsey