



Board Chair: Arlene Huhn

Recording Secretary: Susan Mallory

1. Call to Order

The Special Meeting of the Members was called to order at 7:02pm, and was held virtually in compliance with COVID-19 Pandemic social distancing regulations. The Board Chair reviewed meeting and voting procedures with members

Motion to approve the June 18, 2020 Special General Meeting of the Members Agenda, made by: Zahida Hirani-Saran

Seconded by: Keira Hanrahan

In Favour: 100%

Opposed: -

Abstained: -

Motion Carried. Unanimous.

2. Welcome and Instructions

The Board Chair, Arlene Huhn, thanks the membership for attending this important meeting to amend the Aurora School Ltd. Charter Agreement. Questions from the floor and voting will be done through the Slido online application.

3. Overview of why the need for this meeting

In a recent evaluation by Alberta Education, the school was directed to update the Charter document to reflect a more student-centred approach. The Board of Directors have been working very hard over the past year to update the Charter document, specifically Aurora's vision, mission and values, to better convey the student-centeredness of the school. Additionally, the Board is also proposing changes to the school's waitlist process.

The special meeting was called to review Charter renewal requirements to be met in order to apply for a 15-year Charter. There was only one required change from our 2019 Mid-Term Review, a few recommendations, and many Commendations.

Required Change: Undertake a Charter revisioning process that includes an articulation of the student-centred approach with the Direct Instruction Model.

Since the mid-term review in 2016, the current and previous Boards have done the following:

- Developing & updating policy manual
- Stakeholder engagement sessions for both parents and staff
- Updated Articles of Association in 2019
- Quarterly Communication from the Board of Directors 2018 - present
- Feedback from all Annual General Meetings 2016 - present

A 15-year Charter will provide greater stability for Aurora School, staff, parents and students, confidence in growth to a high school and second K-9 site, and increased ability to engage with community partners.

4. Review of Proposed Charter Amendments

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The Policy Committee Chair, Keira Hanrahan reviewed the proposed amendments to the Charter Vision, Mission, Values and Waitlist Process; and the rationale supporting these amendments.

5. Proposed Motions

- **Vision**

Proposed Amendment: The best choice for highly structured and enhanced academics

Motion to accept the proposed amendments to the Aurora School Ltd. Charter Agreement Vision, made by: Keira Hanrahan

Seconded by: Zahida Hirani-Saran

In Favour: 94%

Opposed: 2%

Abstained: 4%

Motion Carried.

- **Mission**

Proposed Amendment: Empower learning excellence through sequenced instruction in a student-centred environment, supported by families. Instruction is informed by research and delivered in a whole group setting with a focus on academic rigour and mastery

Motion to accept the proposed amendments to the Aurora School Ltd. Charter Agreement Mission, made by: Keira Hanrahan

Seconded by: Shazin Mohamed-Standing

In Favour: 94%

Opposed: 4%

Abstained: 2%

Motion Carried.

- **Values**

Proposed Amendment: Innovation, Hard Work, Empowerment, Respect and Integrity, Empathy and Compassion

Motion to accept the proposed amendments to the Aurora School Ltd. Charter Agreement Values, made by: Keira Hanrahan

Seconded by: Felix Amenaghawon

In Favour: 94%

Opposed: 4%

Abstained: 2%

Motion Carried.

- **Waitlist Process**

In support of Aurora School's commitment to inclusivity, a change to the admissions process to reserve some spaces for local students and allow some spaces to be awarded via a lottery system. Proposed changes to come into effect in 2026-2027 to ensure those already on the list are not unfairly impacted.

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Proposed Amendment:

- *First priority to siblings of current Aurora students*
- *Second priority to children of Aurora School employees*
- *Remaining seats:*
 - *10% reserved for local children*
 - *The rest through a weighted lottery*
 - *Weighted Lottery: For each year a child is on the waitlist, the child earns one entry in to the lottery. Entries are electronic and managed through an electronic system. The Lottery is held once per year, where names are drawn to fill to vacant seats. Children on the waitlist longer, with more entries, will have a better chance of being awarded a seat. Waitlist changes to come into effect in 2026-2027 to ensure those already on the list are not unfairly impacted.*

Motion to access the proposed amendments to the Aurora School Ltd. Charter Agreement Waitlist Process, made by: Keira Hanrahan

Seconded by: Robert Kossick

In Favour: 78%

Opposed: 18%

Abstained: 4%

Motion Carried.

6. Special People Retiring

The Board Chair acknowledged the following staff retiring at the end of this school year: Dr. Dale Bischoff, Superintendent, Holly Maccagno, Secretary Treasurer and Gerianne Zabolotniuk, Kindergarten Teacher, and wished them all the best upon their retirement.

This year's Grade 9 students were also acknowledged and wished all the best on behalf of the Board.

7. Next School Year.

Reviewed three options with the membership as per June 12, 2020 meeting with Dr. Hinshaw and Minister LaGrange.

Based on the June 12, 2020 recommendations of the Minister of Education and the Chief Medical Officer, Alberta Schools will likely resume using Scenario 1: In-school classes resume (near normal with health measures).

- Classes will begin as regularly scheduled on August 24, and follow the 2020-2021 Aurora School Calendar.
- Students will not be required to wear masks (PPEs), but are welcome to wear masks at school and on the school bus.
- Further distance between desks
- Staggered/spaced entry and exit at school
- Staggered recesses
- Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting

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The Aurora School senior and school-based administrations have been working very hard to be ready for all three scenarios. There will be a further confirmation of which scenario will be in place by the Minister of Education and the Chief Medical Officer on August 1, 2020.

The Aurora Board are planning a Townhall Meeting of the Membership after August 1, 2020 to further review school re-entry plans and procedures with Aurora parents. Further information on the townhall meeting will be sent to parents before June 26, 2020. Parents with questions regarding online learning were asked to contact their Principal.

8. Draw for \$150 vote

The winner of the \$150 draw for school fee credit was announced.

9. Motion to adjourn

Motion to adjourn the Special General Meeting of the Members virtual meeting at 9:00pm, made by: Nokuthula Sithole

The Board Chair, on behalf of the Aurora Board of Directors thanked parents for participating in this important meeting, and wish all Aurora students and parents an enjoyable and healthy summer. The date of the Townhall meeting will communicated in the Board of Director's Stakeholder Email.