

Aurora Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 22, 2024 @ 7 p.m.

1. **Land Acknowledgement** (Zahida Hirani-Saran, Board Chair) 7:00 PM

We acknowledge that Aurora Academic Charter School and our community work, live, and play on the traditional territories of the Cree, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Métis, Dene, Nakota Sioux, and Inuit whose footsteps continue to mark these lands in the future. We continually express our gratitude and respect for the land as we honor Treaty 6, its role in education, and the ancestral Knowledge Keepers and Elders who are still with us. Aurora Academic Charter School believes that truth must be acknowledged to move forward in reconciliation. We take this time to reflect on our roles and commit to building and strengthening our valued friendships and partnerships with Indigenous peoples in our teaching and learning. We celebrate the rich diversity of the Indigenous as it connects with the diversity of Aurora Academic Charter School's culture, values, and desire to live in peace and prosperity together on this land we all call home.

2. **Call to Order** (Zahida Hirani-Saran, Board Chair) 7:05 PM

a. Approval of the April 22, 2024, *Meeting of the Board of Directors Agenda* (Motion)

Motion to approve the April 22, 2024, *Meeting of the Board of Directors Agenda*.

Made by: Fauziat Raji

Seconded by: Adedayo Ojeleye

In Favour: Unanimous

b. Approval of the March 20, 2024, *Meeting of the Board of Directors Minutes* (Motion)

Motion to Approval of the March 20, 2024, *Meeting of the Board of Directors Minutes*.

Made by: Ajoke Oimage

Seconded by: Fauziat Raji

In Favour: Unanimous

1. **Director of Finance Update** (Constance Amenaghawon, Finance Chair) 7:15 PM

a. Budgeting Protocols (Zahida Hirani-Saran)

b. March Financials

For revenues, we have over 1M from Alberta Education. Our actual enrollment is 3% lower than the budgeted. Alberta infrastructure received 26k in March and Other fees and Transportation received over 110K. Yearbook sale started in March, and made over 7K in March. Investment income made over 21K in Feb. Jason Uppal donated 2K. Alberta Fundraising brought in over 3K. Total revenue of Feb 2024 is over 1.1M.

For expenses, Instruction K-11 is over 750K. Operation and maintenance expenses are over 220K. Transportation expense is over 108K. Board and system is over 24K. Total expense is over 1.1M. March surplus is over 81K.

c. 2024-2025 Financial Forecast

i. Budgeted Schedule of Program Operations

The expected enrollment for 2024-24 school year is 1250 students (K-12). There will be 155 New Students, funding grants are consistent with current funding. For rental facilities, it is not sure that if the Chinese language classes will continue using the facilities. The total budgeted revenue is almost 15M for 2024-25.

Projected fee increases are due to increase in usage of technology platforms to deliver instruction as well as an increase for school supervision. Licenses and software subscriptions costs have increased significantly. Fees include field trips, athletics, and school clubs for K-12. For Transportation, it is estimated 60 riders will be added to 2024-25 school year. We expect the bus rental rate will be increased significantly. We will utilize the surplus of this year to maintain our bus rate at current level. The total budgeted expenses are over 15M. Estimated operating deficit is over 920K. Our operational reserve is 4.5M and capital reserve is 455K at the end of 2022-23 school year.

The board wants to see the improvement costs towards the Infrastructure lot clearer, a breakdown of the line 55& 56: Service, Contracts and Supplies, and which line would include PowerSchool fees.

ii. School Fees

iii.

Budgeted:

	ECSHalfD	ECS Full	1-4	5-7	Gr8-9	Gr 10-12
Per Student Fee (Basic)	65.00	0.00	175.00	255.00	0.00	
Number of Student 2025	100	0	390	340		

Suggestions are:

K: \$100  
G1-4: \$150  
G5-7: \$200  
G8-12: between \$250 to \$355

The Board wants Wen to review and come up with a different number for the Secondary School fees.

iv. Transportation Fees

The estimated total for 2024-25 is 24 buses. Surplus from 2023-24 school is about 43K. And it will be carried forward to support next school year. It is anticipated that the busing fee will go up for 2024-25 school year. The school will communicate with families and inform them about the fee increasing, and maybe discontinue of the transportation grant in the future.

2. **Superintendent Report** (Ian Gray) 9:15 PM

a. School Updates

- Primary School

- Secondary School

b. Facilities Update

i. Alberta Avenue Campus - Leasehold Improvements

ii. Alberta Avenue Campus - Leasehold Improvements - Updated Sketch

c. Research

i. Research & Grant Manager Report

The board wants to get some numbers on how the counselling services have been utilized. It will help the Board to make some budgeting decisions.

ii. An Investigation into School Violence in Alberta:  
Assessing Measurement Methodologies and Proposing

## Strategic Recommendations for Mitigation

d. Minister's' Youth Council Panel

e. Alberta Education - Chief of Staff Visit  
May 1, 2024.

f. Marketing  
Promoting at 10 bus stops and 10 bill boards.

g. Recognition of Long Service  
Tuesday, June 18, 2024 at Sorrentino's.

h. Strategic Planning  
We are at the initial stage, and the surveys are done. Ian is pretty much done the reviews and will share with the Board.

3. The Association of Alberta Public Charter Schools Priority Committee (Fauziat Raji, Director)  
9:45PM

There is a meeting coming up in Spring, and will talk about the fees.

4. Policy Committee (Kerry-Ann Sitcheron) 9:55 PM

a. 1060 BP: Role of the Board (3rd Reading)

Remove the line: Ensures that decisions made consider larger environmental and social impacts.

Motion to accept 1060 BP: Role of the Board (3<sup>rd</sup> Reading).

Made by: Kerry-Ann Sitcheron

Seconded by: Adedayo Ojeleye

In Favour: Unanimous

b. 5000 BP: Recruitment and Selection (3rd Reading)

Policy Statement edited.

Motion to accept 5000 BP: Recruitment and Selection (3rd Reading).

Made by: Kerry-Ann Sitcheron

Seconded by: Constance Amenaghawon

In Favour: 5 Abstaining: 1

c. 6170 BP: Extended Absences (3rd Reading)

Policy Statement edited. Rephrase the sentence: Family which takes extended absences, is likely to experience academic costs, which may result the lower grades.

Motion to accept 6170 BP: Extended Absences (3rd Reading) with the adjustment.

Made by: Kerry-Ann Sitcheron

Seconded by: Ajoke Oimage

In Favour: Unanimous

d. 7040 BP: Technology Policy (3rd Reading)

First sentence is not necessary. This is the new copy of the policy.

Motion to accept 7040 BP: Technology Policy (3rd Reading)

Made by: Kerry-Ann Sitcheron

Seconded by: Fauziat Raji

In Favour: Unanimous

c. **Adjournment** (projected) 10:25 PM

Motion to Adjourn.

Made by: Fauziat Raji