

Aurora Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Monday, Jan 22, 2024 @ 6:45 p.m.

1. **Land Acknowledgement** (Zahida Hirani-Saran, Board Chair) 6:45 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) 6:55 PM

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

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

Made by: Constance Amenaghawon

Seconded by: Ajoke Oimage

In Favour: Unanimous

b. Approval of the December 18, 2023, Meeting of the Board of Directors Minutes (Motion)

Motion to Approval of the December 18, 2023, Meeting of the Board of Directors Minutes.

Made by: Fauziat Raji

Seconded by: Kerry-Ann Sitcheron

In Favour: Unanimous

3. **Director of Finance Update** (Constance Amenaghawon, Finance Chair) 7:05 PM

a. December Financials

Alberta infrastructure received \$320k construction project fund and \$19k lease fund for Secondary School. Investment income made a conservative budget at a lower average interest rate. Top Marks donated \$6400. Canada online gave \$1065. Discussion around

one-time donation, if the school can have donations from these vendors. Will take it to Policy Committee to discuss.

Additional operation expense due to the new Secondary School. Higher amortization due to capitalized assets for the new Secondary School.

4. **Superintendent Report** (Ian Gray) 7:20 PM

a. 2024-2025 Calendar

Option 1: 180 days.

Option 2: 178 days.

Motion to approve Option 1 for the 2024-2025 School Calendar, with the exception to remove Professional Development day on April 21, 2024, and add a PD day on another day within the Calendar.

Made by: Adedayo Ojeleye

Seconded by: Ajoke Omage

In Favour: 6

Abstaining: 1

b. AACCS Secondary Grand Opening

It is on Feb 15, 2024, 2PM.

c. Five-Year Strategic Plan

The engagement process went well with the ACI Architecture. When the Engagement plan is done, we will move forward to the Five-Year Strategic Plan.

d. Transportation Update

i. Collection of Fees

Right now we have a total of 20 buses. Discussion around how to communicate well with parents. Newsletter can be sent out to deliver the messages. Giving enough time to the families to plan ahead.

Ways of collection: Lump-sum payment or monthly deduction. Suggestion is to give some discount (~5% or \$50 off) if paid by lump-sum. Also the school needs to make a deadline for fee collection.

The school does have a policy helps families that are facing financial hardship. We current have a situation that there are 134 families and about 10k has not been paid. The board would like the school to communicate with the families, and ask them to fill out the form as an option.

e. Facilities Update

There were many issues during the past 2 weeks. Secondary School had to shut down due to the pipe burst. Shout out for all the people who helped.

5. The Association of Alberta Public Charter Schools (Fauziat Razi, Committee Chair) 8:20 PM

Currently have 19 schools. Ian is the new President. Fees need to be paid to be a voting member. The Board meets 3 times a year. Payment need to be paid before March.

6. Board of Directors (Zahida Hirani-Saran, Board Chair) 8:30 PM

a. Seminar Board Governance Training and Networking

It is on Thursday, Jan 25, 2025, starts at 5:30 pm at Suzuki Charter School. Highly recommend to attend the 5:30 to 6:30 seminar.

7. **Adjournment** (projected) 9:05 PM

Motion to Adjourn.

Made by: Fauziat Raji