

Aurora Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 19, 2023 @ 7:00 p.m.

1. Land Acknowledgement (Zahida Hirani-Saran, Board Chair) 7:02 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) 7:04 PM

a. Approval of the June 19, 2023, Meeting of the Board of Directors Agenda (Motion)

Request to add April Financials and Approval of Superintendent Evaluation

Motion to approve the June 19, 2023, *Meeting of the Board of Directors Agenda*, with the addition of the April Financials and Superintendent Evaluation

Made by: Fauziat Raji

Seconded by: Constance Amenaghawon

In Favour: Unanimous

b. Approval of the May 23, 2023 Meeting of the Board of Directors Minutes (Motion)

Discussion to adjust the minutes to reflect neither positive nor negative support of the new facility.

Changing item No. 3 on the meeting minutes to reflect that all the parents spoke without indicating who spoke in favour or against.

Motion to approve the Minutes of May 23, 2023, with changes.

Made by: Fauziat Raji

Seconded by: Constance Amenaghawon

In Favour: Unanimous

1. **Director of Finance Update** (Constance Amenaghawon, Finance Chair) 7:25 PM

a. **April Financials**

Discussion around whether we will receive full remuneration for rezoning the Parkwest location.

b. **May Financials**

Discussion around the lost revenue from the 2022-2023 student count and the additional revenue from the lease remuneration from Parkwest. Discussion around the interest rate return and when our GIC interest returns (annually). Thoughts about ensuring future budget costs of transportation.

Action Item: Superintendent to examine transportation app contract to ensure good management.

c. **Supplemental Budget**

Discussion around leasehold improvements for the Alberta Avenue facility.

Action Item: Superintendent will formally request F&E and Startup funding from Capital Planning. Try to secure a letter of commitment from the Government of Alberta. The superintendent is to put together a consolidated budget based on eligibility of grants.

Motion to approve a supplemental budget, as presented, of \$906,000 to fund Phase 1 and F&E, of the Leasehold Improvements for St. Patrick - Phases 1 and 2 document, dated June 19, 2023.

Made by: Keira Hanrana
Seconded by: Ajoke Oimage
In Favour: Unanimous

2. **Superintendent Report** (Ian Gray) 8:45 PM

a. **Secondary School Facility**

One Item that is not included in the leasehold improvements is signage. The superintendent will try to fit the cost in the Supplemental Budget.

b. **Before and After School Care**

Discussion around asking parents and community about the viability of a program. This will be on the board's to-do list and will discuss again next school year.

c. **Facility Transition Update**

Next year will be moving towards Primary School update and Secondary School update.

NAIT Elite Duo credits program for Grande 10-12 is starting winter 2023.

Servus Credit Union will donate appx. \$70,000 to cover the school furniture.

Track and Field Edmonton League: First place in Women's 100M, Third place in Long jump.

3. **Policy Committee** (Keira Hanrahan, Policy Committee Chair) 9:05 PM

a. [2041 BP: Conflict of Interest](#) - Third Reading

It's decided to add the term "cooling-off period" to the definitions.

Motion to approve 2041 BP: Conflict of Interest Third and Final Reading.

Made by: Keira Hanrahan

Seconded by: Fauziat Raji

In Favour: Unanimous

b. [2062 BP: Administrative and Leadership Staffing](#) - Second Reading

Removing Assistant Principals from policy.

Discussion around Central Office composition decision-making will be a shared role between the Board and the Superintendent. The Board will need to approve the creation of the roles by the Central Office.

Motion to approve BP 2062 BP: Selection of Aurora School-Based Administrative Staffing with the amended changes as discussed - Sec Reading

Made by: Keira Hanrahan

Seconded by: Constance Amenaghawon

In Favour: Unanimous

c. [4000 BP: Annual Budget](#) - Second Repeal

Removed as it was intended to be replaced in 2022.

Motion to repeal 4000 BP: Annual Budget

Made by: Keira Hanrahan
Seconded by: Fauziat Raji
In Favour: Unanimous

d. [5400 BP: Employee Personnel Records](#) - Sec Repeal

The related Administrative Regulation can be moved under the FOIP policy.
Already covered under FOIP. The AR can move under the AR of FOIP.

Motion to repeal 5400 BP: Employee Personnel Records

Made by: Keira Hanrahan
Seconded by: Ajoke Oimage
In Favour: Unanimous

e. [5450 BP: Public Interest Disclosure - Whistleblower Protection](#) - Sec Reading/First Repeal

It is not legislatively necessary. Discussion as to whether we should keep it so that it shows organizational belief in it.

Motion to repeal 5450: Public Interest Disclosure - Whistleblower Protection

Made by: Keira Hanrahan
Seconded by: Ajoke Oimage
In Favour: 4
Against: 1

f. [6000 BP: Admittance](#) – Third/Final Repeal

Motion to repeal 6000 BP: Admittance

Made by: Keira Hanrahan
Seconded by: Fauziat Raji
In Favour: Unanimous

g. [6170 BP: Extended Absences](#) - Third Reading

Discussion as to whether to keep the “discretion of the Board” in this policy.
Questions about how waitlists fit into this policy. Questions about whether this policy should be more operational.

The accountability is the Superintendent to approve these extended absences.

Motion to approve BP: Extended Absences – Third/Final Reading

Made by: Keira Hanrahan

Seconded by: Constance Amenaghawon

In Favour: Unanimous

h. 7050 BP: Learning Commons - Second Repeal

It was discussed that we do not need a policy for specific rooms in the school.

Motion to repeal BP: Learning Commons

Made by: Keira Hanrahan

Seconded by: Fauziat Raji

In Favour: Unanimous

i. 7060 BP: Religion - Second Repeal

As charter schools are barred from instruction in religion through legislation, it was shared that this policy is unnecessary.

Motion to repeal 7060 BP: Religion

Made by: Keira Hanrahan

Seconded by: Ajoke Omage

In Favour: Unanimous

j. 7071 BP: Human Sexuality - First Repeal

Motion to repeal 7071 BP: Human Sexuality

Made by: Keira Hanrahan

Seconded by: Fauziat Raji

In Favour: Unanimous

k. 7230 BP: Controversial Issues and Materials – First Repeal

Motion to repeal 7230 BP: Controversial Issues and Materials

Made by: Keira Hanrahan

Seconded by: Fauziat Raji

In Favour: Unanimous

4. **The Association of Alberta Public Charter Schools Priority Committee** (Fauziat Razi, Committee Chair) 9:35 PM

New budget is asking \$120,000 to be paid to the individual for a part-time position to be in government relations. Currently is \$63,000.

Discussion around if the school will continue to stay in the association. The Association fee is increasing as well. Moving forward is going to be \$15k. Suggestion is putting this enrollment with **TAAPS** in the July agenda and discuss further.

Board members shared their thoughts about the budget increasing and fee increasing. All vote for Fauziat to vote against the new budget.

5. **Board of Directors** (Zahida Hirani-Saran, Board Chair) 10:00 PM

a. Director Resignation

Board member Sudeep Manandhar and Tirtha Upadhyay resigned this month.

The article of this association indicates that the Board should have 5 to 7 members. The Board decided to have 5 members for now till end of October.

6. **Adjournment** (projected) 10:05 PM