

Aurora Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, Feb 21, 2024 @ 7 p.m.

1. **Land Acknowledgement** (Zahida Hirani-Saran, Board Chair) 7 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 February 21, 2024, *Meeting of the Board of Directors* Agenda (Motion)

Motion to approve the February 21, 2024, *Meeting of the Board of Directors* Agenda.

Made by: Constance Amenaghawon

Seconded by: Ajoke Oimage

In Favour: Unanimous

b. Approval of the January 22, 2024, *Meeting of the Board of Directors* Minutes (Motion)

Change the Monday January date. Fix Fauziat's last name on No.5, and remove the word "new" in front of the President on No.5 as well.

Motion to Approval of the January 22, 2024, *Meeting of the Board of Directors* Minutes.

Made by: Ajoke Oimage

Seconded by: Kerry-Ann Sitcheron

In Favour: Unanimous

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

a. January Financials

Our actual enrollment is 3% lower than the budgeted. 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. WFF mental grant contributed \$84k. Top Marks donated \$6400. Canada online gave \$1065.

Additional operation expense due to the new Secondary School. Higher amortization due to capitalized assets for the new Secondary School. Alberta Education grant covers multiple categories of expense not just the Instruction. We over budgeted last year as wrongly included the operation cost such as insurance of facility and Powerschool & Wordware expenses. External services is for ACI consulting for the new Secondary School renovation planning. We will receive the funding once we submit all the costs to Capital Planning/Alberta Education.

2. Superintendent Report (Ian Gray) 7:20 PM

a. School Updates

- Primary School: Science fair and the Showcase went really well.

- Secondary School had the Grand Opening and was on CTV News.

Locally Developed Courses (Motion)

Motion to request acquiring the following locally developed courses to be offered

In the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year:

Course Name	Version	Course Code	Developed or Acquired	First Approved Year	Approved Start Date	Last Approved Year
Physics (Advanced) 25	3 Credits	LDC 2628	Acquired	2023-2024	2024-08-26	2026-2027
Physics (Extension) 25	3 Credits	LDC 2338	Acquired	2023-2024	2024-08-26	2026-2027
Physics (Advanced) 35	3 Credits	LDC 3628	Acquired	2023-2024	2024-08-26	2026-2027
Physics (Extension) 35	3 Credits	LDC 3338	Acquired	2023-2024	2024-08-26	2026-2027
Yoga Fitness	5 Credits	LDC 1909	Acquired	2023-2024	2024-08-26	2026-2027
Yoga Fitness	5 Credits	LDC 2909	Acquired	2023-2024	2024-08-26	2026-2027
Yoga Fitness	5 Credits	LDC 3909	Acquired	2023-2024	2024-08-26	2026-2027
Cake Decorating	3 Credits	LDC 1620	Acquired	2023-2024	2024-08-26	2026-2027

Made by: Kerry-Ann Sitcheron

Seconded by: Constance Amenaghawon

In Favour: Unanimous

b. Transportation

i. Fee Collection

Transportation fees are fully paid as of Feb 21, 2024. It is not known if any families applied for the financial hardship.

ii. Parent Provided Remuneration

Funding apply to all parents who drive children to school and the distance is over 2km. Discussions around if we still give the funding to those who have access to the school bus within 1km but choosing not to use the service.

c. Secondary School Grand Opening

The Grand Opening went really well. It was a wonderful event, and everything was well organized.

d. Organizational Assessment/Strategic Planning

They will be doing focus group surveys, talking to individuals including board members, finding some areas that we can make organizational improvements and efficiencies.

e. Research Update

i. Mental Health in Schools Pilot

Working on how to continue these services after the grant is over (Dec 2024). The team is working on building the internal capacity to continue supporting the students and families.

f. The Association of Alberta Public Charter Schools

TAAPCS had a lot of changes about the memberships, numbers of votes, etc. The Board will decide if Aurora School will stay or leave later this year. Not having a motion today, maybe next meeting.

g. Facilities Update

i. Sherbrooke

The School had a few floods earlier this year. There are some bills for the repairs and maintenance. However, we are facing the cost of either replacing the

furnaces at the Primary west wing or fixing them. There will be some quotes for it.

The Primary will reach the max capacity. The Secondary still has some extra space.

ii. Alberta Avenue

See Alberta Avenue Concept Drawings.pdf

3. Policy Committee (Kerry-Ann Sitcheron)

a. 1060 BP: Role of the Board (1st Reading)

Motion to accept 1060 BP: Role of the Board (1st Reading).

Made by: Constance Amenaghawon

Seconded by: Ajoke Oimage

In Favour: Unanimous

b. 3500 BP: Student Cumulative Records (2nd Repeal)

Motion to repeal 3500 BP: Student Cumulative Records (2nd Repeal).

Made by: Ajoke Oimage

Seconded by: Constance Amenaghawon

In Favour: Unanimous

c. 5000 BP: Recruitment and Selection (1st Reading)

Motion to accept 5000 BP: Recruitment and Selection (1st Reading).

Made by: Constance Amenaghawon

Seconded by: Jennifer Singh

In Favour: 4 Abstaining: 1

d. 5120 BP: Staff Professional Development (Discussion)

It is only the discussion right now. The Policy Committee will discuss if this policy needed to be reviewed. The ATA needed to be invited if there is any changes to this policy.

e. 6170 BP: Extended Absences (1st Reading)

Motion to accept 6170 BP: Extended Absences (1st Reading).

Made by: Kerry-Ann Sitcheron

Seconded by: Ajoke Oimage

In Favour: Unanimous

f. 6180 BP: Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (1st Reading)

Motion to accept 6180 BP: Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (1st Reading).

Made by: Kerry-Ann Sitcheron

Seconded by: Constance Amenaghawon

In Favour: Unanimous

g. 7040 BP: Technology Policy (1st Reading)

i. Current

ii. Redeveloped

Postponed.

h. 8100 BP: School Cancellation (2nd Repeal)

Motion to repeal 8100 BP: School Cancellation (2nd Repeal).

Made by: Kerry-Ann Sitcheron

Seconded by: Ajoke Oimage

In Favour: Unanimous

i. 8300 BP: Occupational Health & Safety (2nd Reading)

Motion to accept 8300 BP: Occupational Health & Safety (2nd Reading).

Made by: Kerry-Ann Sitcheron

Seconded by: Jennifer Singh

In Favour: Unanimous

4. Board of Directors (Zahida Hirani-Saran, Board Chair) 8:55 PM

A thank you message from the Board Chair. Thank you to everyone who is involved in these events and making sure the organizations run smoothly.

5. **Adjournment** (projected) 9:00 PM

Motion to Adjourn.

Made by: Constance Amenaghawon