AURORA ACADEMIC CHARTER SCHOOL

BOARD COMMITTEE

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

SCHOOL GOVERNANCE

Date: June 18, 2026
Time: 7:00 PM
Location: AACS Skyrattler

Attending:
Kerry-Ann Sitcheron (Board Chair)(Online)
Adedayo Ojeleye (Vice Char)
Constance Amenaghawon (Online)
Ajoke Omage
Zahida Hirani-Saran Online
Todd Walsh
Yatunde Adesina
Ian Gray
Khryssa Genery
(Recording Secretary)

Guests:
None

Items

1. **Land Acknowledgement (Adedayo Ojeleye, Board Vice Chair)**
   The Board Chair Adedayo Ojeleye read the Land Acknowledgement and called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

2. **Call to Order (Adedayo Ojeleye, Board Vice Chair)**
   The meeting was called to order by the Board of Directors Vice Chair at 7:03 PM, and was held at the AACS Skyrattler and virtually for the public via Google Meets.

   a. **Approval of the June 18 2026 Meeting of the Board of Directors Agenda**
      i. **Motion:** To approve the June 18, 2026 Board of Directors Agenda as presented.
      ii. **Moved by**: Todd Walsh
      iii. **Seconded by:** Yetunde Adesina
      iv. **Vote Decision:** unanimous

   b. **Approval of the Meeting of the Board of Directors Minutes(Motion**
      i. **Approval of the Minutes of May 21, 2026(Motion)**
         Motion: To approve the May 21, 2026 Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors as presented.
         Moved by: Constance Amagaghawon
         Seconded: Todd Walsh
         Changes: speech and debate
         Vote Decision: Unanaumos

3. **Director of Finance Update (Constance Amenaghawon, Finance Chair)**
   Constance Amenaghawon presented the April Financial Report at 7:08 PM. The report provides a comprehensive overview of the Division's financial standing as of May 30, 2026. Clarification that the school year ends in June however the fiscal budgeting year ends in August.

   a. **May Financials**
      i. **Revenues**
   The Secretary-Treasurer presented the May 2026 financial update to the Board. Total monthly revenue for May was $1,567,248, with year-to-date (YTD) revenues of $14,171,257, representing 74% of the annual budget of $19,088,860. Revenue highlights included strong fee collections (90% of budget), investment income exceeding forecast due to higher interest rates, and donations and fundraising revenues exceeding budget expectations. Administration noted that additional salary settlement grant funding will be recognized later in the year once retroactive payments are made, with deferred revenue expected to be recognized in August.

   1. **Discussions:**
      No significant concerns were raised regarding revenue. The Board acknowledged that several revenue sources were tracking favourably and noted that additional Alberta Education funding is anticipated later in the fiscal year.

      ii. **Expenses by program**
   The Board reviewed expenditures by program. Total monthly expenses for May were $1,713,848, with year-to-date expenses of $14,836,444, representing 74% of the annual budget of $19,965,606. A year-to-date deficit of $665,187 was reported, compared to the budgeted deficit of $876,746. Administration highlighted that external services included a one-time $50,000 Convoke Consulting fee, while other significant expenses included the TAAPCS membership fee, audit fees, startup costs associated with the Skyrattler campus, primary school flood recovery costs, and additional transportation expenses resulting from the addition of two buses during the school year.

1. **Discussions**

The Committee sought clarification regarding the reported $665,187 year-to-date deficit, noting that if the annual budget deficit were simply divided equally across twelve months, the Authority appeared to be performing below budget. Administration explained that the reported deficit reflects the actual expenses incurred from September through May and that a straight-line comparison is not appropriate due to the timing of expenditures and seasonal costs. It was noted that a forecasted comparison would provide a more accurate representation of the Authority's financial position.

The financial report concluded at 7:18 p.m.

4. **Superintendents Report**

The Superintendent presented the June 2026 Superintendent's Report, providing updates on academic programming, student learning services, research initiatives, operational planning, facilities, international student travel, staff recognition, and year-end reflections. The report highlighted the Authority's continued focus on supporting student achievement, strengthening organizational systems, and preparing for the 2026–2027 school year.

a. **Academic Reports**

i. **Sherbrooke**

The Superintendent reported that Sherbrooke students had successfully completed the Grade 6 English Language Arts Provincial Achievement Test (PAT), with strong class averages. Appreciation was extended to the Sherbrooke choir for the invitation to attend their performance, and the Superintendent acknowledged the many field trips and year-end learning opportunities that enriched students' educational experiences.

ii. **Skyrattler**

The Superintendent highlighted several significant student accomplishments at Skyrattler, including the school's first Valedictorian and Salutatorian. It was noted that Aurora students collectively earned approximately $180,000 in scholarships. Additional student achievements included success in track and field, regional theatre awards, Metro Basketball All-Star recognition, and strong performances in the 200-metre hurdles, 200-metre, and 400-metre events. The Superintendent also recognized the outstanding participation and community support demonstrated during the recent District Carnival.

iii. **Alberta Avenue**

The Board received the Alberta Avenue Principal's Report highlighting the theme of "Arts and Awards." Principal Jacqueline Harman reported another successful month marked by strong academic achievement, student recognition, and community engagement.

Academic highlights included the announcement of Sanvi Kataria as the 2026 Valedictorian and Jude Alzo'bi as Salutatorian based on Grade 11 and Grade 12 academic performance. Provincial Achievement Tests and Diploma Examinations were reported to be progressing well, with Aurora teachers participating as provincial markers. Administration also celebrated the success of year-long academic interventions, which resulted in 60 students moving out of the academic danger zone, including a 100% graduation rate for Grade 12 students.

The Board was advised that Aurora students have earned nearly $180,000 in scholarships, while students also received numerous academic, athletic, and artistic recognitions. Highlights included a top-10% national placement in the Grade 9 Kangaroo Math Contest, a Provincial Track and Field Championship, multiple Edmonton Youth Theatre Collective award nominations, Metro Basketball All-Star recognition, and several regional track and field medals.

The Principal also reported on successful community engagement initiatives, including the District Carnival, which welcomed 186 attendees despite inclement weather. Appreciation was extended to the Board for its participation during the Authority's 30th Anniversary celebration and to students and staff whose volunteer efforts contributed to the event's success.

Looking ahead to 2026–2027, Alberta Avenue reported current enrolment of 494 students, with registration continuing. Student activities remain strong through athletics, clubs, tutoring, and intramural programming. Planned summer facility upgrades include classroom painting, stage lighting and audio-visual improvements, and continued planning for the science laboratory and library renovations. Administration also reported that attendance remains an area of focus, noting improvements resulting from after-school assessment opportunities while continuing to monitor extended student absences.

b. SLS

The Superintendent recognized the exceptional leadership and contributions of Mary Healy, Director of Student Learning Services, acknowledging her significant impact on students, staff, and families throughout her years of service. The annual Student Learning Services report indicated an increase in referrals and demand for supports, particularly in the areas of student well-being, mental health, executive functioning, communication, and motor development.

i. Discussions

The Board sought clarification regarding the significant increase in Student Learning Services referrals and questioned whether this trend was a cause for concern or consistent with other school authorities.

Administration advised that the referral data aligns with provincial benchmarking and reflects trends observed in comparable school divisions. It was further explained that the increase is indicative of improved identification and support for student needs that may not have previously been addressed. As enrolment continues to grow, the increase demonstrates that the Authority is successfully providing access to the supports students require rather than indicating a negative trend.

c. Research and grants

The Superintendent provided an update on current research and grant initiatives. Ongoing priorities include the Alberta Education-funded Mobile Device Restrictions Study, the Dual Credit Health Care Aide Grant in partnership with NorQuest College, and continued work to develop Authority policies and toolkits supporting compliance with the Access to Information Act (ATIA) and the Protection of Privacy Act (POPA). Research into a potential CERN Beamline for Schools proposal was also noted as an emerging opportunity.

d. Operational reports

i. Transportation

The Superintendent reported that 1,108 students had registered for transportation for the 2026–2027 school year. Funding continues to be favourable, including support through mileage grants. The Superintendent acknowledged the Board's ongoing commitment to maintaining transportation services, recognizing that this remains an area where the Board has supported operations despite limited financial margins. BusPlanner implementation and route development remain on schedule.

ii. Facilities

An update was provided on summer facilities projects across all campuses. At Alberta Avenue, work includes the library and science laboratory renovations, HVAC upgrades, exterior door replacements, and gymnasium improvements. At Skyrattler, two additional classrooms are being constructed above the gymnasium stage area to accommodate continued growth. The Superintendent also advised that Infrastructure Maintenance and Renewal (IMR) funding had been received for Sherbrooke and will contribute toward future capital projects, complementing the Board's previously approved capital investment. Additional lease support funding for the Skyrattler campus has also been secured.

iii. International travel

The Superintendent advised that responsibility for international student travel now falls under the Superintendent's authority rather than the Board. An update was provided following Edmonton Public Schools' decision to suspend international student travel for the 2026–2027 school year due to concerns related to global instability and travel disruptions. The Superintendent noted that the publicly available rationale was broad in nature and was not linked to any specific destination or travel advisory. After reviewing the matter, the Administration is not recommending cancellation or suspension of Aurora's planned Europe trip at this time. Student safety will continue to be the primary consideration, with ongoing monitoring of Government of Canada travel advisories, tour provider guidance, insurance provisions, and risk management processes. The update was presented for Board awareness only, and no Board decision was requested.

1. **Discussions**

   Board members discussed the rationale behind Edmonton Public Schools' decision to suspend international travel and questioned whether similar concerns should apply to Aurora Academic Charter School. Administration advised that while Edmonton Public Schools cited unrest in the Middle East, increased fuel costs, and travel disruptions resulting in flight cancellations, the rationale provided remained general rather than specific to the planned destinations. The Superintendent reaffirmed that the Authority will continue to closely monitor all Government of Canada travel advisories and will prioritize student safety above all else. Should risk levels materially change, the planned trip will be reassessed accordingly.

iv. Staff recognition and celebrations

The Superintendent recognized the retirement of Betty-Lou Steinke and Mary Healy, expressing sincere appreciation for their many years of dedicated service to Aurora Academic Charter School. Their contributions to students, staff, families, and the Authority were acknowledged as both significant and lasting. The Superintendent noted that both individuals have had a profound impact on the school community and that their retirements will leave a considerable void. Best wishes were extended to both staff members as they begin their retirement.

v. **Reflection**

In closing, the Superintendent reflected on the successful conclusion of the 2025–2026 school year and expressed appreciation for the commitment and professionalism demonstrated by staff across the Authority. The Superintendent commended teachers for maintaining high academic expectations and supporting students through the final weeks of instruction while simultaneously preparing for the upcoming school year. Appreciation was extended to all staff for their continued dedication to student learning, well-being, and the ongoing growth of Aurora Academic Charter School.

5. **Policy Committee (Ajoke Omage, Policy Committee Chair)**

The Policy Committee Report was presented by Committee Chair **Ajoke Omage**, who provided an overview of the policies reviewed by the Committee and recommended for Board consideration at various stages of the policy approval process.

a. **2090 BP: Aurora Academic Charter School Authority Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Policy - Section J (2nd Reading)**
   i. **Motion:** To approve BP 2090 – Aurora Academic Charter School Authority Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Policy for Second Reading.
   ii. **Moved:** Ajoke Omage
   iii. **Seconded by:** Todd Walsh
   iv. **Discussions**

The Committee advised that several revisions had been incorporated following the first reading. These included separating the duty to notify under the Protection of Privacy Act (POPA) into its own section to provide greater clarity. Additional wording was added regarding notification of disclosure, record administration, technology-related records management, and circumstances requiring notification of the Minister where applicable.

Board members reviewed the amendments and discussed the importance of clearly identifying the Authority's statutory obligations under POPA. The revisions were intended to improve clarity, strengthen compliance requirements, and better define notification responsibilities.

   v. **Vote outcome:** unanimous

b. **1040 BP: Policy Making(2nd Reading)**
   i. **Motion**: To approve BP 1040 – Policy Making for Second Reading.
   ii. **Moved**: Ajoke Omage
   iii. **Seconded by:** Todd Walsh
   iv. **Discussions**

The Committee reviewed the revisions made following the first reading, including amendments to Sections 5, 7, and 10, as well as revisions to the procedural components of the policy.

Board members sought clarification regarding the proposed policy review schedule outlined within the procedures. Administration presented the new review schedule and advised that the implementation of Bill 25 will require adjustments to future policy review timelines. Members acknowledged the need for a structured review schedule while maintaining flexibility to accommodate legislative changes.

   v. **Vote Outcome**: unanimous

c. **2030 BP: Board Communication Protocols(1st Reading)**
   i. **Motion:** To approve BP 2030 – Board Communication Protocols for First Reading.
   ii. **Moved:** Ajoke Omage
   iii. **Seconded:** Constance Amenaghawon
   iv. **Discussion**

The Committee advised that this represented the policy's second first reading following substantive revisions. Updates included revisions to the policy title, Board communication provisions, guideline language, and the removal of two sections related to informal communications.

The Board discussed whether the communication provisions should be incorporated into the Board Code of Conduct or remain as a standalone policy. Following discussion, members agreed that Board communication protocols and Board conduct address separate governance responsibilities and should remain as independent policies.

Members also reviewed the wording relating to informal communications. Concerns were expressed that the existing language could be interpreted as encouraging individual Board members to communicate independently with stakeholders. The Board recommended revising the wording to acknowledge that informal communications may occur while emphasizing that individual members do not speak on behalf of the Board unless specifically authorized.

v. **Vote Outcome:** unanimous

d. 3800 BP: Abuse (1st Reading)

i. **Motion**: To approve BP 3800 – Abuse for First Reading.
ii. **Moved:** Ajoke Omage
iii. **Seconded:** Yetunde Adesina
iv. **Discussions**

The Committee advised that the policy had previously been deferred and returned for additional review following consultation with the Authority's insurance provider. The definitions section had since been revised and returned to the Committee for consideration.

Board members discussed the revised definitions, particularly the definition of neglect within the school environment. Questions were also raised regarding the scope of terms such as bullying, harassment, and neglect, and how broadly these definitions may be interpreted.

Members expressed concern that some definitions could be subject to inconsistent interpretation and requested that the language be further refined to provide greater clarity and reduce ambiguity.

The Board also inquired whether an accompanying Administrative Regulation or appeal process existed to support consistent implementation of the policy. Administration advised that while there is no specific Administrative Regulation associated with this policy, the Authority's existing Appeals Policy would apply where appropriate.

The Superintendent provided additional context regarding legislative changes that influenced the revisions and recommended aligning terminology with other Board policies to improve consistency throughout the policy manual.

The Board requested that the policy language be revised further before future readings to ensure the policy clearly reflects the Authority's responsibilities while minimizing opportunities for misinterpretation.

v. **Vote Outcome:** 6 in favor 1 abstaining

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e. 2052 BP: Evaluation of the Superintendent (1st Reading)

i. **Motion:** To approve BP 2052 – Evaluation of the Superintendent for First Reading.
ii. **Moved:** Ajoke Omage
iii. **Seconded:** Constance Amenaghawon
iv. **Discussions**

Board members identified several areas requiring clarification before the policy could proceed.

Discussion focused on inconsistencies regarding the timing of the Superintendent's evaluation, specifically references to both Fall and Spring evaluation cycles. Members requested that a single evaluation timeline be clearly identified.

Questions were also raised regarding the public nature of the evaluation process, noting that Superintendent evaluations have traditionally been conducted during Committee of the Whole meetings rather than in public Board meetings.

The Board further discussed references describing the Superintendent as both the Chief Executive Officer of the Board and the Chief Executive Officer of the School Authority, noting that the terminology created confusion regarding governance and operational responsibilities. Members recommended removing references to the Board's Chief Executive Officer and instead using terminology that accurately reflects the Superintendent's role within the School Authority.

Additional discussion recommended clarifying that the Board will review the Superintendent's evaluation following completion of the process, with the evaluation report being presented to the Board by the end of June.

Following discussion, members agreed that further revisions were necessary before the policy could proceed.

v. **Vote Outcome:** The motion was withdrawn and the policy was referred back to the Policy Committee for further revisions before returning for First Reading.

6. Board of Directors

a. Alberta Public Charter Schools (APCS)

The Board received an update regarding Alberta Public Charter Schools (APCS). Members were advised that the organization has officially launched its new website, and Board members were encouraged to share the resource within their networks to promote awareness of Alberta's public charter schools.

The new website can be accessed at albertapubliccharters.ca.

7. Next Meeting

The Board Chair advised that the next regular meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for September 17, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Aurora Academic Charter School – Alberta Avenue Campus.

8. Board Remarks

The Vice Chair expressed sincere appreciation to fellow Board members, Administration, and staff for their ongoing commitment, collaboration, and dedication throughout the school year. Members were thanked for their contributions to the work of the Board and for fostering a positive and collaborative governance environment. The Vice Chair also reflected on the success of the recent Staff Appreciation Evening, noting it was a wonderful opportunity to recognize and celebrate the contributions of Aurora staff.

9. Adjournment

a. **Motion:** To adjourn the June 18, 2026 Board of Directors meeting.
b. **Moved by:** Ajoke Omage

There being no further business, the meeting of the Board of Directors was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.