

**Aurora Academic Charter School
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes of March 18, 2020
RATIFIED**

Board Chair: Arlene Huhn

Recording Secretary: Marla Leganchuk

Attendees on site: Felix Amenaghawon, Zahida Hirani-Saran, Robert Kossick, Shazin
Mohamed-Standing, Paul Wozny, Dale Bischoff, Holly Maccagno

Attendees online: Keira Hanrahan, Nokuthula Sithole

Regrets: Susan Mallory

Guests on site: Jacquie Harman, Mary Healy

Guests online: Peter Dang, Ian Gray

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 6:42pm.

a. Approval of the Agenda

Motion to accept the March 18, 2020 agenda as presented, made by:

Zahida Hirani-Saran

Seconded by: Shazin Mohamed-Standing

Unanimous **Carried.**

b. Approval of Board Minutes

Motion to accept the February 19th, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes as amended, made by:

Shazin Mohamed-Standing

Seconded by: Felix Amenaghawon

Unanimous **Carried.**

c. Approval of Board Minutes

Motion to accept the March 10th, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes as presented, made by:

Zahida Hirani-Saran

Seconded by: Robert Kossick

1 Abstained

Motion Carried.

2. Secretary Treasurer Update

I. Updated Financials

a) Action Item from February 19th, 2020 Board Meeting.

Holly Maccagno will follow up as to whether we should be receiving IMR money directly from the government.

– Not completed to date but will contact George Lee and arrange meeting.

b) Government Funding and Transportation Funding

Will continue as usual including transportation funding. Will review to see if there is any flexibility and ensure we are being ethical and fair to busing company and

parents. Looking at providing choice in credits or refund. Details still have to be worked out.

c) **Budget meeting with Deputy Minister on March 13, 2020**

Provided opportunity to receive clarification on one-time declaration for Specialized Learning Support. \$287,000 vs \$41,000 per year. Holly Maccagno will approach Maurice Trottier about the nutrition funding and dig further into whether or not this might be available to Aurora. Less than 5% operating reserves are allowed as of August 31, 2020.

d) **Capital Fund (Special Projects)**

Board would like to see a list of capital projects and estimated associated costs that would not be covered by IMR. Discussions around air conditioner. Full engineering report would have to be drawn before we could go forward with project and find possible alternatives. Jacquie Harman shared data she has been tracking of temperatures. Some highest over 28 degrees Celsius. Anything over 24 is uncomfortable for the students.

Motion to direct Superintendent to obtain engineering report regarding air cooling in both schools, made by: Robert Kossick Seconded by: Felix Amenaghawon
Unanimous **Carried**.

e) **Current Repairs and Maintenance**

- i. Zone Valves Changed. Eight rooms on north side of the school getting all the zone valves changed and each room will have its own thermostat. This should make a significant improvement to classroom temperature concerns.
- ii. Waste Pickup. City of Edmonton is ceasing to pick up waste. New company to manage waste has been arranged.

3. Superintendent/Deputy Superintendent Reports (Dale Bischoff, Paul Wozny)

I. **Elementary Entrance Construction Update**

Elementary entrance has poured concrete footings, and plan to pour foundation walls this coming week. Making very good progress. Board requests a GANT chart for each board meeting for updates on construction project. Discussion on what the total end cost is going to be for the construction project, but currently the project is going as expected.

II. **COVID-19 update**

Arlene Huhn would like to express thanks on behalf of the Board for how Aurora School has handled the COVID-19 pandemic. Paul Wozny provided details of what Aurora has been able to do and how fast the turnaround has been to ensure the safety and learning, support, of students and staff.

Jacquie Harman and Ian Gray presented on how teachers are working through the process and staff has been doing an incredible job managing the situation.

Staff have been requesting opportunities to work from home. Principals will be reviewing and approving proposals. Dale Bischoff assures that there will be an Admin person and Secretary at school. Aurora School will continue to be open during "regular" business hours to ensure the support of students and staff. Would still be able to employ substitute teachers to assist in optimization of delivering materials.

Discussion around staff working from home - benefits and challenges. Ensuring consistent expectations and communications while keeping in line with optimum education deliverance. Discussion on how to maintain "Direct Instruction Model" during this time of challenge, and how staff is being managed and assurance in effectiveness of educational deliverance.

The Board would like to purchase a "Thank You" lunch for staff.

Motion that Aurora School provide its staff with the flexibility to choose their location of work during the current COVID-19 pandemic, while still achieving learning outcomes and related assessments, made by: Robert Kossick

Seconded by: Zahida Hirani-Saran

Unanimous **Carried.**

4. Board Committee Reports

I. Policy Committee (Keira Hanrahan, Chair)

- **BP 8050 School Emergencies**

Presented to the Board for information.

- **AR 8050.1 School Emergencies – Pandemic**

Presented to the Board for information.

- **BP2060 Role and Supervision of School-Based Administration**

Motion to accept BP2060 Role and Supervision of School-Based Administration for first reading as presented, made by: Keira Hanrahan

Seconded by: Shazin Mohamed-Standing

Unanimous **Carried.**

- **AR2060 Role and Supervision of School-Based Administration**

Presented to the Board for Information.

- **BP4020 - Administration of School Funds**

Recommended that the policy be reworked to breakout what is included in the budget and what is not included in the budget and what each looks like. Keira Hanrahan will send out to all Board Members.

Motion to accept BP4020 Administration of School Funds for first reading as presented, made by: Keira Hanrahan

Seconded by: Felix Amenaghawon

Unanimous **Carried.**

- **AR4020 Administration of School Funds**

Presented to the Board for information.

- **BP6101 Student Medical Needs**

Motion to accept BP6101 Student Medical Needs for first reading as presented, made by: Keira Hanrahan

Seconded by: Shazin Mohamed-Standing

Unanimous **Carried.**

- **AR6101 - Student Medical Needs**

Presented to the Board for information.

- **BP6102 - Anaphylaxis & Life-Threatening Allergies**

Motion to accept BP6102 Anaphylaxis and Life-Threatening Allergies for first reading, made by: Keira Hanrahan
Seconded by: Shazin Mohamed-Standing
Unanimous **Carried.**

- **AR6102 - Anaphylaxis & Life-Threatening Allergies**
Presented to the Board for information.

5. Board of Directors (Arlene Huhn)

- a. International Travel Discussion
- b. Recognize Minister of Education Honourable Adriana LaGrange for her letter
- c. Recognize MLA Whitney Issik for positive comments on Aurora Academic Charter School during her visit earlier this school year (March 2, 2020 Hansard, Page 78).
- d. Future Board Meetings and processes – discussion around possible complete virtual meetings and what this would look like.

6. Calendar Reminders

Classes cancelled indefinitely, until further notice.

March 20..... Professional Development Day (No School)

March 23 - April 6..... Spring Break for staff (school closed)

7. In-Camera Motion

Motion to go in-camera made by: Robert Kossick

Seconded by: Shazin Mohamed-Standing (10:01pm)

Carried.

Motion to come out-of-camera made by: Robert Kossick

8. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the March 18, 2020 Board Meeting at 10:16pm, made by: Zahida Hirani-Saran