AECI CHARTER SCHOOL NETWORK
838 Brook Avenue
Bronx, New York

MEETING OF THE BOARD

Date: Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Time: 6pm

Location: 838 Brook Avenue
Bronx, New York

1. Welcome Role Call: Present were Irma Zardoya, Shameeka Gonzalez, Gregory Kimble, Paul Comrie, DeVon Prioleau

Chief Executive Officer	Derick Spaulding
Human Resources Director	Hector Rodriguez
AECI HR/Payroll Assistant	Veronica Echevarria
Director Post Secondary Readiness	Lauren Quigley
Principal AECI I HS	Colin Healy
Principal AECI I Middle School	Tyra Williams
Principal AECI II	Santiago Taveras
Assistant Principal AECI II	Christopher Mastrocola
Counsel:	Flora Edwards, Esq.

Guest:
Carlo Schiattarella, Schoolhouse Project, Inc.

2. **Approval of Minutes of November 11, 2024**
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Moved by Greg Kimble seconded by DeVon Prioleau to approve the minutes of November 11, 2024. Approved unanimously

3. **CEO Report**

a. Update on AECI 1 & 2 Middle School process:

i. AECI 1: Discussing school uniforms and Marketing; Middle school will open in September

ii. AECI 2: Granted permission to delay the middle school opening to 2026.

b. Work continues on the following; planning and securing building space for present and future needs, compliance, vision setting

c. Grant writing to secure partnership with Charter Schools Growth Fund & New Schools Venture Funds.

d. Development of strategies for promotion of each school's brand, reach and need.

e. Welcome Tyra Williams on her official appointment as AECI 1 Middle School principal.

4. **Postsecondary Report**

a. Application Update

i. AECI 1
94% of students have applied to college
831 applications submitted

ii. AECI 2
96% of students have applied to college
718 applications submitted

b. New FAFSA Release

i. The new FAFSA opened early and is fully functional

ii Students at both schools have started the FA process by creating their FSA IDs and are working with parents to address their Concerns for mixed- status families

c. Scholarships program updates

i. Questbridge (scholarship for high achieving low income students): Finalist at AECI for full scholarship going through Questbridge regular admissions decision process

ii. Posse: Student was chosen as a finalist

iii. Bill Gates (Full scholarship through graduate school): 2 AECI students are semi-finalist.

iv. Jack Kent Cooke(Full ride scholarship): A few students applied

4. **Principal's Report - AECI I**

a. Enrollment - 462 Students - 112 Freshmen, 127 Sophomores, 133 Juniors and 110 Seniors. There are 980 applications pending for the coming school year.

b. Attendance for October was 90.23%

c. Instructional focus included:

i. English as a New Language teaching and learning strategies

ii. Special Education Teacher Support Services

d. School activities included

i. Parent Teacher Conferences were held on November 11th with 202 parents in attendance

ii. An Open House was held on November 16th.

iii. AECI Team won the Flag Football Team City Championship on November 18th

iv. Bingo night was held on November 21th

v. Potluck on November 22nd

vi Holiday Giveaway Party with Prado Organization

7. **Principal's Report AECI II**

a. Enrollment - 442 Students- 108 Freshmen, 120 Sophomores, 106 Juniors and 108 Seniors. There are 690 applications for the new year.

b. Attendance for November was 90.72%

c. School Activities:

December	3	Tuesday	Giving Tuesday
December	4	Wednesday	Open House 2 out of 6 from 5:00pm-7:00pm (HS & MS)
December	4	Wednesday	Video Game Tournament Part 1
December	7	Saturday	Financial AID Support Day (PSO)
December	10	Tuesday	Board Meeting
December	11	Wednesday	Middle School Informational: Tentative
December	11	Wednesday	Video Game Tournament Part 2
December	18	Wednesday	Toy Giveaway
December	19	Thursday	PTA: 5:00pm-7:00pm
December	20	Friday	Staff Holiday Celebration: 2:30pm-3:50pm (Church Space)

8. **HR Committee**

Review of new hires

9. **Facilities Committee**

To be discussed in Executive Session

10. **Executive Session**

Moved by Shameeka Gonzalez and seconded by DeVon Priolaeu at 7:20pm to go into Executive Session to discuss real estate. Approved unanimously.

Moved by Gregory Kimble seconded by Paul Comrie at 7:40 pm to return to the record. Approved unanimously.

11, New Business

a. **AECI II - Renewal of Schools That Can Contract**

Moved Shameeka Gonzalez and seconded by Gregory Kimble to renewal of Contract for Schools That Can to provide career readiness workshops, co-planning sessions with teachers, student centered curriculum, and events for AECI II which include industry professionals at a cost not to exceed $26,500.00. Approved unanimously.

b. **AECI II New Hire**

Alex Paniagua- Teacher of Mathematics

Moved by Shameeka Gonzalez and seconded by Gregory Kimble

Approved Unanimously

12. **Adjournmen**t

Moved by Shameeka Gonzalez seconded by DeVon Prioleau at 8:00pm to adjourn. Approved unanimously