AECI CHARTER SCHOOL NETWORK
116 East 169th Street
Bronx, New York

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD

Date: Tuesday, October 14, 2025
Time: 6pm
Location: 116 E. 169th Street
Bronx, New York

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

Chief Executive Office	Derick Spaulding
Human Resources Director	Hector Rodriguez
HR Payroll Assistant	Elizabeth Tsoi
Director Post Secondary Readiness	Lauren Quigley
Post-Secondary Counselor	Lexlif Jimenez
Principal AECI 1	Colin Healy
Principal AECI 1 - Middle School	Tyra Williams
Principal AECI 2	Santiago Taveras
Assistant Principal AECI II	Christopher Mastrocola
Counsel:	Flora Edwards, Esq.

2. **Approval of Minutes of September 14, 2025**

Moved by Shameeka Gonzalez; seconded by Paul Comrie to approve the minutes of September 16, 2025. Approved unanimously

3. **AECI 2 Post Secondary Report and Presentation**

a Post-Secondary Counselor, Lexlif Jimenez, presented the outcomes of the AECI 2 Senior Class including college applications and acceptances.

b.. 5th Annual Post-Secondary Fair- October 15th

c. Pre-College recruitment has begun

4. **Principal's Report - AECI 1**

a. Enrollment - 478 Students comprised of 121 Freshmen, 118 Sophomores, 122 Juniors and 117 Seniors

b. Attendance for September was 89.30%

c. Professional Development focused on AI in School Process and Intervisitations in the Math Department

d. Student Life

i. Harvest Fest- Annual fall celebration.

ii. Clubs- Food, Jam, Poetry, Spanish Club, Black Pearl, Video Game, Mediation, Video Game, Yearbook. Club bonding trip to bowling.

iii. Mediation Center Update-Expanding this year to additional students and additional staff members.

iv. Hispanic Heritage Month: Classroom lessons, dance lessons, cooking class, trip to Museo de Barrio, Food Festival, Hispanic Heritage lessons for Middle Schools

v. Spirit Week + Homecoming Dance

5. **Principal's Report - AECI 1 Middle School**

a. There are 35 students enrolled

b. The school is fully staffed

c. Curriculum & Professional Development

i. On October 7-8, our students took the NWEA assessment. NWEA (Northwest Evaluation Association) testing refers to the MAP Growth assessment, which measures students' academic progress in core areas, including reading, math, and language usage . This is not part of report card grades. Instead it is a diagnostic tool which provides both individual student growth data and aggregate school performance trends.. The results will be used to differentiate instruction and set learning goals; to monitor progress, identify learning gaps, and measure the effectiveness of curriculum and interventions.

ii. Professional Development is scheduled virtually. The focus is on implementation of the middle school curriculum

d. Highlights

i. Harvest Fest

ii. Hispanic Heritage Month included collaboration with the high school in which high school students have been selected to teach cultural facts to our middle school students and a Hispanic Heritage cooking class which a Hispanic Heritage Fest, which highlighted music, food, and traditions from various Hispanic cultures

6. **Principal's Report - AECI 2**

a. Enrollment is 532 students comprised of 157 Freshmen, 132 Sophomores, 128 Juniors, and 115 Seniors. Over 700 students applied for the lottery

b. Attendance for September was 89.70%

c. 1 staff member tested positive for COVID and 0 students tested positive for COVID since our last meeting

d. Events

i. Partnership with Brotherhood Sister Sol

ii. GSOE AI Infrastructure Event

iii. Recruitment Team is ready for 6th graders

7. **HR Report**

a. Retirement Plan Audit will be submitted this week.

b. Staff Training on Sexual Harassment and Blood Bourne has commenced. Staff have until October 15th to complete these training sessions.

c. AECI Handbook - The updated Handbook was provided to all employees. The next update will be March 2026

8. **Essential Questions**

The Board posed the following questions to the administrations:

a.. *What areas does the School suggest assistance from the board would be appreciated?*

b, *What is one item / characteristic that you want the Board to know about your school that they may not necessarily know or understand that's important to its success, and why*?

The Board discussed the responses which included a the need for increased resources, transportation alternatives for middle school pupils, outreach and visibility of school programs and activities, enhanced community connections, maintenance of the Network's ability to attract develop, and retain exceptional talent in service of our mission which were discussed at the Board.

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9. **HR Committee**

The Committee met on October 10, 2025 review the new hires.

10. **Finance Committee**

The Committee met on October 14, 2025. The Committee reviewed September financial statement, a preview of the budget revision, and presetation of the FY 2025 audit

a. The auditors presented a draft of their findings to the Committees. The Network received a clean report with no material findings

b. The schools are trending ahead due to higher enrollment.

c. Thr schools are in line with expense spending

d. Due to increased enrollment is was recommended that a non-material amendment to the AECI 2 charter to increase enrollement to 535 students.

11. **Facilities Committee**

To be discussed in Executive Session

12. **Academic Affairs Committee**

The Committee met on October 14, 2025 and discussed

a. Middle School Curriculum at both schools.

b. Implications of AI as it applies to the curriculum.

13. **New Business**:

a. New Hires

Moved by Shameeka Gonzalez and seconded by Devon Prioleau to approve the appointment of the following:

i. **AECI 1 High School**

Jazmine Bridges	Biology and Living Environment

ii. **AECI 1 Middle School**

John Tibbs	STEM Teacher

iii. **AECI 2**

Cheikhouna Khoule	Food Server for iLab
Maximilion Macias	Assistant Teacher - Computer Science

Approved Unanimously

b. Non-Material Charter Revision

WHEREAS, the AECI Charter School Board of Trustees recognizes the sustained demand for its high-quality STEM focused program and the need to expand access to additional students; and

WHEREAS, the current charter authorizes a maximum enrollment of 500 students, and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that AECI 2 has the capacity, staffing, and facilities to responsibly a modest increase in enrollment;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees hereby authorizes the submission of a non-material charter revision request to the New York State Education Department Charter School Office to increase the maximum enrollment cap from 500 to 535 students, effective immediately in the current 2025-2026 school year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Executive Officer be and hereby is authorized to submit all required documents, including, but not limited to, enrollment charts, budget updates, fiscal impact analysis, required resolutions, and to take any additional actions necessary to meet the requirements for approval of the revision.

Moved by Paul Comrie; Seconded by Shameeka Gonzalez. Approved unanimously

14. **Executive Session**

Moved by Shameeka Gonzalez and seconded by DeVon Prioleau at 8:00pm to go into Executive Session

Moved by Shameeka Gonzalez and seconded by DeVon Prioleau at 8:30pm to return to the record. Approved unanimously.

15. **Adjournment**

Moved by Shameeka Gonzalez seconded by Gregory Kimble at 8:30pm to adjourn. Approved unanimously.