

Empowerment Academy Charter School

**Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
Thursday, August 11, 2022, 7:30PM
240 Ege Avenue
Jersey City, New Jersey 07304**

Microsoft Teams Meeting

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Phone Conference ID: 276 182 360#

Minutes

A. Call to Order

B. Welcome

C. Roll Call

Board Member	Present	Absent	Abstain
Monica Zaslower		X	
Tom Gallagher	X		
Lonnie Sobel	X		
Thomas Ogorzalek		X	
Dami Kabiawu	X		
Sapreet Saluja	X		

D. Approval of August 11, 2022, Minutes

Motion: Thomas Gallagher

Second: Lonnie Sobel

Yes: L. Sobel, D. Kabiawu, T. Gallagher, S. Saluja

Absent: M. Zaslower, T. Ogorzalek

No: None

E. Public Comment

F. School Review

1. Educational – Shona Hendry-Anthony
2. Financial – Richard Raschdorf

G. School Facilities

Motion: T. Gallagher
Second: D. Kabiawu
Yes: L. Sobel, D. Kabiawu, T. Gallagher, S. Saluja
Absent: M. Zaslower, T. Ogorzalek
No: None

1. **22-08-11-01** Resolved, The EA Board of Trustees approves the Modification of Lease with Our Lady of Victories:
 - a. Landlord will purchase Block 20901, Lot 58 and combine Lot 58 with Lot 59. At same time, Tenet will provide Landlord a one-time payment of \$345,000 to occur simultaneous to the property sale closing date.
 - b. The Lease Agreement will be amended to permit the tenant to make additional alterations/property improvements at its expense.
 - c. The term of the February 1,2016 Lease Agreement will be revised to add 7 five -year options to renew and 1 one-year option to renew.
 - d. Rent as stated in the February 1,2016 Lease Agreement shall be replaced whereby the Landlord agrees to reduce the rent as an accommodation for the Tenant making the Purchase Payment for Lot 58.
 - e. Assignment and Limitations on Use is revised whereby the Tenant with the Landlord's permission can only lease premises to Beloved Community Charter School or another charter school.

H. Handbooks

Motion: S. Saluja
Second: D. Kabiawu
Yes: L. Sobel, D. Kabiawu, T. Gallagher, S. Saluja
Absent: M. Zaslower, T. Ogorzalek
No: None

1. **22-08-11-02** Resolved, The EA Board of Trustees approves of the following Handbooks for SY23:
 - a. AfterCare Handbook
 - b. Employee Handbook
 - c. SPED Handbook
 - d. Gifted Services Handbook
 - e. Honors Services Handbook
 - f. LES Family Handbook
 - g. UES-MS Family Handbook

I. Human Resources

Roll Call Vote on Item 1 - 3

Motion: D. Kabiawu
 Second: D. T. Gallagher
 Yes: L. Sobel, D. Kabiawu, T. Gallagher, S. Saluja
 Absent: M. Zaslower, T. Ogorzalek
 No: None

1. **22-08-11-03** Resolved, the EA Board of Trustees approves the following title and salary change for SY23:

Employee	Position Change	New Salary	Start Date in New Role
Jubril Nesssheiwat	Academy Dean – UES/MS	\$85,000	07/25/2022
Anthony Dworzanski	Dean of Students – UES	\$75,000	09/01/2022
Melissa Espiritu	5 th Grade teacher	\$67,000	09/01/2022

2. **22-08-11-04** Resolved, The EA Board of Trustees approves of the following SY23 hires effective September 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023:

Employee	Position	Salary/Hourly	Effective
Edward French	ESL Teacher – UES	\$63,000	09/01/2022
Geoffrey Knight	ESL Teacher – LES	\$70,000	09/26/2022
Maria Villavizar	Permanent Staff Sub	\$39,000	09/01/2022
Paul Lenzo	Band/Music Teacher	\$72,000	09/01/2022
Makayla Hicks	6 th Grade ELA	\$68,000	09/01/2022
Bethany Burmeister	RTI – LES	\$63,000	09/01/2022
Dominque Singer	5 th Grade Teacher	\$65,000	09/01/2022
Makayla Hicks	6 th Grade ELA	\$68,000	09/01/2022
Jessica Miller	SPED – LES	\$67,000	09/01/2022
Kelly Dunlop	5 th Grade Teacher	\$62,000	09/01/2022
Ryan Vandermay	PE Teacher	\$67,000	09/01/2022
Liliana Dalmer	Teacher Assistant	\$33,000	09/01/2022
Sofiya Chudnovsky	Art Teacher – UES/MS	\$62,000	09/01/2022
Charles Ofoegbu	Science Teacher – UES/MS	\$65,000	09/01/2022
Amara Ahmed	ParaProfessional	\$32,000	09/01/2022
Brandon Diaz-Abreu	Teacher Assistant – MS	\$35,000	09/01/2022
Claire Malajian	Social Studies – MS	\$71,000	09/01/2022
Shazia Ahmad	Math Teacher – MS	\$64,000	09/01/2022
Alexander LePine	8 th Grade ELA	\$64,000	09/01/2022

3. **22-08-11-05** Resolved, The EA Board of Trustees approves of the following Resignations and Terminations:

Employee	Position	Status	Effective
Nakaya Bligen – McCord	Head of Security - LES	Resignation	08/05/2022

Ayanah Grayson	Security - UES	Resignation	08/04/2022
Juliana Baurkot	SPED Teacher UES	Resignation	09/23/2022
Jimmy Mair	Custodian – LES	Resignation	07/26/2022

J. Business

Roll Call Vote on Item 1 - 9

Motion: L. Sobel

Second: T. Gallagher

Yes: L. Sobel, D. Kabiawu, T. Gallagher, S. Saluja

Absent: M. Zaslower, T. Ogorzalek

No: None

1. **22-08-11-06** Resolved, The Board of Trustees approves the Payment of Claims in the amount \$686,397.56 for the period 7/25/22 – 8/11/22.
2. **22-08-11-07** Resolved, The Board of Trustees authorizes the School Business Administrator to fund the Payrolls of August 15,2022 and August 31,2022 in the amount of \$175,000, respectively. Employer Taxes are included in each Payroll.
3. **22-08-11-08** Resolved, The EA Board of Trustees authorizes the School Business Administrator to enter into an agreement with Sensor Kids for SY23 in the amount of \$150,000 for Speech and Occupational Therapy. Costs to be reimbursed by IDEA Grant.
4. **22-08-11-09** Resolved, The EA Board of Trustees approves the appointment of Gerald D. Longo as School Auditor for SY22.
5. **22-08-11-10** Resolved, The EA Board of Trustees approves the appointment of Serenity Carr as -School Treasurer for \$2,400 annually.
6. **22-08-11-11** Resolved, The EA Board of Trustees approves of the SY23 Year End Auditor Information and its submission to the NJDOE
7. **22-08-11-12** Resolved, The EA Board of Trustees approves of the following expenditures for the preparation and installation of new Modular Classrooms:
 - a. Vollers Company \$39,000 Demolition of Existing Garages
 - b. East Coast Electrical Serv \$39,000 Install Electrical in Modular Classrooms

- c. Rich Tree Service \$ 2,970 Remove Trees for Fence Installation
- d. Dalite Construction LLC \$ 3,100 Install 300 Linear Feet of Fencing
- e. Professional Paving LLC \$40,906 Pave 8,275 of Asphalt
- f. M.A. Plumbing \$18,000 Install fixtures in Modular Classrooms

- 8. **22-08-11-13** Resolved, The EA Board of Trustees authorizes the School Business Administrator to enter into an agreement with Bin-Drop Waste Services for one year at cost of \$1,100 per Month.

- 9. **22-08-11-14** Resolved, The EA Board of Trustees approves the expenditure of an additional upgrade to the Security System at UES. Present System was only set up to guard against only 2 doors from opening. The upgrade will prevent four doors from opening.