

EMPOWERMENT ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
Thursday, November 21, 2024, 7:30PM
240 Ege Avenue
Jersey City, New Jersey 07304

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MINUTES

A. Call to Order

B. Welcome

C. Roll Call

Present M. Zaslower, T. Ogorzalek, T. Gallagher, D. Kabiawu
Absent: L. Sobel

Bret Schundler, Acting Head Dean
Angela Thomas, Director of Education
Richard Raschdorf, School Business Administrator
Bobby Seetaram, Director of Operations

D. Approval of October 10,2024 Minutes

Motion: T. Ogorzalek Seconded: T. Gallagher

Approved: M. Zaslower, T. Ogorzalek T. Gallagher, D. Kabiawu
Absent: L. Sobel

E. Public Comment

F. School Review

- 1. Educational – Angela Thomas**
- 2. Financial – Richard Raschdorf**

I. Policies

- 1. 2024-11-21-01 Resolved,** The EA Board of Trustees approves the following policies for SY25:

- a. Remote Learning Plan
- b. Opioid Administration Policy
- c. Staff Evaluations

Roll Call Vote for Item 1

Motion: T. Gallagher Seconded: T. Ogorzalek

Approved: M. Zaslower, T. Ogorzalek T. Gallagher, D. Kabiawu
Absent: L. Sobel

J. Human Resources

Roll Call Vote for Items 1 - 6

Motion: T. Gallagher Seconded: M. Zaslower

Approved: M. Zaslower, T. Ogorzalek T. Gallagher, D. Kabiawu
Absent: L. Sobel

- 1. 24-11-21-02 Resolved,** The EA Board of Trustees approves of the SY25 New Hires effective per Start Date noted on Appendix A, Schedule 1.
- 2. 24-11-21-03 Resolved,** The EA Board of Trustees approves of the SY25 Replacement Contracts effective per Start Date noted on Appendix A, Schedule 2.
- 3. 24-11-21-04 Resolved,** The EA Board of Trustees approves of the SY25 Stipends effective per Start Date noted on Appendix A, Schedule 3.
- 4. 24-11-21-05 Resolved,** The EA Board of Trustees approves of the following Resignations/Termination with the effective dates listed per Appendix A, Schedule 4.
- 5. 24-11-21-06 Resolved,** The EA Board of Trustees approves paying out Student Learning Bonuses in an amount up to \$260,000 to SY23-24 Instruction Division staff members who achieved superior student learning growth last school year and (as per the “Student Learning Bonus Approved!” letter to be sent to said staff members) who continue to serve our scholars through the Spring of 2025. Bonus amounts listed in Appendix A, Schedule 5.
- 6. 24-11-21-07 Resolved,** The EA Board of Trustees approves the payment of \$4,500 to Lauren Golden, Senior Dean of Assessment & Data, for undertaking the responsibility of oversight and training of the school’s less senior Deans of Assessment and Data.

K. Business

Roll Call Vote for Items 1 - 14

Motion: T. Gallagher Seconded: T. Ogorzalek

Approved: M. Zaslower, T. Ogorzalek T. Gallagher, D. Kabiawu

Absent: L. Sobel

1. **24-11-21-08 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees approves the Payment of Claims in the amount \$1,213,547.88 for the period 11/02/24 – 12/01/24.
2. **24-11-21-09 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees authorizes the School Business Administrator to fund the Payrolls of November 15,2024 in the amount of \$850,000 and November 31,2024 in the amount of \$850,000, respectively. Employer Taxes are included in each Payroll.
3. **24-11-21-10 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees approves the Board Secretary Report for October 2024
4. **24-11-21-11 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees approves the SY24 Treasurer's Report for October 2024.
5. **24-11-21-12 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees authorizes the School Business Administrator to enter into two agreements with Tutored by Teachers for after school tutoring services:

Lower Elementary School \$63,100
Upper Elementary School \$115,800
6. **24-11-21-13 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees approves the SY25 Revised Shared Services Agreement for Personnel. Net Income to EA: \$15,0000.
7. **24-11-21-14 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees approves the expenditure up to \$7,500 for this year's Holiday Party in December.
8. **24-11-21-15 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees approves renewal of the basement lease with St. Paul's of the Cross for SY25-26 for an annual rent of \$86,947.
9. **24-11-21-16 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees approves the SY25 Annual Charter School Fiscal Questionnaire and its submission to the NJDOE.
10. **24-11-21-17 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees approves the expenditure of \$24,885 to Burmax Company for cosmetology supplies under ESCNJ 24/25-12.
11. **24-11-21-18 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees approves the expenditures for art supplies from the following vendors:

| | |
|--------------------|---------|
| Blick Art Supplies | \$7,088 |
| School Specialty | \$7,200 |

12. **24-11-21-19 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees approves the expenditure of \$2,167 for photography supplies from B&H Photo & Video.
13. **24-11-21-20 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees approves the expenditure of \$10,043 to SHI for technology upgrades for the Business Dept.
14. **24-11-21-21 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees authorizes the School Business Administrator to enter into an agreement with Pressler Richardson Charter School Services (PRCSS) for Strategic Planning Services for a fee of \$33,400.

L. Field Trips

Roll Call Vote for Item 1

Motion: T. Gallagher Seconded: T. Ogorzalek

Approved: M. Zaslower, T. Ogorzalek T. Gallagher, D. Kabiawu

Absent: L. Sobel

1. **24-11-21-22 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees approve the following Field Trips:

| Grade | Date | Location | Address | Cost to School |
|--------------|---------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Kindergarten | 1/21/25 | SeaQuest | Woodbridge, NJ | \$1,273 |
| 1st | 1/21/25 | Legoland | East Rutherford, NJ | \$1,750 |
| 2nd | 1/21/25 | Sportsplex | Metuchen, NJ | \$2,450 |
| 3rd | 1/21/25 | Jenkinson's Aquarium | Point Pleasant, NJ | \$ |
| 4th | 1/21/25 | Branch Brook | Newark, NJ | \$1,875 |
| 5th | 1/22/25 | Cinemark Movie | Wayne, NJ | \$1,700 |
| 6th | 1/22/25 | Monster Golf | Paramus, NJ | \$2,400 |
| 7th | | | | |
| 8th | 1/22/25 | Intrepid Museum | New York, NY | \$1,515 |
| 9th | 1/23/25 | Urbahn Air | So. Hackensack, NJ | \$3,605 |
| 10th | 1/23/25 | Top Golf | Edison, NJ | \$2,324 |