

**Empowerment Academy Charter School  
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting  
Thursday, April 8, 2021 7:30 pm  
240 Ege Avenue  
Jersey City, NJ 07304**

**Minutes**

- A. Call to Order.
- B. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., adequate notification of this meeting has been provided by advertising in the Jersey Journal and the Jersey City Reporter, and by posting in the Public Library at 472 Jersey Avenue, Jersey City.
- C. Roll Call

Board Member	Present	Absent
Monica Zaslower	X	
Jermaine Pharmes	X	
Tom Gallagher		X
Lonnie Sobel	X	
Thomas Ogorzalek	X	

- D. Approval of March 11, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Motion: Thomas Ogorzalek  
Second: Lonnie Sobel

Board Member	Yea	Nay	Absent	Abstain
Monica Zaslower	X			
Jermaine Pharmes	X			
Tom Gallagher			X	
Lonnie Sobel	X			
Thomas Ogorzalek	X			

- E. COVID-19 Related Issues
1. **21-04-08-01** Resolved, The EA Board of Trustees approves only for the month of April 2021 that the School Business Administrator can sign checks issued for invoices listed on the Payment of Claims and released without any other Board Member signature. This resolution will be revisited in May if “Social Distancing “due to Covid-19 is still in place.

Motion: Thomas Ogorzalek  
Second: Lonnie Sobel

Board Member	Yea	Nay	Absent
Monica Zaslower	X		
Jermaine Pharmes	X		
Tom Gallagher			X
Lonnie Sobel	X		
Dami Kabiawu	X		
Thomas Ogorzalek	X		

F. Human Resources

1. **21-04-08-02** Resolved, The EA Board of Trustees approves of the following new hire for SY21 effective March 29, 2021 through June 30, 2021:

Employee	Position	Salary/Stipend	Attendance Bonus
Linda Istiti	Teacher Assistant	\$30,000 (Pro-Rated)	\$450 (Pro-Rated)

Motion: Lonnie Sobel  
 Second: Dami Kabiawu

Board Member	Yea	Nay	Absent
Monica Zaslower	X		
Jermaine Pharmes	X		
Tom Gallagher			X
Lonnie Sobel	X		
Dami Kabiawu			
Thomas Ogorzalek	X		

2. **21-04-08-03** Resolved, The EA Board of Trustees accepts the Resignations of the following employees:

Employee	Position	Effective Date
Julio Gonzalez	Security	4/22/21
Carly Gigl	Head Dean	6/30/21

Motion: Lonnie Sobel  
 Second: Dami Kabiawu

Board Member	Yea	Nay	Absent
Monica Zaslower	X		
Jermaine Pharmes	X		
Tom Gallagher			X
Lonnie Sobel	X		
Dami Kabiawu	X		
Thomas Ogorzalek	X		

J. Business

1. **21-04-08-04** Resolved, The EA Board of Trustees approves the Payment of Claims in the amount of \$369,525.51 for the period 04/2/21 – 5/1/21

Motion: Thomas Ogorzalek  
 Second: Jermaine Pharmes

Board Member	Yea	Nay	Absent
Monica Zaslower	X		
Jermaine Pharmes	X		
Tom Gallagher			X
Lonnie Sobel	X		
Dami Kabiawu	X		
Thomas Ogorzalek	X		

2. **21-04-08-05** Resolved, The EA Board of Trustees authorizes the School Business Administrator to fund the Payrolls of April 15, 2021 for \$337,000 and for April 30, 2021 for \$337,000. Employer Taxes are included in each payroll.

Motion: Thomas Ogorzalek  
 Second: Jermaine Pharnes

Board Member	Yea	Nay	Absent
Monica Zaslower	X		
Jermaine Pharnes	X		
Tom Gallagher			X
Lonnie Sobel	X		
Dami Kabiawu	X		
Thomas Ogorzalek	X		

3. **21-04-08-06** Resolved, The EA Board of Trustees approves of the Board Secretary Secretary Report for March, 2021 and its submission to the NJDOE.

Motion: Thomas Ogorzalek  
 Second: Jermaine Pharnes

Board Member	Yea	Nay	Absent
Monica Zaslower	X		
Jermaine Pharnes	X		
Tom Gallagher			X
Lonnie Sobel	X		
Dami Kabiawu	X		
Thomas Ogorzalek	X		

4. **21-04-08-07** Resolved, The EA Board of Trustees approves of the expenditures listed for Teacher Appreciation Week and returning students for in-person instruction. Cost not to exceed \$3,700.

Motion: Thomas Ogorzalek  
 Second: Jermaine Pharnes

Board Member	Yea	Nay	Absent
Monica Zaslower	X		
Jermaine Pharnes	X		
Tom Gallagher			X
Lonnie Sobel	X		
Dami Kabiawu	X		
Thomas Ogorzalek	X		

Adjournment