

Atmosphere Academy Public Charter Schools Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

December 18, 2024 Zoom Meeting

Board Members in Attendance:	Board Members Not in Attendance:	Members of the Public in Attendance:
Atmosphere Trustees	Atmosphere Trustees ● Mr. James Spitzer	Atmosphere Staff Ms. Sheila Pagan Mr. Christian Roman Ms. Lona Nguyen Mr. Reginald Jay Mr. Michael Roach Gallagher Ms. Marine Serobyan 4th Sector Solutions Mr. Zachary Cohen Mr. Joe Keeney Mr. Robert Keogh

There was no members of the public in attendance

Agenda Item 1. Call to Order

At approximately 5:05 pm Dr. Michael Lagas called the Board meeting to order.

Agenda Item 2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was not performed as the meeting was held over Zoom.

Agenda Item 3. Board Reports

To be covered in the agenda.

Agenda Item 4. Comments From the Public

There was no public in attendance and therefore no comments were offered.

Agenda Item 5. Revision and Adoption of the Agenda

Mr. Colin Greene discussed the Agenda for approval by the Board.

Mr. Dillion moved to approve the agenda for December.

Mr. J. Greene seconded the motion.

Vote Aye: Mr. Dillon, Mr. J. Greene, Rabbi Krauss, Dr. Lagas

Vote No: None

Motion adopted. Agenda approved.

Agenda Item 6. Insurance Update

Marine Serobyan from Gallagher Insurance discussed the insurance company audit outcome and WC premium increase.

There will be a \$20K increase due to the classification of some staff to administrative. Should have been coded as 8868. Reason is there is not a separation between instruction and administrative office. The code for employees in Paylocity payroll system must be changed to 8868.

Mr. Jesse J. Greene, Jr. has asked to protest as this was not clearly defined by workers compensation and the auditors. The board wants a list of which employees are involved. There is a pause on the invoice until the auditor returns with further information the school can use to formulate an appeal of this assessment.

Agenda Item 7. Financial Update

Zachary Cohen from 4th Sector reviewed the financial package, including balance sheet, actual November 30 cash balance and cash flow. Expecting to receive the Per Pupil revenue to come in by the end of December, 2024. Covered topics reconciliation, administration/staff bonuses, AP paydown. Loan received. Discussion on enrollment, benchmarks, loan, coming cash flow needs, account payable and expense lines.

Per pupil is increasing. Federal funding has remained consistent. Total salaries have increased by 13%. Also adding merit increases. Bonus formulas were discussed.

Counsel has indicated that custodial and security expenses may be paid by the DOE. Atmosphere will be aggressively working to get reimbursed for the past several years of these expenses.

Board discussed Atmosphere conducting a deeper dive into the spending in which Colin Greene agreed he would be meeting with Zachary Cohen and Sheila Pagan over the winter break to review the budget and establish a clearer working budget to present to the board. A budget and projection column should be added to the cash planning spreadsheet.

Board discussed the benefits and compensation. Where does the bonus calculation come from? Supervisors review the bonus then directors then officers then Sheila reviews. The bonuses come out of the general budget. Board to discuss the bonus methodology further at future meetings.

Agenda Item 8. Governance Update

Mr. Lagas self-nominated to remain as Trustee and Chairman for an additional 1-year term.

Mr. J. Greene self-nominated to remain as Trustee and Treasurer for another 3-year term.

Mr. C. Greene self-nominated to remain as an Ex-Officio Trustee for another 3-year term.

The board moved to accept these nominations and continue their appointments to their Trustee positions.

Vote Aye: Mr. A. Dillon, Mr. J. Greene, Rabbi Krauss, Dr. Lagas

Vote No: None

Agenda Item 9. Board Approvals

Mr. Colin Greene presented the minutes of the November meeting previously sent to the Board.

Dr.I Lagas moved to approve the minutes.

Mr. J. Greene, seconded the motion.

Vote Aye: Mr. Dillion, Mr. J. Greene, Rabbi Krauss, Dr. Lagas

Vote No: None

Agenda Item 10. Elementary School Update

Mr. C. Greene briefed the board on the upcoming SUNY zoom interview regarding the application for an elementary school amendment to the charter and other expansion requests. Manhattan college is working with Atmosphere regarding amending and extending the lease at Corlear. A current building might become the future elementary school site by 2028 if a new high school building is completed by then.

Agenda Item 11. College Admissions Update

Opening: Excited for the Seniors, Class of 2025. Currently have 65 seniors. Presented by Michael Roach, Admin Apprentice and Reginald Jay, Culture Manager The college admissions program and how the students are doing in applying for early admission. 7 students have been nominated into the SUNY 10% promise program which grants automatic acceptance to a list of colleges and universities.

Some students have received early applications and early acceptance to college of choice. For early decisions scholars put in a lot of work and were excited to get accepted. One scholar received from College of Mt. Saint Vincent a scholarship of \$20K for 4 years which is a great amount this is not including the financial aid. Mr. Roach and Mr. Jay will be helping the students to get through the process of completing FAFSA, essay and applying.

Agenda Item . Consent Agenda

There were no consent agenda items

Agenda Item . Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business items

Agenda Item . New Business

There was no new business items

Agenda Item . Adjournment

At approximately 6:30pm the Board moved to adjourn the meeting.

Mr. J. Greene moved to adjourn. Dr. Lagas seconded the motion

Vote Aye: Mr. Dillon. Mr. J. Greene, Rabbi Krauss, Dr. Lagas

Vote No: None

Meeting adjourned.