

Board Meeting Minutes
October 2024



**Atmosphere Academy Public Charter Schools
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes**
October 30, 2024
Zoom Meeting

Board Members Attending:	Board Members Not In Attendance:	Others in Attendance:
Mr. Alan Dillon Mr. Jesse J. Greene, Jr. Dr. Michael Lagas Mr. Colin J. Greene (ex officio, CEO) Rabbi Byamin Krauss (joined at 5:28PM)	Mr James Spitzer	<u>Atmosphere Staff</u> Mr. Christian Roman Ms. Lona Nguyen Ms. Lena Litvak Ms. Katherine Brennan Mr. Zach Barlia Ms. Sheila Pagan <u>4th Sector Solution</u> Ms. Lizbeth Santana Mr. Zachary Cohen Mr. Joe Kenney

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Agenda Item 1. Call to Order

At approximately 5:05PM, Dr. 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. Revision and Adoption of the Agenda

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

Mr. J. Greene moved to approve the agenda for MOctober.
Dr. Lagas seconded the motion.

Vote Aye: Vote Aye: Mr. Dillon, Mr. J. Greene, Dr. Lagas, Rabbi Krauss
Vote No: None

Motion adopted. Agenda approved.

Agenda Item 4. Comments From the Public

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

Agenda Item 5. Board Approvals

Mr. J. Greene presented the minutes of the September meeting previously sent to the Board. The Board members discussed the difference between FOIL under NYS law and FOIA under Federal law.

Mr. J. Greene moved to approve the minutes.
Dr. Lagas seconded the motion.

Vote aye: Mr. Dillion, Dr. Lagas, Mr. J. Greene'
Vote no: None

Agenda Item 6. Introduction of HR Leader

Mr. Greene introduced Ms. Sheila Pagan, HR Leader at Atmosphere for about a year. She Begin to take the notes going forward.

Mr. Jesse Greene will schedule meeting with Ms. Pagan to train on how to take the minutes notes.

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Agenda Item 7. Financial Update

Ms. Lizbeth Santana introduced Mr. Zachary Cohen. She explained that at the end of November she will be moving to another 4th Sector Solutions account. She will be training and working with Mr. Cohen to ensure he is up to date on how the Atmosphere account works.

Ms. Santana spoke of the 5500 audit taking place. The audit was passed. There were areas that needed to be addressed as there were some late deferrals.

Ms. Santana will continue to train Ms. Cohen on keeping cash planning up to date and flagging areas to Mr. Greene as they arise.

4th Sector reviewed the financial package, including the scorecard, balance sheet, budget vs. actual and cash flow. Topics covered included reconciliation, AP paydown, Latest DOE payments received, enrollment, compensation issues, benchmarks, loans, coming cash flow needs and major expense lines

Colin Greene requested a revision to the spending approval levels to ease management of the school. This requires a revision to the financial policy of the school. 7 key school staff members (4 directors and 3 leaders). This revision will delegate to them the ability to sign for purchases up to \$2,500.

Mr. J. Greene moved to adopt this change in financial policy.
Dr. Lagas seconded the motion.

Vote aye: Vote aye: Mr. Dillon, Dr. Lagas, Mr. J. Greene, Mr. Krauss
Vote no: None

Agenda Item 8. Regents Exam, Grades 6-12 and Baseline

Ms. Lena Litvak and Ms. Katherine Brennan introduced a substantial presentation on the regent's exam. Atmosphere is still awaiting results from NYS on reading and math grades. Ms. Litvak explained that the Baseline is important to continue to track as this will give Ms. Litvak what is needed to create proper lessons for leadership to provide to teachers. Substantial time was spent by the board reviewing these results. Mr. C. Greene contributed to the presentation.

Regents topics covered included History, Geometry, Earth Sciences, Math and English.

Ms. Katherine Brennan introduced herself and explained she was now in a different role and worked with both academics and trips. She reviewed topics regarding high school.

Ms. Litvak will be reaching out to New York State regarding the test results.

Agenda Item 9. Introduction of Zach Barlia, Middle School (MS) Director

Mr. Barlia introduced to the Board. Mr. Barlia became MS Director in September. He is the leader for all Middle Schools. Mr. Barlia was given the opportunity to introduce himself.

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Mr. Barlia spoke of the trips and in-school events. Scholars have attended trips to the Liberty Science Center and Bronx Zoo. The In-school Hispanic and African American events were a great success.

Agenda Item 10: Elementary School Application

Mr. C. Greene spoke briefly regarding the Elementary school application due to SUNY by December. The proposal is being worked on by all leaders on a weekly basis.

Leadership has agreed to visit other schools to get a different perspective. Within the next couple of weeks will be visiting Rabbi Krauss school. He is a great asset to Atmosphere and will be good to work with on the process of opening an Elementary school.

Agenda Item 11. Executive Session

The Board did not enter Executive Session. Next Board meeting will discuss in Executive Session:

- a) Construction at Corlear
- b) Proposed acquisition of real estate property

Agenda Item 10. Consent Agenda

There were no consent agenda items

Agenda Item 12. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

Agenda Item 13. New Business

There was no new business.

Agenda Item 14. Adjournment

At approximately 7:00PM 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

Vote No: None

Meeting adjourned.