



**Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, March 12, 2026; 6:00 pm**

**I. Call to Order – 6:03PM**

**II. Public Notice of Meeting/NJ Sunshine Law**

The New Jersey Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right to the public to have advanced notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted on in accordance with N.J.S.A 10:4-6 et seq.

On the rules of this act, Achievers Early College Prep Charter School has caused notice of this meeting by publicizing the date, time, and place, of the regularly scheduled meeting in the Public Notice Section of the Star Ledger and Trenton Times and Posted at the Achievers Early College Prep Charter School located at 544 Chestnut Ave, Trenton NJ 08611. Formal action will take place at this meeting.

**III. Roll Call**

Trustees	Role (Term Expires)	Present	Absent	LA/ED
1. Alescia Teel	Trustee, (2/2029)	x		LA 6:30PM
2. Elizabeth Murphy	Trustee, (8/4/2026)	x		
3. Larry Patton	Trustee, (3/2029)	x		
4. Imebet Stewart	Trustee, President (3/2029)	x		
5. Meredith Pennotti	Trustee (4/2026)		x	

**Also Present**

Non-Voting	Role	Present	Absent	LA/ED
Nava Coppin	Executive Director	x		
Joshua Solow	SBA, School Business Office		x	
Elizabeth Neary	Board Secretary, School Business Office	x		
Michael Nicholson	Chief Operating Officer		x	
Hope Blackburn	Board Attorney	x		
Katheryne Ralph	Director, Human Resources	x		
Yereilis Martinez	Student Representative to the Board of Trustees	x		

**IV. Acceptance of Meeting Agenda**

Motion for Achievers Early College Prep Charter School, Board of Trustees to approve the Agenda for the **March 12, 2026**, meeting.

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Alescia Teel					x						
Imebet Stewart	2	x				Larry Patton	1	x			
Elizabeth Murphy		x				Meredith Pennotti					x

**V. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes**

Motion for Achievers Early College Charter School, Board of Trustees to approve the minutes from the **February 12, 2026**, Regular Board meeting.

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Alescia Teel					x						
Imebet Stewart		x				Larry Patton	2	x			
Elizabeth Murphy	1	x				Meredith Pennotti					x

**VI. Trustee Reappointment**

Motion for Achievers Early College Prep Charter School, Board of Trustees to reappoint Meredith Pennotti for an additional 3-year term, effective 4/1/2026 - 3/31/2029.

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Alescia Teel					x						
Imebet Stewart	1	x				Larry Patton		x			
Elizabeth Murphy	2	x				Meredith Pennotti					x

**VII. Public Comment - NONE**

**VIII. Committee Reports**

Finance Committee – Liz Murphy provided a finance update noting a cash surplus and no cap concern. She noted that surplus might be used for facility upgrades and a long-term facilities plan should be looked at. She reminded trustees about financial disclosures due, and noted that trustee term alignment was discussed, but will remain staggered as-is.

**IX. Executive Director Report**

Ms. Coppin: Gave a shout-out to all women leaders at the school for national women’s month, noting they are all doing great work.

Ms. Ralph: Provided an update about recruiting activity including job posting and upcoming college career fairs. She noted survey results for staff intent to return and that 98% are planning to return next school year.

Ms. Wright: Explained several PTA events including PAC meeting, MS Principal coffee chat, and a valentine event. She noted arrival of the driving simulator for drivers ed, and the health sciences room has been set up with a few items still needed. She also provided an update about new student technology items, athletics and building updates including turf and new outdoor chairs/benches for the modular classroom building.

Ms. Miller: Provided an update on several MS events including HBCU door contest, Read Across America, and a taste of African culture event. She noted Ms. Bellamy is a finalist in the Princeton prize for distinguished secondary teachers.

Ms. Eley: Provided an update for the HS including NJGPA for Juniors, WIDA testing completed, and that a current student is in the state diesel competition through Mercer County tech school. She mentioned more college acceptances, yet some students are interested in the trades or military, noting that the Army & Navy came on-site for students.

Ms. Martinez: Thanked the whole team for scheduling great student events. She noted that tutoring is helping with writing skills. She is happy that student input and concerns are being considered, especially noting the kitchen tour. She mentioned a small leak in the cafeteria that could be a safety concern, and that the kids are excited for driver's ed.

**X. Motions for Approval**

**1. Finance**

- a. Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Report: To approve the Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for February 2026, as per the attached. Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:232.11(a), the Achievers Early College Prep Charter School Board of Trustees acknowledges receipt of the secretary's certification, and after review of the monthly financial report (appropriations section) certifies that, to the best of its knowledge, as of February 2026, no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:232.11(b), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the school's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.
- b. Bills List and Check Journal: To approve the bills list and check journal for the period February 13, 2026, to March 12, 2026.
- c. To approve the following payrolls:

February 15, 2026	\$197,545.13
February 28, 2026	\$212,178.85

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Alescia Teel		x									
Imebet Stewart	2	x				Larry Patton	1	x			
Elizabeth Murphy		x				Meredith Pennotti					x

**2. Contracts - NONE**

**3. Building & Grounds - NONE**

**4. Personnel**

- a. To approve the following Mentor/Mentee staff, fee, and stipend, as attached:

Mentor Name	Position	Certification	Mentee	Amount	Earning/Deduction Schedule
Carron Ankiel	Mentor	CE	Laura Springsteen	\$1,000	Equal pay periods of \$50

- b. To approve the following club and stipend for the 2025-2026 school year, as attached.

Club Name	Employee Name	Stipend Amount	Pay Date
Multilingual Learners (MLL) Club	Albertine Williams	\$500	6/15/26

**Roll Call Vote**

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Alescia Teel		x									
Imebet Stewart		x				Larry Patton	2	x			
Elizabeth Murphy	1	x				Meredith Pennotti					x

**5. Curriculum/Special Education/Student Activities**

- a. To approve the quote from **Shore Inflatables** for obstacle course rental for Grade 6/7 Field Day on 6/10/26, as attached.
- b. To approve the following 6<sup>th</sup> grade field trip, as attached.

Date	School/Grade	Trip Location	Ticket Cost	Transportation Cost/Vendor	Total Trip Cost
4/16/26	MS – Grade 6	National Constitution Center, Philadelphia, PA	\$1,020	\$1,410 (Sheppard Bus Service)	<b>\$2,430</b>

Larry Patton commented that the bus costs more than tickets, and that transportation has become expensive.

- c. To approve the quote from **DJ Luigi** for DJ services at Senior Prom on 5/28/26, as attached.
- d. To approve the quote from **School Health Corporation** for student medical emergency supplies, in the amount of \$4,135.86, as attached.

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Alescia Teel		x									
Imebet Stewart		x				Larry Patton	2	x			
Elizabeth Murphy	1	x				Meredith Pennotti					x

**6. Policy/Misc.**

- a. To approve the **2026-2027 AECPC academic calendar**, as attached.
- b. To approve the quote from **ZipRecruiter** for an additional 3-month subscription for four job postings, in the amount of \$5,607, as attached.
- c. To approve the quotes from **Custom Ink** for recruitment merchandise including customized water bottles, lanyards and pens, total amount \$1,173, as attached.
- d. To approve cost and attendance at the following job fair recruiting events, total \$1,615, as attached.

Date	Event	Location	Registration Fee
3/27/26	Education Expo	Rowan University Glassboro, NJ	\$350
4/09/26	All-Major Career & Graduate School Fair	Rowan University Glassboro, NJ	\$350
4/16/26	Careers in Education Job Fair	Kean University Union, NJ	\$200
4/16/26	Montclair State University Education Job Fair	Montclair State University Montclair, NJ	\$200
4/24/26	2026 Spring Career & Internship Fair	Rutgers University New Brunswick, NJ	\$515

Liz Murphy asked why Rutgers fair is so expensive.

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Alescia Teel		x									
Imebet Stewart	2	x				Larry Patton	1	x			
Elizabeth Murphy		x				Meredith Pennotti					x

**XI. Enrollment Report**

Grade	Jul 2025	Aug 2025	Sep 2025	Oct 2025	Nov 2025	Dec 2025	Jan 2026	Feb 2026	Mar 2026	Apr 2026	May 2026	Jun 2026
6	93	93	93	92	91	91	91	92	92			
7	92	93	93	92	92	92	90	90	90			
8	93	93	93	93	93	93	93	93	93			
9	91	98	98	94	94	94	94	94	94			
10	104	108	108	112	111	107	107	106	106			
11	81	88	88	91	90	91	92	89	89			
12	48	52	52	57	57	56	57	57	57			
<b>Total</b>	<b>602</b>	<b>625</b>	<b>625</b>	<b>631</b>	<b>628</b>	<b>624</b>	<b>624</b>	<b>621</b>	<b>621</b>			

**XII. HIB Reports - NONE**

**XIII. Public Comment - None**

**XIV. Reports / Look Ahead / Miscellaneous**

- Next Regular Board Meeting: Thursday, April 16, 2026 at 6:00PM

Liz Neary reminded Trustees to complete financial disclosure statements by end of April. She also reminded everyone that the April meeting is moved to April 16<sup>th</sup> due to the school being closed for spring break.

**XV. Adjourn Public Session/End Meeting – 6:42PM**

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Alescia Teel		x									
Imebet Stewart		x				Larry Patton	1	x			
Elizabeth Murphy	2	x				Meredith Pennotti					x