



Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 13, 2026; 6:00 pm

I. Call to Order - 6:08PM

II. Public Notice of Meeting/NJ Sunshine Law

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act was enacted to ensure the public's right to have advance notice of and to attend meetings of public bodies in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq. In compliance with this Act and P.L. 2025, c. 72, notice of this meeting has been provided through the Achievers Early College Prep Charter School's website under "Public Notices." Formal action may be taken at this meeting.

III. Roll Call

Trustees	Role (Term Expires)	Present	Absent	LA/ED
1. Alescia Teel	Trustee, (2/2029)	x		
2. Elizabeth Murphy	Trustee, (8/4/2029)	x		
3. Larry Patton	Trustee, (3/2029)	x		
4. Imebet Stewart	Trustee, President (3/2029)	x		
5. Meredith Pennotti	Trustee (4/2029)	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		
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 **August 13, 2026**, meeting.

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

V. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes

Motion for Achievers Early College Charter School, Board of Trustees to approve the minutes from the **July 9, 2026**, Regular Board meeting.

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			

VI. Public Comment - None

VII. Committee Reports

- a. Finance Committee
- b. Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Support Committee

-Nothing to report – All important topics were discussed in the Board Retreat just prior to this meeting.

VIII. Executive Director Report

-Nothing to report – All important topics were discussed in the Board Retreat just prior to this meeting.

IX. Motions for Approval

1. Finance

- a. Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Report: To approve the final Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for June 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 June 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 July 10, 2026, to August 13, 2026.
- c. To approve FY27 IDEA Application:
 - i. Basic - \$168,132.00
 To approve FY27 ESEA Application:
 - i. Title I-A - \$479,853.00
 - ii. Title II-A - \$42,100.00 Reallocated to Title I
 - iii. Title III - \$30,144.00
 - iv. Title III Immigrant - \$7,208.00
 - v. Title IV Part A - \$29,957.00 Reallocated to Title I
- d. To approve the reimbursement to **Sully Mori** for business cards, in the amount of \$30.99, as attached.
- e. To approve the reimbursement to **Katheryne Ralph** for posters, in the amount of \$295.92, as attached.
- f. To approve the reimbursement to **Jennier Miller** for Smore newsletter annual subscription, in the amount of \$179, as attached.
- g. To approve the following payrolls:

July 15, 2026	\$65,544.76
July 31, 2026	\$93,770.89

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		x				Meredith Pennotti	2	x			

2. Contracts

- a. To approve the agreement with **Rutgers University** for Alternate Route Program Services, including course work required by NJDOE for CE-Teachers, total cost ranging from \$3,190 to \$4,435 per staff candidate, as attached.

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

3. Building & Grounds

- a. To approve the quote from **Network Information Technologies** for monthly maintenance services of all E-rate technology equipment for the 2026-2027 school year, reimbursable rate of \$1,000 per month, annual cost \$12,000, as attached.
- b. To approve the quote from **Network Information Technologies** for E-rate reimbursable network equipment & installation, in the amount of \$19,232.50, as attached.
- c. To approve the quote from **JMM Cleaning Services** for high school basketball court regulation painting, in the amount of \$2,200, as attached.

Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Alescia Teel		x									
Imebet Stewart		x				Larry Patton		x			
Elizabeth Murphy1	1	x				Meredith Pennotti	2	x			

4. Personnel

- a. To accept the following resignation, as attached.

Employee	Title	Term	Resignation Date
Rickia Reid	High School Principal	12-Month	7/3/26

- b. To approve the following leaves of absence, as attached:

Employee #	Leave Start Date	Job Protection Eligibility FMLA/NJFLA	Tentative Return Date
A03T	8-3-26	FMLA	10/30/26
A030	8-17-26	FMLA	TBD

- Trustees requested that position titles be removed to preserve confidentiality.

c. To approve the following new hire contracts for the 2026-2027 School Year, as attached:

Term	Employee Name	Job Title	FY27 Salary	FY27 Stipend	Start Date
10-Month	Xiomara Mejias Rivera	Teaching Assistant	\$51,500	None	8/17/26
10-Month	Kristen Nicole Kraunelis	High School English Language Arts Teacher	\$80,050	None	8/17/26
10-Month	Lisa Lozada	High School Social Worker	\$85,050	\$4,000 HIB Coordinator	8/17/26
10-Month	Dalia Seyam	High School Math Teacher (Pre-Calculus)	\$67,000	\$2,500 STEAM	8/17/26
10-Month	June White	High School Special Education Teacher (Empowered Teacher)	\$71,168	None	8/17/26
10-Month	Jennifeur Wilson	High School Biology Teacher	\$85,050	\$2,500 STEAM	8/17/26
10-Month	Malachi Prillerman	High School Building Substitute Staff	\$55,000	None	8/17/26
10-Month	Steven Stover	Middle School STEAM Teacher	\$65,050	None	8/17/26
12-Month	Kiyana Little	Chief Operations Officer	\$150,000	None	TBD
12-Month	Laurell Parris	High School Assistant Principal	\$130,000	None	TBD

d. To approve the following salary increase for the 2026-2027 School Year, based on the previously approved job title change at the July 9, 2026 meeting, as attached:

Term	Employee Name	Approved New Job Title	Old FY27 Salary	New FY27 Salary	Payment Schedule
12-Month	Sully Mori	Work-Based Learning, Internships and Industry Partnership Coordinator	\$51,750	\$58,000	Retroactive to 7/1/26

e. To approve the following 2026 Summer School Stipend, to be paid in the 8/15/26 payroll:

Employee	Program Role	Total Hours	Hourly Rate	Total Stipend
Myra Bellamy	OnCourse system set-up	48	\$35	\$1,680

- f. To amend the following 2026 Summer School Stipend, paid in the 7/31/26 payroll:

Employee	Program Role	Previously Approved Hours	Actual Hours Worked	Hourly Rate	Amended Stiped Amount
Damaris Ynoa	OnCourse system set-up	80	32	\$35	\$1,120

- g. To approve the following job title change for the 2026-2027 school year:

Term	Employee Name	Current Job Title	New Job Title	Effective Date
12-Month	Jonquille Eley	High School Director of CTE, College Readiness, and STEAM Academic Programs	High School Lead Person	7/1/26

- h. To approve the extension of **Shannon Wright's** contract as Part-Time Interim Chief Operations Officer through 10/31/26, rate remains \$69.71/hour, as attached.
- i. To approve/ratify the auditorium fee from **Grounds for Sculpture** for the leadership professional development workshop, *Beyond the Limits*, on 7/15/26, in the amount of \$600, as attached.

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

ROLL CALL VOTE

5. Curriculum/Special Education/Student Activities

- To approve the quote from **Curriculum Associates** for i-ready, Toolbox and professional learning services for the 2026-2027 school year, in the amount of \$17,218, as attached.
- To approve the quote from **Hilton Garden Inn Hamilton** for Achievers Senior Prom to be held on May 27, 2027, total cost \$7,539 (\$6,539 funded by students and \$1,000 funded by school), as attached.
- To approve the quote from **Bens Deli** for student refreshments at Middle School orientation on 8/19/26, in the amount of \$655, as attached.
- To approve the quote from **Custom Ink** for student custom vinyl stickers, in the amount of \$1,111.25, as attached.
- To approve the quote from **Custom Ink** for student custom t-shirts, in the amount of \$3,257.50, as attached.
- To approve the quote from **Amazon** for graphic design instructional supplies, to be reimbursed through the CSP grant in the amount of \$2,437.36, as attached.
- To approve the quote from **Mercer County Park Commission** for fall season soccer field rental, in the amount of \$700, as attached.
- To approve the quote from **SCRACJ** for fall Middle & High school soccer game referee fess, total amount \$1,314, as attached.
- To approve the quote from **College Board** for 2026-2027 PSAT & SAT testing, to be reimbursed through the CSP grant in the amount of \$8,275.50, as attached.

- j. To approve the quote from **SkillsUSA** for CTE SkillsUSA Student & Professional Affiliation Membership, in the amount of \$4,705, as attached.
- k. To approve the following student trips, including round-trip bus transportation, as attached:

Date	Trip Location	Trip Purpose	Vendor	Trip Cost
10/6/26	Kean University, Union, NJ	College visit	Student Transportation Inc.	\$715
9/25/26	Rider University, Lawrence Twp, NJ	College visit	Student Transportation Inc.	\$310
9/17/26	Stockton University, Galloway, NJ	College visit	Student Transportation Inc.	\$715
10/1/26	Mercer County Community College, West Windsor, NJ	College visit	Student Transportation Inc.	\$388
9/14/26	Burlington Twp HS, Burlington, NJ	HS Soccer game	Sheppard Bus	\$530
9/15/26	Christina Seix Academy, Trenton, NJ	MS Soccer game	Sheppard Bus	\$530
9/30/26	Christina Seix Academy, Trenton, NJ	Cross Country (XC) meet	Sheppard Bus	\$530
10/14/26	Mercer County Park, West Windsor Twp, NJ	Cross Country (XC) meet	Sheppard Bus	\$530
10/7/26	Thrive Charter School, Hamilton, NJ	Cross Country (XC) meet	Sheppard Bus	\$530

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

6. Policy/Misc.

- a. To approve the 2025-2026 **Achievers Early College Prep Annual Report**, as attached.
- b. To approve the 2026-2027 **Achievers Middle School Family-Scholar Handbook**, as attached.
- c. To approve the 2026-2027 **Achievers Early College Prep Organizational Chart**, as attached.
- d. To approve the **AECPT CTE Teacher Incentive & Retention Program**, including awards of \$3,000 per eligible teacher, with funding requested through the CSP grant and general operating budget, NTE \$18,000, as attached.

-Meredith Pennotti asked several questions about the retention bonus program, and Nava Coppin explained in detail.

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

X. Enrollment Report

Grade	Jul 2026	Aug 2026	Sep 2026	Oct 2026	Nov 2026	Dec 2026	Jan 2027	Feb 2027	Mar 2027	Apr 2027	May 2027	Jun 2027
6		79										
7		93										
8		93										
9		91										
10		92										
11		104										
12		85										
Total		637										

XI. HIB Reports

1. Motion to **accept** the HIB investigation report for August 2026, with the following findings:

Report	# of Cases	# Founded	# Unfounded
August 2026	2	2	0

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			

XII. Public Comment - NONE

XIII. Reports / Look Ahead / Miscellaneous

1. Charter Renewal Training, Tuesday Sep 8, 2026, 7PM – 8PM
2. Next Regular Board Meeting: Thursday, September 10, 2026 at 6:00PM

XIV. Adjourn Public Session/End Meeting – 6:35PM

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			