

EMPOWERMENT ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
Thursday, April 10, 2025, 7:30PM
240 Ege Avenue
Jersey City, New Jersey 07304

MINUTES

A. Call to Order

B. Welcome

C. Roll Call

Present M. Zaslower, T. Gallagher, D. Kabiawu, Lonnie Sobel, T. Ogorzalek
Absent: None

In Attendance:

Bret Schundler, Acting Head Dean
Angela Thomas, Director of Education
Richard Raschdorf, School Business Administrator
Bobby Seetaram, Director of Operations

D. Approval of March 13,2025 Minutes

Motion: T. Ogorzalek Seconded: L. Sobel

Approved: M. Zaslower, T. Gallagher, D. Kabiawu, L. Sobel, T. Ogorzalek
Absent: None

E. Policies

Motion: L. Sobel Seconded: M. Zaslower

Roll Call Vote for Item 1

Approved: M. Zaslower, T. Gallagher, D. Kabiawu, L. Sobel, T. Ogorzalek
Absent: None

1. **25-04-10-01 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees approves the following Policies for Federal Awards/Funds Internal Controls:
 - a. Mandatory Disclosures
 - b. Allowability of Costs
2. **25-04-10-02 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees approves the following Policies for EA Policy Commitment Appreciation Increments

F. Human Resources

Motion: D. Kabiawu Seconded: T. Gallagher

Roll Call Vote for Items 1-10

Approved: M. Zaslower, T. Gallagher, D. Kabiawu, L. Sobel, T. Ogorzalek

Absent: None

1. **25-04-10-03 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees approves of the SY26 New Hires effective per Start Date noted on Appendix A, Schedule 1.
2. **25-04-10-04 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees approves of the SY26 New Hires effective per Start Date noted on Appendix A, Schedule 2.
3. **25-04-10-05 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees approves of the SY25 Stipends effective per Start Date noted on Appendix A, Schedule 3.
4. **25-04-10-06 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees approves the salaries/stipends of the employees listed per Appendix A, Schedule 4 be paid with Title IA Funds.
5. **25-04-10-07 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees approves the Retirements, Resignations and Terminations of employees listed per Appendix A, Schedule 5.
6. **25-04-10-08 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees approves of the SY26 Contract Renewal Terms and New Hire Offer Scales.
7. **25-04-10-09 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees approves SY26 Compensation for Administration and Operation Personnel on Appendix B, Schedule 1.
8. **25-04-10-10 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees approves SY26 Compensation for Administration and Operation Personnel on Appendix B, Schedule 1.
9. **25-04-10-11 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees approves SY26 Compensation for Instructional Staff on Appendix C, Schedule 1.
10. **25-04-10-12 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees approves a SY25 Budget up to \$25,000 to continue the Middle School AfterSchool Clubs and Homework Help Programs.

G. Business

Motion: T. Gallagher Seconded: D. Kabiawu

Roll Call Vote for Items 1-16

Approved: M. Zaslower, T. Gallagher, D. Kabiawu, L. Sobel, T. Ogorzalek

Absent: None

1. **25-04-10-13 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees approves the Payment of Claims in the amount \$587,786.05 for the period 4/02/25 - 05/01/25
2. **25-04-10-14 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees authorizes the School Business Administrator to fund the Payrolls of April 15, 2025, for \$850,000 and April 30, 2025, for \$850,000, respectively. Employer Taxes are included in each Payroll.
3. **25-04-10-15 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees approves the Board Secretary Report for March 2025
4. **25-04-10-16 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees approves the SY25 Treasurer's Report for March 2025.
5. **25-04-10-17 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees approves the expenditure for SY26 from 1. Nickerson NY, LLC to furnish & install 48 triple tier lockers. Cost: \$44,554.76
6. **25-04-10-18 Resolved**, The EA Board of Trustees approves the expenditure for SY26 from Educational Data Services for License & Maintenance Fees for Supply Procurement System. Cost: \$6,675.
7. **25-04-10-19 Resolved**, the EA Board of Trustees approves the expenditure for SY26 from SchoolMint for a Classroom Observation & Teacher Feedback Platform. Cost: \$14,089.95.
8. **25-04-10-20 Resolved**, the EA Board of Trustees approves the expenditure for SY26 from DeansList for Family Engagement, Classroom Behavior, Attendance Platform. Cost: \$20,500.
9. **25-04-10-21 Resolved**, the EA Board of Trustees approves the expenditure for SY26 from Success for All Foundation for Kinder Phonics and fast Track Phonics Training. Cost: \$7,600
10. **25-04-10-22 Resolved**, the EA Board of Trustees authorizes the School Business Administrator to enter into an agreement with Sensory kids & Social Minds for Speech Therapy Services effective February 10,2025 through term ending at the end of SY25.
11. **25-04-10-23 Resolved**, the EA Board of Trustees approves the expenditure for SY25 from Impact Fire Services, LLC for the installation of a Fire Sprinkler System in the modular classrooms at the High School. Cost: 30,793.
12. **24-04-10-24 Resolved**, the EA Board of Trustees approves the expenditure for SY25 from Altek Business Systems for a Epson Workforce Enterprise Printer. Cost: \$8,538
13. **24-04-10-25 Resolved**, the EA Board of Trustees approves the expenditure for SY25 for the rental of two buses from Panorama Tours for the 8th Grade trip to Hershey Park. Cost: \$4,950.
14. **25-04-10-26 Resolved**, the EA Board of Trustees approves the expenditure for SY25 to Jays Uniforms for the cost for T-Shirts with embroidery for the cost of \$5,242 for the Teen Summit on 4/16/25 and for the cost of \$6,000 for Empower Day on 4/17/25.

15. **24-04-10-27** Resolved, the EA Board of Trustees approves the expenditure for SY25 to SchoolMint for Classroom Observation and Teacher Feedback Platform. Annual Cost \$1717,146.50
16. **24-04-10-28** Resolved, the EA Board of Trustees authorizes the Lead Person to execute the certification of “Legal Obligations Undertaken in Exchange for Receiving Federal Financial Assistance and Request for Certification under Title VI and *SFFA v. Harvard*.”