

Minutes of the Lawrence Alliance for Education Board – LAE

The Lawrence Alliance for Education Board meeting was held in person at the South Lawrence East Educational Complex Auditorium with the following members present Patricia Mariano, Chair, Lawrence Alliance for Education/School Committee member, Julia Silverio, Silverio Insurance, Dr. Noemi Custodia-Lora, Vice President of NECC Lawrence Campus and Maria Moeller, CEO, The Community Group. Jessica Andors, Executive Director for the Lawrence Community Works arrived at 6:15pm. Absent, Mayor Brian DePeña.

Also in person, was Superintendent Cynthia Paris and Maria Cruz, Recording Secretary for this meeting.

Chair, Ms. Patricia Mariano, called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. The Chair invited Homayoun Maali to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair, Ms. Patricia Mariano welcomed new student representative Luis Marroquin and asked Superintendent Paris to introduce him to the board by reciting his letter of interest. Superintendent also stated that Mr. Marroquin participates in the Superintendent’s Student Council. Julia Silverio welcomed Luis and hoped that he would come back and serve his community in the future.

VOTED: To confirm Luis Marroquin as the student representative for the LAE Board.

VOTE: Upon the motion made by the Chair Patricia Mariano; So move by Julia Silverio;
Seconded by Dr. Noemi Custodia Lora.

The Vote Yes - Maria Moeller
Yes - Dr. Noemi Custodia Lora
Absent - Jessica Andors
Yes - Julia Silverio
Yes - Patricia Mariano

Motion Passes

Chair, Ms. Patricia Mariano opened public comment and stated: The Board welcomes public comment at this time. We will call people in the order they signed up. Each person is permitted to speak for no more than two minutes, a bell will ring when you have thirty seconds remaining and again at the end of the two minutes. I ask that you please respect this limit. Profanity will not be tolerated. If used, we will turn off the microphone and the person will be asked to leave the meeting. I’d like to remind everyone that during public comment, the board is in listening mode and, as such, board members do not respond to comments. Written public comments may be sent by email to info@lawrenceallianceforeducation.org no later than 2:00 p.m. the afternoon of our meeting.

Public comment: Ms. Mariano called the following:

1. **Homayoun Maali**, Parent, 33 Chester Street, Lawrence. Spoke about his support for Superintendent Paris and LAE Board. Thanked Superintendent Paris and LAE Board for the new teacher contract. Spoke of his support for the LPS cafeteria workers, paraprofessional, teachers and support staff. Demanded the best contract for our cafeteria workers and paraprofessionals. Forever thankful for our Lawrence Public School teachers.

2. **Jonathan Guzman**, Vice-Chair of the Lawrence School Committee, 39 Lynn Street, Lawrence. Spoke about school committee members completing the mandated 74.5 hours training with the Massachusetts Association of School Committees (MASC) to better understand the foundation of governance of school committees. Mr. Guzman read a letter by Glenn Koocher, Executive Director of MASC that was sent to the LAE Board; attendees of the training were thoughtful and clearly committed to understanding their role in the Massachusetts public arena. Mr. Guzman asked to conduct joint School Committee/LAE Board meetings as promised by this board. He submitted a request to have this item added to the agenda, unfortunately it was not included in tonight's agenda.

Superintendent Updates:

- **Juan Rodriguez**, Chief Partnership Officer, provided an update presentation on enrollment and attendance. Highlighted were: District enrollment for the school year 2022-2023; followed by the enrollment trending to historical levels by grade level and how many students are enrolled on PK -12, including special education, multilingual learners, male, female and non binaries. He concluded with the attendance metrics on the year to date and trends from last year.
- **Kristyn Sullivan**, Assessment and Accountability. Presented the summative data report for the MCAS data which is the first release of accountability information since 2019. Ms. Sullivan explained that 2022 will be considered as the new baseline and the target setting will resume in 2023. The presentation continued with ELA, math and science scores by grade level
- **Maricel Goris**, Assistant Superintendent. Presented an update on HR which described information on current classroom vacancies, recruitment strategies, partnerships with post secondary institutions, diversity in hiring, and current staff.
- **Masiel Jordan**, Provided a detailed memo that informed how the financial picture is looking for the first quarter of this fiscal year which is currently on track.

Chair Patricia Mariano informed that Mr. Dan McCarthy was unable to attend the board meeting and had asked the board to table the item on the construction easement for the intersection improvement project at Marston and East Haverhill Street until next month.

VOTED: To table the following item until the next meeting in November: The construction easement for the intersection improvement project at the Marston and East Haverhill Street.

VOTE: Upon the motion made by Chair Patricia Mariano to move the item: The construction easement for the intersection improvement project at the Marston and East Haverhill Street; So move by Julia Silverio; Seconded by Maria Moeller

The Vote Yes - Maria Moeller
Yes - Dr. Noemi Custodia Lora
Yes - Jessica Andors
Yes - Julia Silverio
Yes - Patricia Mariano

Motion Passes

Superintendent Cynthia Paris shared an update of her progress toward her goals for the Lawrence Public Schools. Her goals are the following: Creating a vision for instruction that drive student achievement, deepening the efforts to recruit and retain cultural responsive and highly effective teachers and professional staff, deepening and expand ways in which the district engages with families and students,

maintaining effective lines of communications and collaboration with all community and city stakeholders including all board members, and city officials

VOTED: To approve the minutes of September 14, 2022

Vote: Upon the motion made by Chair Patricia Mariano to approve the minutes of September 14, 2022; So move by Julia Silverio; Seconded by Jessica Andors

The Vote

The Vote	Yes - Maria Moeller
	Yes - Dr. Noemi Custodia Lora
	Yes - Jessica Andors
	Yes - Julia Silverio
	Yes - Patricia Mariano

Motion Passes

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Vote: Upon the motion made by Chair Patricia Mariano to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m.; So move by Julia Silverio; Seconded by Jessica Andors.

The Vote	Yes - Maria Moeller
	Yes - Dr. Noemi Custodia Lora
	Yes - Jessica Andors
	Yes - Julia Silverio
	Yes - Patricia Mariano

Motion Passes

Patricia Mariano, Chair

Date:

