



Meeting of the Board of Directors of ARIZONA AUTISM CHARTER SCHOOLS, INC.

Meeting Thursday, October 30th, 2025

1414 E. Indian School Rd. Suite 200, Phoenix, AZ 85014

-----DRAFT MINUTES -----

Board Members Present:

Kerrie Mallory-Thompson, via virtual link

Matt Simon, via virtual link

Elizabeth Simonhoff Perez, via virtual link

Lorenzo Romero, via virtual link

Monica Alvarez, via virtual link

Keisha McKinnor, via virtual link

Board Members Absent:

Ross Meyer

Others Present:

Ron Harrison, interim CEO

Claudina Douglas, ADI

Paul Pucino, CFO

Hannah Moody, ADI

Annie Loftis, Executive Liaison and Director of Compliance

Dan McCarty, COO

Myla Goyne, Chief of Schools

General Matters:

A quorum was determined to be present on the virtual Zoom link. Lorenzo Romero called the meeting to order at approximately 5:01 pm. Lorenzo Romero called for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Kerrie Mallory-Thompson made a first, and Monica Alvarez seconded the

motion. Kerrie Mallory-Thompson, Matt Simon, Elizabeth Simonhoff Perez, Lorenzo Romero, Monica Alvarez, and Keisha McKinnor all approved the agenda, and the motion passed.

Public Comment:

Lorenzo Romero asked if any members of the public were present for comment in person or on the Zoom virtual link. No members of the public were present on Zoom or in person.

Board Meeting Minutes:

Lorenzo Romero then moved to the next portion of the meeting, which was the board meeting minutes. He asked if all the board members had a moment to review the minutes sent out previously. They said they did.

Lorenzo Romero asked for a motion to approve the minutes from October 14th, 2025. Monica Alvarez made a first, and Kerrie Mallory-Thompson made a second. Kerrie Mallory-Thompson, Matt Simon, Elizabeth Simonhoff Perez, Lorenzo Romero, Monica Alvarez, and Keisha McKinnor all approved the minutes, and the motion passed.

Financials:

Lorenzo Romero moved to the financial portion of the meeting and turned the meeting over to Paul Pucino, who shared the following information:

For the period of July through September, revenue exceeded the budget by \$100,000. Expenses were below budget by \$355,000. Staffing was slightly below budget at 477 versus 479. Enrollment was above budget at 1,073 versus 1,068. Net income during the period was \$527,000, and \$1.3 million of cash was generated.

Actual revenue during the period was \$8.2 million, versus the budget of \$8.1 million. Total expenses were \$7.7 million versus a budget of \$8 million. Net income was \$527,000 versus the budget of \$72,000.

As of September 30, 2025, there is \$51.4 million in assets. Total liabilities and net assets were \$51.4 million.

Beginning cash was \$7.9 million, and ending cash as of September 30, 2025, was \$9.3 million. Days' cash on hand was 86.95 days. The debt service coverage ratio was a very healthy 2.33.

Lorenzo Romero asked for a motion to approve the financials. Monica Alvarez made a first, and Elizabeth Simonhoff Perez made a second. Kerrie Mallory-Thompson, Matt Simon, Elizabeth Simonhoff Perez, Lorenzo Romero, Monica Alvarez, and Keisha McKinnor all approved the financials, and the motion passed.

AZACS AI policy

Lorenzo moved to the next agenda item, which was the AZACS AI policy. Lorenzo turned the meeting over to Dan McCarty.

Dan reviewed the emerging Artificial Intelligence (AI) policy to ensure responsible, student-centered, and instructional-aligned use of AI across the organization. The review covered guidelines for staff use, student protections, data privacy requirements, and alignment with state and federal regulations. Key recommendations include establishing clear expectations for ethical and transparent AI use, providing staff training on safe and effective classroom applications, and implementing safeguards to prevent misuse while still supporting innovation. The board was briefed on the next steps, including finalizing policy language, rolling out professional development, and creating an AI team to monitor processes and ensure ongoing compliance and effectiveness. Students will be allowed to use AI with staff permission and supervision. Students cannot use AI to cheat, plagiarize, or provide inappropriate content. They will not be able to access unapproved AI platforms. They will not be allowed to use AI for harmful or unsafe purposes.

Liz commented that she will share ASU's new, evidence-based sources to help develop their own policy.

Dan states that training will be provided to all staff and students. Kerrie asked if parents would receive training, and Dan replied that once this policy is established, yes, families will receive training.

Lorenzo asked if there were any other questions, and there were none. Lorenzo called for a motion to approve the AZACS AI policy. Elizabeth Simonhoff-Perez made a first, and Kerrie Mallory-Thompson made a second. Kerrie Mallory-Thompson, Matt Simon, Elizabeth Simonhoff Perez, Lorenzo Romero, Monica Alvarez, and Keisha McKinnor all approved AZACS' AI policy, and the motion passed.

Announcements:

Lorenzo Romero moved to the announcement portion of the meeting and turned the meeting over to Annie, who shared the following:

Lorenzo then moved to the next portion of the meeting, which was announcements. He turned the meeting over to Annie.

Yes Day at Tempe Beach Park

Annie shared that Yes Day at Tempe Beach Park was a success. The AZACS dance team and AZACS choir performed.

Canyon to Cactus Fundraiser

Annie shared that the Canyon Cactus Fundraiser is fast approaching. Aneurin Minson will be arriving at the AZACS main campus on November 12th if any of the board members would like to attend.

November board meeting date change

Annie also shared that the November board meeting falls on Thanksgiving. And to consider November 20 at 5 PM. The board reviewed their calendars and agreed to meet on November 20 at 5 PM for the November board meeting.

Adjournment:

Since there were no other agenda items, Lorenzo Romero requested a motion to adjourn the board meeting.

Kerrie Mallory-Thompson made a first, and Keisha McKinnor made a second. Kerrie Mallory-Thompson, Matt Simon, Elizabeth Simonhoff Perez, Lorenzo Romero, Monica Alvarez, and Keisha McKinnor all approved adjourning the meeting, and the AZACS Board meeting ended at 5:38pm.