



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

Meeting Thursday, March 26th, 2026
1414 E. Indian School Rd. Suite 200, Phoenix AZ 85014

----- MINUTES -----

Board Members Present:

Kerrie Mallory-Thompson, via virtual link
Matt Simon, via virtual link
Lorenzo Romero, via virtual link
Keisha McKinnor, via virtual link

Board Members Absent:

Elizabeth Simonhoff-Perez
Ross Meyer
Monica Alvarez

Others Present:

Ron Harrison, AZACS Co-Founder & CEO
Paul Pucino, AZACS CFO
Myla Goyne, AZACS Chief of Schools
Claire Piper, AZACS Sr. Director of Data
Annie Loftis, AZACS Director of Compliance
Claudina Douglas, ADI
Hannah Moody, ADI

General Matters:

A quorum was determined to be present on the virtual Zoom link. Lorenzo Romero called the meeting to order at approximately 5:02 p.m. Lorenzo Romero called for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Kerrie Mallory-Thompson made a first, and Keisha McKinnor made a second motion. Kerrie Mallory-Thompson, Matt Simon, Lorenzo Romero, 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 on the Zoom virtual link or in person. There were no members of the public in person or on the virtual link.

Meeting Minutes:

Lorenzo Romero moved to the next portion of the board meeting, which was the minutes. He asked if the board had reviewed the minutes from the February 26th, 2026, board meeting. The board members indicated that they had and that there were no questions or comments. Lorenzo asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Kerrie Mallory-Thompson made a first, and Keisha McKinnor made a second motion. Kerrie Mallory-Thompson, Matt Simon, Lorenzo Romero, and Keisha McKinnor all approved the minutes.

Financials:

Lorenzo Romero then moved to the next portion of the meeting to review the YTD February financials. He turned the meeting over to Paul Pucino, who explained the following: AZACS' revenue is above plan by \$491K. AZACS expenses are below plan by \$1.6 million with lower personnel expense and lower facility and utility expenses. AZACS' staffing is above plan at 486 vs. 479 budget. AZACS' enrollment is below plan at 1,063 vs. 1,066 budget. AZACS' net income is coming in at approximately \$2.5M, with cash generated of \$2.5M and an ending cash balance of \$10.5M, above plan by \$1M. AZACS' bond covenant forecast comfortably exceeds minimum requirements.

Paul asked if there were any questions, and there were none.

Lorenzo Romero asked for a motion to approve the February 2026 Financial Statements. Kerrie Mallory-Thompson made a first motion, and Keisha McKinnor made a second motion. Kerrie Mallory-Thompson, Matt Simon, Lorenzo Romero, and Keisha McKinnor all approved the financials.

Paul then moved to an update on the Employee Retention Credit.

On March 2, AZACS was told that about 50% of claims had been approved, and the attorney was given until March 5 to respond after consulting with management. On March 5, the IRS reversed its position and denied all claims based on a recent Tennessee court decision. AZACS responded on March 13, explaining why the Tennessee case was not relevant, and on March 16, the appeals officer said she would reply in mid-April after completing training.

No action needed on the ERC update.

Mid-Year Data

Lorenzo moved to the next portion of the meeting, which was mid-year data. He turned the meeting over to Claire Piper, who shared data from the AZACS campuses.

Parent survey – 84% families completed. Instructional program satisfaction at 93%, responsiveness of teachers at 92%, and happiness of students at 92%.

For AZACS ASBCS goals:

For student engagement, all campuses are on track to meet. For Phoenix Elementary, they are on track to meet. For Phoenix Upper Campus, they are meeting. West Valley is at 44%, Tucson Elementary is at 84%, Tucson Upper Campus is at 76%. Engagement in the online elementary is at 97%, and Online High School is at 99%. Both schools are exceeding.

For the academic goals in ELA using i-ready, all campuses are either meeting or on track. For math, all campuses are on track to meet. The Tucson upper campus is slightly below. Interventions will take place to make sure that they are on track to meet.

For PEAK assessment in ELA, all campuses are on track to meet. Tucson Elementary is not on track. Interventions will take place to make sure they are on track to meet. For math, all campuses are on track to meet. Tucson Elementary is not on track. Interventions will take place to make sure they are on track to meet by the end of the school year.

For ULS, the Online campuses in ELA are all on track to meet. For math, all campuses are on track to meet.

For My Path in ELA, the Phoenix campus is on track to meet, the Tucson upper campus is on track to meet, and the online high school is succeeding in its goals. For math, all campuses are on track to meet their goals.

No action needs to be taken.

Emergency Succession Plan

Lorenzo moved to the next portion of the meeting, which was the Emergency Succession Plan. He passed the meeting over to Annie.

Annie discussed the updated plan reflecting Ron as the CEO, Myla would absorb those duties if the CEO were unable to perform, and then the executive team would support Myla.

There were no questions, and Lorenzo Romero asked for a motion to approve the Emergency Succession Plan. Kerrie Mallory-Thompson made a first motion, and Keisha McKinnor made a second motion. Kerrie Mallory-Thompson, Matt Simon, Lorenzo Romero, and Keisha McKinnor all approved the updated Emergency Succession Plan.

Announcements:

Lorenzo moved to the next portion of the meeting, which was general campus updates. Myla shared that AZACS is going through the ESEA monitoring.

Annie then shared a tax credit update where AZACS is coming in at \$109,600. And that the AZACS gala would be approaching on April 18, 2026, and we are working on securing sponsorships and finishing touches.

Adjournment:

Since there were no other agenda items, Lorenzo Romero requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kerrie Mallory-Thompson made a first, and Keisha McKinnor made a second motion. Kerrie Mallory-Thompson, Matt Simon, Lorenzo Romero, and Keisha McKinnor all approved adjourning the meeting, and the meeting ended at 5:48 pm.