

**LEAP Board of Trustees Meeting
January 29, 2025
MINUTES**

Dr. Gloria Bonilla-Santiago called the meeting to order at 5:03 pm.

Meeting called to order by _____ at _____.

Attendance:

Dr. Gloria Bonilla-Santiago
Belianis Colon
Dr. Matthew Closter
Margaret Manthe
Bette Mengesha
Dr. Donna Nickitas
Hector Nieves
Dr. Michael Palis
Margo Venable
Shaun Waters

Excused:

Dr. Anthony Lowman
Cal Maradonna
Brenda Ortiz
Dr. Yosmeriz Roman
Omar Samaniego

I. Welcome/Declaration of Compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act:

Dr. Santiago called the meeting to order and announced that it had been disseminated to the school community. Public comments can be submitted in writing via email at wandag@camden.rutgers.edu.

II. Approval of Minutes of January 25, 2025: Margo Venable presented the following resolution:

Item 1: Resolved that the Board of Trustees approve the meeting minutes of January 25, 2025, as prepared by Wanda Garcia, Board Liaison.

Seconded by Bette Menegesha

Roll Call:

	Item 1
Dr. Gloria Bonilla-Santiago	YES
Belianis Colon	YES

	Item 1
Dr. Matthew Closter	YES
Margaret Manthe	ABS
Bette Mengesha	YES
Dr. Donna Nickitas	--
Hector Nieves	--
Dr. Michael Palis	YES
Margo Venable	YES
Shaun Waters	ABNS

III. **Chairperson’s Report:** Dr. Santiago introduced Maryann Holloway and Scott Baron from Bowman Associates to present the Annual Financial Audit Report.

The report was positive, containing no findings. Dr. Santiago acknowledged the outstanding work of the auditors and the Finance staff under Mr. Durakov for conducting an excellent audit that exemplifies strong fiscal controls and internal procedures.

Hector Nieves presented item 2 for board approval.

Item 2: Whereas the LEAP Board of Trustees, in accordance with N.J.S.A.18A:23-1 must have a certified External Audit of the school’s accounts and financial transactions; and

Whereas the LEAP Board of Trustees has received the audit performed by Bowman & Company, LLP, and discussed it at its public meeting on January 29, 2025.

Be It Resolved that the LEAP Board of Trustees accept the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024 with no recommendation.

Further resolved that a summary of the Audit Report is made available to the public.

Further, it was Resolved that the Business Administrator is authorized to submit the ACFR to the NJDOE Office of Charter School.

Seconded by Margaret Manthe.

Roll Call:

	Item 2
Dr. Gloria Bonilla-Santiago	YES
Belianis Colon	YES
Dr. Matthew Closter	YES
Margaret Manthe	YES
Bette Mengesha	YES
Dr. Donna Nickitas	---
Hector Nieves	YES
Dr. Michael Palis	YES
Margo Venable	YES
Shaun Waters	YES

- Dr. Santiago highlighted the outstanding work of four teachers teaching and excellence that resulted in student growth and performance.
 1. Recognition of Outstanding Teachers with Excellence in Teaching and Learning Bonus

Dr. Mike Palis presented the following resolution:

Item 3: Resolved that the Board of Trustees, as part of its Teacher Compensation and incentive package, acknowledges the following teachers for their demonstrated excellence in teaching and learning by achieving the Median Student Growth Percentiles (mSGPs) for their students compared to other students statewide. The Median Student Growth Percentile (mSGP) is a specific metric for measuring average student progress on statewide assessments by tracking how much each student's test scores have changed relative to other students statewide with similar scores from previous years.

Stephanie Aspenburg	Teacher of Excellence	\$5,000.00
Nicole Maenner	Teacher of Excellence	\$5,000.00
Lauren Mckeown	Teacher of Excellence	\$5,000.00
Brielle Nieves	Teacher of Excellence	\$5,000.00

The board congratulates these teachers and recognizes this significant achievement, which is part of the school's ongoing effort to improve academic achievement at all levels.

Seconded by Bette Mengesha.

Roll Call:

	Item 3
Dr. Gloria Bonilla-Santiago	YES
Belianis Colon	YES
Dr. Matthew Closter	YES
Margaret Manthe	YES
Bette Mengesha	YES
Dr. Donna Nickitas	YES
Hector Nieves	ABS
Dr. Michael Palis	YES
Margo Venable	YES
Shaun Waters	YES

Dr. Santiago announced the following events:

- **Rutgers Event for LEAP Early Admits to Rutgers Camden** – February 20, 2025
- **Rutgers Event for LEAP Puerto Rico Early Admits Students** – March 25-30, 2025
- **Mark your Calendars:** Scholarship Fundraising Gala – November 21, 2025, in San Juan, PR

IV. **Operational Report:** Stephanie Rogers, COO and Lead Person, presented an operations report addressing the following areas:

- Enrollment, Recruitment and Retention
- Building Infrastructure and Maintenance
- Health Center
- Family Support/Parent Engagement
- Fire Drills and Bus Drills
- Addressing Immigration Matter School-wide

V. **Finance Committee Actions:** Margaret Manthe presented resolutions 4-19 for approval.

A. Approval of Line-Item Status Report

Item 4: Whereas, the members of the LEAP Board of Trustees, voting on this resolution, have reviewed the Board Secretary's and Monthly Financial Reports for the months of December 2024 and have consulted with the Chief Financial Officer/SBA as deemed appropriate.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the members of this Board of Trustees voting (By recorded Roll call) on this Resolution do hereby certify that based on the monthly certification of the Board's Secretary concerning "Budgetary Line Item Status" N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c) 3 no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(a) 3 and based on such report and the status of budgetary amount and expenditures as of the date of the adoption of this Resolution there appears to be at this time sufficient funds available to meet the School's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

B. LEAP Cramer Hill LLC Financials

Item 5: Resolved that the Board approve the Financial Reports for the LEAP Cramer Hill LLC for December 2024.

C. LEAP Microenterprise Financials and LEAP Health and Wellness

Item 6: Resolved that the Board approve the Financial Reports for the LEAP Microenterprise LLC and the LEAP Health Center for December 2024 as provided by the Chief Financial Officer/SBA.

D. LEAP Student Transportation

Item 7: Resolved that the Board approve the Financial Reports for the LEAP Transportation LLC for December 2024 as provided by the Chief Financial Officer/SBA.

E. Budget Transfers

Item 8: Resolved that the Board approve budget transfers for July-December 2024 as provided by the CFO/SBA.

F. Approval of Expenditure Report/Bill List

Item 9: Whereas the Business Administrator certifies that there are sufficient funds to pay bills and payroll for September through December 2024:

Resolved that the Board approve payment of bills, as follows:

**SUMMARY OF BILLS FOR THE MONTHS OF SEPTEMBER THROUGH DECEMBER 2024
CHECK AND WIRE DISBURSEMENTS**

FUND	October 2024
10 General Current Expense	\$2,020,599.17
20 Special Revenue	\$140,133.26
30 Capital Projects	\$517,750.00
60 Enterprise	\$192,515.99
90 Agency	\$570,767.37
91 Payroll	\$886,558.89
95 Student	\$0
96 Parent Council	\$0
Total Disbursements:	\$4,328,324.68

FUND	November 2024
10 General Current Expense	\$2,745,069.46
20 Special Revenue	\$269,749.99
30 Capital Projects	\$0
60 Enterprise	\$0
90 Agency	\$620,991.06
91 Payroll	\$924,449.94
95 Student	\$500
96 Parent Council	\$3563
Total Disbursements:	\$4,564,323.45

FUND	December 2024
10 General Current Expense	\$2,035,771.24
20 Special Revenue	\$218,219.11
30 Capital Projects	\$0
60 Enterprise	\$180,220.82
90 Agency	\$613,764.12
91 Payroll	\$916,163.66
95 Student	\$0
96 Parent Council	\$874.5
Total Disbursements:	\$3,965,013.45

G. Contracts and Financial Transactions

- Item 10:** Move that the Board approve the revised 2024-25 School Year Budget effective 01/01/2025 and submit it to the NJDOE Office of Charter Schools.
- Item 11:** Resolved that the Board authorizes the addition of the resolution adopted on March 25, 2021, for LEAP Social Enterprise.: “The amount of mortgage shall be capped at \$1,000,000.”
- Item 12:** Resolved that the Board accept \$210,217 FY25 Charter Facilities funds from State of NJ.
- Item 13:** Resolved that the Board accept \$3000 for GENERAL OPERATING SUPPORT and a total of \$3000 for SPECIAL PROJECT SUPPORT for a Grand Total of \$6000 from Camden County College FY25 Local Arts Program grant to support the advancement of public knowledge and preservation of New Jersey history.
- Item 14:** Resolved that the Board accept \$2500 for GOS in FY25 and a total of \$2500 for SPECIAL PROJECT SUPPORT for a Grand Total of \$5000 from the County History Partnership Program grant dollars to support the advancement of public knowledge and preservation of New Jersey history.
- Item 15:** Resolved that the Board approve the settlement of M.K CAM-2558-23 in the amount of \$55,000.
- Item 16:** Resolved that the Board approve the following Resolution Authorizing to Enter into NJSBA’s Cooperative Pricing Agreement (E8801-ACESCPS),

WHEREAS, the Public School Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4.1a, authorizes district boards of education to competitively contract for the procurement of proprietary computer software and services; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey School Boards' Association (NJSBA), N.J.S.A. 18A:6-45 et. seq., on behalf of its membership has competitively contracted to procure on an aggregated basis digital and electronic products and services, E-Rate Consulting and Processing Services, and other technology products and programs to enhance Members readiness for Future Ready Schools, as well as energy aggregation services, supplies and materials, time and materials; and such other services and products as two or more participating local boards in the system agree can be purchased on a cooperative basis; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-11 authorizes local district boards of education to enter into cooperative pricing agreements; and

WHEREAS, the NJSBA CPS program has offered voluntary participation in a cooperative pricing system for the aggregate purchase of products and services; and

WHEREAS, the LEAP Academy University Charter School(LEAP) in the county of Camden, State of New Jersey, desires to participate in the NJSBA TEC Cooperative Pricing System.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on the January 29, 2025 by the LEAP board, county of Camden, State of New Jersey, as follows:

TITLE

This RESOLUTION shall be known and may be cited as the “NJSBA Cooperative Pricing Resolution of the LEAP board.”

AUTHORITY

Pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-11, Yusein Durakov, SBA is hereby authorized to enter into the NJSBA TEC Cooperative Pricing System Agreement.

CONTRACTING UNIT

The New Jersey School Boards Association shall be responsible for complying with the “Public School Contracts Law,” N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq., and all other applicable laws in connection with the preparation, bidding, negotiation and execution of contracts in connection with the NJSBA Cooperative Pricing System.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage.

Item 17: Resolved that the Board approve the purchase of electricity and natural gas, as follows:

WHEREAS, the Alliance For Competitive Energy Services (hereinafter referred to as “ACES”), an alliance composed of the New Jersey School Boards Association (hereinafter referred to as “NJSBA”), the New Jersey Association of School Administrators, and the New Jersey Association of School Business Officials, will from time to time during the

Effective Period as defined below solicit bids from electric power suppliers for electric generation services through an energy aggregation program in which NJSBA will act as Lead Agency of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System #E8801-ACESCPS in accordance with the “Public School Contracts Law”, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq., and the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act, N.J.S.A. 48:3-49 et seq. (“EDECA”) and the regulations promulgated thereunder; and

WHEREAS, LEAP is a Participating member of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System and is eligible thereby to obtain electric and natural gas generation services for its own use through one or more contracts to be awarded to electric power suppliers following said bids for electric generation services pursuant to the aggregation program; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency will from time to time during the Effective Period (from date of adoption through May, 2028 hereinafter referred to as “Effective Period”) issue one or more Requests for Bids for electric generation services on behalf of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System pursuant to the Public School Contracts Law and EDECA; and

WHEREAS, due to significant volatility and the potential for price increases in the wholesale electric market, Participating Members will preauthorize the Lead Agency to award contracts for Electric Generation Service in each service territory to one or more electric power suppliers that submit bids which are reasonably forecasted to provide estimated savings to the Participating Member based upon its previous electric usage and utility provided Basic Generation Service rates; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency will only award contracts for said electric generation services to electric power suppliers that submit bids with pricing reasonably estimated to be lower than the utility-provided basic generation service; and

WHEREAS, the District agrees to purchase all electric power needed for its own use (exclusive of on-site electric generation sources) during the Effective Period through any electric power supplier(s) awarded a contract, it being understood that the term of any one contract shall be subject to the provisions of Public School Contracts Law;

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency will notify the Department of Community Affairs’ Division of Local Government Services by mail prior to the issuance a Request for Bids for electric generation services, with the understanding that if the Division of Local Government Services does not respond within 10 business days, it will be deemed to have approved the issuance of the Request for Bids or the Request for Rebids.

NOW, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the District binds itself to the ACES Cooperative Pricing System #E8801-ACESCPS to purchase all electric/gas power needed for its own use (exclusive of on-site electric generation sources) during the Effective Period from the electric power supplier or suppliers awarded a contract for electric generation services by the Lead Agency; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lead Agency of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System is hereby authorized to execute a master performance agreement that obligates the district to purchase electricity at the terms and conditions stated therein with a third-party supplier or suppliers who have been awarded the contract or contracts by the Lead Agency on behalf of the participating members of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System #E8801-ACESCPS (or any CPS number to be assigned in the future), and provided further that all such contracts shall be at prices reasonably forecast and estimated by the Lead Agency to provide savings to the Districts relative to the price charged for basic generation service by the electric public utility that would otherwise provide such service; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that ACES is authorized to continue to bid to obtain electric generation services at any time during the Effective Period on behalf of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System including, for example, a rebid if energy market conditions do not initially lead to a successful bid, on additional dates to be determined by the Lead Agency; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage. The authorization provided to the NJSBA pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Laws (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5)), and the Local Public and Public School Contracts Laws Administrative Code (N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.1 et seq.) shall be valid until May, 2028 (the Effective Period) at which time the Cooperative Pricing System will be subject to renewal. Any rescission or expiration of this resolution shall not affect any Agreements entered into prior to such rescission or expiration.

Item 18: Resolved that the Board award the following contracts for 2024-2025 school year.

Vendor	Description of Services	Contract
MULTI-TEMP MECHANICAL INC	a. SUPPLY&INSTALL 30 FAUCETS @639COOPER b. 130, room#310 new outlets	a. \$22,963 b. \$3583.68 State of NJ CONTRACT T1372
TPR Education, LLC	a. SAT Prep Service, RFP25-2, PAID 100% W fed funds/TITLE I	a. \$8,550/section, \$51,000total
Bluum USA, INC	a. 130Laptops for college courses PAID 100% W fed funds/TITLE I, under the 01-150 Omnia(NCPA) COOP contract	b. \$138,449

H. Student Recruitment, Retention, and Enrollment

Item 19: Resolved that the board re-institute the school-based committee for student recruitment, enrollment, and retention as directed in February 2024 to address student enrollment issues. The committee has been appointed, and the board requests that it be revised to include the Director’s Family support, School Principals, College Access, and parent representatives from the Parents Council.

Further, it was resolved that this committee will report monthly to the Finance Committee regarding progress.

**Seconded by Hector Nieves.
Roll Call**

	Item 4	Item 5	Item 6	Item 7	Item 8	Item 9	Item 10	Item 11	Item 12	Item 13	Item 14	Item 15	Item 16	Item 17	Item 18	Item 19
Dr. Gloria Bonilla-Santiago	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES ABS on payments to Rutgers and Metz	YES	ABS	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Dr. Matthew Closter	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Belianis Colon	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Margaret Manthe	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Bette Mengesha	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Dr. Donna Nickitas	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES ABS on payments to Rutgers	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Hector Nieves	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	ABS	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Dr. Michael Palis	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES ABS on payments to Rutgers	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Margo Venable	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Shaun Waters	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

VI. Personnel Committee: Bette Mengesha presented items 20-24 for Board approval.

A. New Appointments

Item 20: Resolved that the Board appoints the following individuals for employment for 24-25:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Building Location</u>	<u>Contract/Start</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Nicholas Clark	Teacher Fellow -1st Grade	1/7/25	\$45,000.00
Chioma Acholonu	Teacher Fellow -3rd Grade	1/8/25	\$45,000.00
Hasheem Hend	School Social Worker -CST	TBD	\$60,000.00
Shana Miller	Teacher Fellow - Kindergarten	1/7/25	\$45,000.00
Andrew Gessman	Teacher of ESL-Middle School	1/7/25	\$60,000.00
Victoria DeFrance	Teacher of 4th Grade	1/7/25	\$75,000.00
Elijah Mansaray	Teacher Fellow-Math	1/20/25	\$45,000.00

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position/Building Location</u>	<u>Contract/Start</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Michelle Gambino	CST Counselor	1/7/25	\$40.00 per hour
George Maier	Teacher of 4th Grade SPED	12/9/24	\$70,000.00
William Malone	Teacher of Math -Middle School	1/13/24	\$82,000.00
Alana Johnston	Teacher of Math -Middle School	2/3/25	\$82,000.00
Vanessa Garcia	Office Manager STEM	1/7/25	\$35,000.00
Naas Yancy	Director of 21st Century Extended Day	1/27/25	\$65,000.00
Dr. Kwanza Cogdell	Principal-High School	1/13/25	\$140,000.00

B. FMLA

Item 21: Resolved that the Board approves the following requests for FMLA:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Period</u>
Aurea Camacho	Custodian	12/18/2024-1/21/2025
Alicia Crump	Teacher of Elementary	11/11/2024-12/9/2024

C. Position Change/Salary Adjustments

Item 22: Resolved that the Board approves the following salary adjustments:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Previous Title/Postion</u> <u>New Postion/Title</u>	<u>to</u>	<u>Salary</u> <u>Current</u>	<u>New Salary</u>	<u>Effective</u> <u>Day</u>
Shani Miller	Teacher Fellow	Instructional Teacher	\$45,000.00	\$55,000.00	1/15/25
Lorna Quintana	Ofc Manager	Coordinator of Parental Engagement, Recruitment and Retention	\$37,131.00	\$50,000.00	2/1/25
Stephanie Weaver-Rogers	COO/Lead Person	Salary Adjustment	\$180,00.00	\$180,000.00	2/1/25
Yessica Cordero De Sanchez	PT Hourly Bus Driver	Salaried Bus Driver-(no benefits)	\$30.00 per hour	\$40,000.00	2/1/25
Syka Jimenez	PT Hourly Bus Driver	Salaried Bus Driver-(no benefits)	\$30.00 per hour	\$40,000.00	2/1/25
Dilenia Jiminez Hiciano	PT Hourly Bus Driver	Salaried Bus Driver-(no benefits)	\$30.00 per hour	\$40,000.00	2/1/25
Rosa Nunez	PT Hourly Bus Driver	Salaried Bus Driver-(no benefits)	\$30.00 per hour	\$40,000.00	2/1/25

<u>Name</u>	<u>Previous Title/Postion</u>	<u>to</u>	<u>Salary Current</u>	<u>New Salary</u>	<u>Effective Day</u>
Maria Peralta Fernandez	PT Hourly Bus Driver	Salaried Bus Driver-(no benefits)	\$30.00 per hour	\$40,000.00	2/1/25
Xiomara Ruiz Nazario	PT Hourly Bus Driver	Salaried Bus Driver-(no benefits)	\$30.00 per hour	\$40,000.00	2/1/25
David Rios	PT Hourly Bus Driver	Salaried Bus Driver-(no benefits)	\$30.00 per hour	\$40,000.00	2/1/25
Jennyliz Soto	PT Hourly Bus Driver	Salaried Bus Driver-(no benefits)	\$30.00 per hour	\$40,000.00	2/1/25

D. Resignations

Item 23: Resolved that the Board accepts the following resignations/termination:

Audrey Deren	5th Grade Math and Science Teacher	11/13/24
Maisha Bryant	1st Grade Teacher	2/11/25
Samema White	Nurse - Health Center	1/21/25

Approval of Stipend for Special Assignments

Item 24: Resolved that the board approves the following stipends for personnel assigned co-curricular duties:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Period</u>	<u>Compensation</u>
Michael Dinuova	Athletics Director	School year 24-25	\$20,000.00
Emily Antrilli	Yearbook Advisor	School year 24-25	\$2,500.00
Emmanuelle Olius	Teacher Leader 2	School year 24-25	\$5,000.00
Patrick Gartland	Teacher Leader 1	School year 24-25	\$5,000.00
Melvin Monte	Teacher Leader 2	Jan - June 25	\$3,000.00
Desurae Council	Project Invent	School year 24-25	\$45.00 per hour
Ryan Koch	Sports/Gaming Club	School year 24-25	\$45.00 per hour
Scott Davis	Special Problems in Science Rutgers Science Fair Club	School year 24-25	\$45.00 per hour
Raymond Rossi	Soccer Club	School year 24-25	\$45.00 per hour
Jonathan Gorman	Flag Football	School year 24-25	\$45.00 per hour
Jonathan Hess	Middle School Band Clun	School year 24-25	\$45.00 per hour
Darren Hagerman	Middle School Girls Volleyball	School year 24-25	\$45.00 per hour
Jasmine Rivera	Cheer Coach	School year 24-25	\$45.00 per hour
Taasha Edwards-Shakur	Jersey Stem Girls Gaming	School year 24-25	\$45.00 per hour
Brielle Nieves	Growing Great Writers	School year 24-25	\$45.00 per hour

Name	Assignment	Period	Compensation
Rekiesha Weir	Rutgers Black Box Club	School year 24-25	\$45.00 per hour
Divya Chohan	Title 1	School year 24-25	\$45.00 per hour
Caroline Conners	Title 1	School year 24-25	\$45.00 per hour
Joan Rodriguez	Title 1	School year 24-25	\$25.00 per hour
Lindsay Minton-Jack	Title 1	School year 24-25	\$45.00 per hour
Gwendolyn Soltys	Title 1	School year 24-25	\$45.00 per hour
Darla Merrill	Title 1	School year 24-25	\$45.00 per hour
Maria Orlina	Title 1	School year 24-25	\$45.00 per hour
Edwin Dejesus	Title 1	School year 24-25	\$25.00 per hour
Dory Palmera	Title 1	School year 24-25	\$25.00 per hour
Emmanuelle Olius	Title 1	School year 24-25	\$45.00 per hour
Tamia Wilkerson	Title 1	School year 24-25	\$45.00 per hour
Silva Vasquez	Title 1	School year 24-25	\$45.00 per hour
Griseida Dejesus	Title 1	School year 24-25	\$25.00 per hour
Emris Serje	Title 1	School year 24-25	\$35.00 per hour
Marianna Perez	Title 1	School year 24-25	\$25.00 per hour
Jennifer Quinn	Title 1	School year 24-25	\$45.00 per hour
Bartola Rivera Zapata	Title 1	School year 24-25	\$25.00 per hour
Mildred Rojas	Title 1	School year 24-25	\$25.00 per hour
Sofia Zoquiél	Title 1	School year 24-25	\$25.00 per hour
Sylvia Hunt	CCLC	School year 24-25	\$25.00 per hour
Cristin McCreesh	CCLC	School year 24-25	\$45.00 per hour
Eliot Rojas	CCLC	School year 24-25	\$25.00 per hour
Jessica Rojas	CCLC	School year 24-25	\$35.00 per hour
Jasmine Rivera	CCLC	School year 24-25	\$25.00 per hour
Grace Begley	CCLC	School year 24-25	\$25.00 per hour
Elias Gardener	CCLC	School year 24-25	\$45.00 per hour
Jonathan Hess	CCLC	School year 24-25	\$45.00 per hour
Alexandra Keefe	CCLC	School year 24-25	\$45.00 per hour
Kenise Phillips	CCLC	School year 24-25	\$45.00 per hour
Abdul Qayyum	CCLC	School year 24-25	\$45.00 per hour
Samantha Rodriguez	CCLC	School year 24-25	\$45.00 per hour

Seconded by Hector Nieves.

Roll Call:

	Item 20	Item 21	Item 22	Item 23	Item 24
Dr. Gloria Bonilla-Santiago	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Dr. Matthew Closter	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Belianis Colon	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Margaret Manthe	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Bette Mengesha	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

	Item 20	Item 21	Item 22	Item 23	Item 24
Hector Nieves	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Dr. Donna Nickitas	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Dr. Michael Palis	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Margo Venable	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Shaun Waters	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

VIII. Curriculum Committee: Dr. Matt Closter presented items 25-29 for Board approval.

A. Action Items

Item 25: Resolved that the Board approves the Integration of the following themes on the curriculum in alignment with the NJ Jersey Standards:

- ⇒ Culture and Identity: This theme aligns with ELA and History standards, emphasizing diverse perspectives and cultural experiences. (Amistad, Holocaust, AAPI requirements)
- ⇒ Innovation and Technology: This theme strongly supports Math and Science standards, particularly those related to data analysis, problem-solving, and engineering design. Programs like the Data Science club and Project Invent provide hands-on experiences that reinforce these standards.
- ⇒ Arts Integration: While primarily aligned with Visual and Performing Arts standards, this theme also supports ELA standards, especially in areas of presentation and creative expression. The Artist in Residency Program and theater performances develop students' ability to interpret and present information effectively.
- ⇒ Environmental Consciousness/Climate Awareness: This theme directly supports Science standards related to environmental impact and sustainability. It also provides real-world contexts for Math (data analysis of environmental trends) and History (studying the impact of human activities on the environment over time) and aligns with state climate standards.

Item 26: Resolved that the Board approves the following field trips per the attached.

Field Trips Requestor Departure & Return Time	Grade Level	Date of Trip	Cost	Student Learning Standard Aligned	Purpose of the Trip	Number of Students attending
<p>Jefferson University 4201 Henry Ave Philadelphia, PA 19144 Julia Kogan/Ted Johnson 9am – 1:45pm</p>	11 th	1/9/2024	\$0	Intended for integration throughout all k-12 academic and technical content areas, the 2020 NJ student learning standards career readiness, life literacies and key skills (NJSLSCLKS) provides the framework for students to learn the concepts, skills and practices essential to the successful navigation of career exploration and preparation, personal finances and digital literacy.	To see Jefferson University East Falls campus and talk to the campus admissions about going to this university and specifically about their medical arts program.	60
<p>Drexel University Tour 3141 Chestnut St Philadelphia, PA 19104 Julia Kogan/Ted Johnson 8:45am – 1:15pm</p>	11 th	2/5/25	\$0	Career Readiness, Life Literacies and key skills (NJSLS-CLKS) provides the framework for students to learn the concepts, skills, and practices essential to the successful navigation of career exploration and preparation, personal finances and digital literacy.	To see Drexel University and talk to the campus admissions about going to this university and specifically about their business, medial, arts program	60
<p>Temple University Liacourgs Center 1776 N. Broad St Philadelphia, PA 19121 Michael DiNuova 9am – 2:45pm</p>	6-12	2/5/2025	\$462.00	This ties into standard 9.2 career awareness, exploration, preparation and training. It will get the girls thinking of the many opportunities they have in the future even if they don't want to play a sport.	Celebrate National women in sports day Temple women basketball is hosting schools & recognizing Girls/Women in sports	60

Field Trips						Number of Students attending
Requestor	Grade Level	Date of Trip	Cost	Student Learning Standard Aligned	Purpose of the Trip	
Departure & Return Time						
Subaru Park Philadelphia Union Stadium 2501 Seaport Dr. Chester, PA Donna Roberts 8:30am – 2:30pm	2-3	05/30/25	\$0	Health and Wellness	Dental Care	240
Georgetown University 3700 O Street NW Washington, DC 20057 Julia Kogan/Ted Johnson 8am – 4pm	11 th	2/19/25	\$0	The positive impact will be to inspire students to perform better in order to attend college. Students need to be exposed and excited for the future of college life and achievement.	To see the university and talk to the campus admissions about going to this university, and specifically about their business, medical, arts program	60
Franklin Institute 222Nth 20 th Street Philadelphia, PA 19103 Samantha Rodriguez (Extended Day) 7:45am – 3pm	K-8	02/08/25	\$6500	The trip aligns with New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards by supporting standards in science, technology, and social studies. Specifically, it addresses: Science (5-PS1, 5-PS2) engaging with hands on exhibits.	The purpose is to foster family and community connections while providing students with engaging, hands-on learning experiences that support their holistic development.	250
Adventure Aquarium 1 Riverside Drive Camden, NJ 08103 Amanda Carpenter 10am – 1:30pm	2 nd	02/07/25	\$2,337.47	This activity ties into the NJSLs: W.2.7, W.W.8, 2-LS4-1, 2-LS4.D, Ess.2C. The visit connects with the science standards by providing students with the opportunity to explore	To explore habitats and animal life.	121

Field Trips Requestor Departure & Return Time	Grade Level	Date of Trip	Cost	Student Learning Standard Aligned	Purpose of the Trip	Number of Students attending
Amanda Carpenter				ecosystems, habitats, and animal behavior.		
Brandywine Battlefield 1491 Baltimore Pike Chadds Ford, PA 19317 8am – 2:30pm Joanne Orio	5 th	3/17/25	\$1585.00	5H.12-summarize political, economic and social aspects of colonial life in the 13 colonies. 5H2.1 contributions of founding fathers to development of our country and 5H 13-analyze impact of major conflicts battles, and wars on development of our nation through reconstruction	To increase students' knowledge of American history and battles fought for freedom.	135
Philadelphia Zoo 3400 W. Girard Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19104 9:30am – 1:30pm Lindsay Minton- Jack	1 st	4/30/25	\$2,130	1.3.PE Observe and describe the properties of objects, materials and living things. 1.4.PE Understand basic needs of living things and how they interact with their environment. 1.4.2.C.1 Identify the characteristics of living things, such as food, air, Water and shelter.	To expose the students to animals in their natural habitats which will go along with our science unit on animal habitats and diorama project.	130
Philadelphia Zoo 3400 W. Girard Ave Philadelphia, PA 19104 May 9, 2025 9am – 1:30pm Sarah Badiali Melissa Cloherty	K	5/9/25	\$2160	Student will observe and describe patterns of how animals meet their needs K-LS1-1 and understand the relationship between living things and their efforts and impact of habitat changes on animals.	To explore animal species in their habitat	132

Field Trips Requestor Departure & Return Time	Grade Level	Date of Trip	Cost	Student Learning Standard Aligned	Purpose of the Trip	Number of Students attending
<p>Storybook Land</p> <p>6415 E. Black Horse Pk Egg Harbor Twp, NJ 08023</p> <p>8:30am – 1pm</p> <p>Sarah Badiali</p> <p>Melissa Cloherty</p>	K	6/5/25	\$3024	Students will engage with story-themed attractions that reinforce foundational reading and comprehension skills (NJSLs-ELA: RF.K.3 knowledge of letter sound relationships; RL.K.2	Students will explore how stories can be turned into visual representations, helping them connect with material in a more engaging and memorable way.	132
<p>NJ National College NACAS Fair</p> <p>97 Sunfield Ave Edison, NJ 08837</p> <p>8am—1pm</p> <p>Julia Kogan/Ted Johnson</p>	11 th	3/4/2025	\$0	Will prepare students for Career Readiness, Life Literacies & Key Skills Rapid advancements in technology and subsequent changes in the economy have created opportunities for individuals to compete and connect on a global scale.	To see Temple University and talk to the campus admissions about going to different universities in the US. Students will learn about various majors such as business, medical and arts program.	80
<p>Funplex</p> <p>3320-24 Rt 38 MT. Laurel NJ 08054</p> <p>9:30am – 2:30pm</p> <p>Summer Coles</p>	5 th	6/11/25	\$3,516	A field trip to the Funplex provides fifth grade students with a dynamic learning experience that supports New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLs) across multiple subjects. 5.NJ.B.4, 5.MD.B.2)	This trip will help students by providing hands on learning experiences that reinforce classroom concepts. By participating in activities such as calculating ride times and exploring the science behind motion, force, and energy, students will deepen their understanding of math and science in a real world context.	120

Item 27: Resolved that the Board authorizes the following staff for participation in PD opportunities as listed below:

NAME	NAME OF WORKSHOP/ SEMINAR	ACADEMIC/ OPERATIONAL RATIONALE	LOCATIO N	DATE (S) & TIME	COST
Seda Gucuyener	NJTESOL	As a reflection on the operational value would be that with the new insights into best practices, the overall quality of my instructional abilities will enhance which would also help to achieve higher academic scores.	New Brunswick, NJ	5/21/2025-5/22/2025	\$450.00 Registration Fee
Christine Skalka	Leading Early Literacy Instruction, Intervention and Assessment	Learn about the new laws and policies surrounding literacy instruction for K-3 schools and students.	FEA 12 Centre Drive Monroe, NJ	1/31/2025	\$150.00 Registration Fee
Samantha Rodriguez	Legal One Special Education Law Advanced Cert of Mastery	This will strengthen my ability to navigate complex legal requirements related to special education, minimizing potential risks and ensuring compliance with state and federal regulations.	Self-Faced-Virtual-12 Centre Drive - Monroe TWP, NJ 08831	1/31-2/21/2025 2/24 3/10	\$750 (FEA)
Samantha Rodriguez	Meet individual Needs in the classroom	This will enhance my capacity to support curriculum implementation by equipping me with actionable strategies to address varying student needs, leading to more effective teaching practices across classrooms.	12 Centre Drive, Monroe NJ 08831	02/20/2025	\$ 150 (FEA)

NAME	NAME OF WORKSHOP/ SEMINAR	ACADEMIC/ OPERATIONAL RATIONALE	LOCATIO N	DATE (S) & TIME	COST
Samantha Rodriguez	School Superintendent Assessment PREP sessions	This course is a critical investment in operational excellence, providing the knowledge and skills necessary to address complex challenges within the district.		3/3/2025-03/31/2025 5:30-8:30pm	\$550 (FEA)
Christine Skalka	The Balancing Act of New Jersey Educators- Part 2 Series	Reading is a key skills that students need to not only succeed in the classroom but also later in life when they pursue higher education and careers. Literacy skills also play a crucial role in all subject areas, including math.	FEA	2/6/25 – 2/13/2025	\$0

Approval of Project with Professor Alicea’s Class Project

Item 28: Resolved that the board authorizes participation in the project with Rutgers Professor Alicea, focusing on understanding the public school landscape in Camden, NJ. LEAP students will represent the charter school sector.

Further resolved that the Board designate Jozian Molina as the liaison for this project.

Seconded by Dr. Donna Nickitas.

Roll Call:

	Item 25	Item 26	Item 27	Item 28
Dr. Gloria Bonilla-Santiago	YES	YES	YES	YES
Dr. Matthew Closter	YES	YES	YES	YES
Belianis Colon	YES	YES	YES	YES
Margaret Manthe	YES	YES	YES	YES
Bette Mengesha	YES	YES	YES	YES
Hector Nieves	YES	YES	YES	YES
Dr. Donna Nickitas	YES	YES	YES	YES
Dr. Michael Palis	YES	YES	YES	YES

	Item 25	Item 26	Item 27	Item 28
Margo Venable	YES	YES	YES	YES
Shaun Waters				

B. Academic Progress Report – Jozian Molina, CAO, Nicole Kessler, CTL, Dr. Dawn Fecherra (Chief of STEM)

IX. Public Comment

Public Comment to be submitted via email to wandag@camden.rutgers.edu

X. Meeting Adjourn: Hector Nieves presented a motion to adjourn.

Seconded by Margo Venable.

Roll Call:

	Item 29
Dr. Gloria Bonilla-Santiago	YES
Dr. Matthew Closter	YES
Belianis Colon	YES
Margaret Manthe	YES
Bette Mengesha	YES
Hector Nieves	YES
Dr. Donna Nickitas	YES
Dr. Michael Palis	YES
Margo Venable	YES
Dawn Waters	YES

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Dr. Wanda Garcia
Board Liaison