



## **REGULAR PUBLIC BOARD MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2026 at 6:30pm**

**FOR**

**PRIDE ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL**

**117 ELMWOOD AVENUE, EAST ORANGE, NJ 07018**

**(VIRTUAL)**

**PRIDE ACADEMY**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING AGENDA**

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this act, The Pride Academy Charter School Board of Trustees has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, and place thereof posted in the Star Ledger and on NJ.COM under Legal Notices and posted on the school website on July 21, 2026.

**Regular Board Meeting**

A public meeting of the Pride Academy Charter School Board of Trustees will convene a virtual Regular Board meeting on August 19, 2026, at 6:30pm.

- A. Call to Order ..... Ashley Taylor
- B. Roll Call ..... Ashley Taylor
- C. The Pledge of Allegiance..... Ashley Taylor
- D. Announcement of Publication..... Ashley Taylor
- E. Approval of Board Agenda..... Ashley Taylor
- F. Approval of the Minutes for the following attachments:
  - June 11, 2026 Special Meeting;
  - June 23, 2026 Reorganization/Regular Board Meeting
  - July 22, 2026 Regular Board Meeting
- G. Policy
  - **Technology:** Approval of District Technology Policies and Procedures (document attached)
  - **Student Cell Phone Policy:** Beginning with the 2026–2027 school year, Pride Academy will implement a Bell-to-Bell Cell Phone Policy in accordance with New Jersey law (P.L.2025, c.195) and the New Jersey Department of Education's updated guidance on student use of personal internet-enabled devices. The purpose of this policy is to promote student learning, increase classroom engagement, reduce distractions, and support a positive school environment. (document attached)
  - **Title One:** Approval of Annual Title One Parent Meeting: Thursday, September 17, 2026, Back to School Night

- **Attendance and Truancy Policy:** Approval of Attendance & Truancy Documents (document attached)
- **Special Education:** Approval of Manual & Updated IDEA and local policy (document attached)
- **Behavior Rubric & Expectations, Referral Schoolwide System** (document attached)

H. Principal's Report..... Dr. Crystal Covington  
(Attachment)

1. Presentation of Amistad Commission Collaborative – Ms. Marcia Wilson, Dean of Academics
2. Presentation – Seton Hall University Master of Social Work Program- Mr. Jumoke Charles, School Social Worker
3. Presentation – Pride Parent Teacher Organization Framework for Parents – Ms. Rosemary Dumenigo, Asst. Principal

I. Educational Report

1. Approve adding ELL/ESL Program for the 2026-2027 School Year Approval of Essex Regional Educational Services Commission Contract for the 2026-2027 School Year
2. Approve Amistad Commission Collaborative; No Cost.
3. Approve Seton Hall University's Master of Social Work Program; No cost.
4. Approve the new Pride Parent Teacher Organization for the 2026-2027 school year.
5. Approve the Namesake Committee's Classroom Name Change from Team Chavez to Team Obamas
6. Approve the establishment of Pride Principal's Parent Connection: Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at 1:00pm.
7. Approve the Operation of High School Night and 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Scholarship Night on Wednesday, September 23, 2026 from 5:30pm – 7:00pm. (No Cost)

J. Personnel

1. Approval of Imani Coston as the School Social Worker for 2026-2027 school year Start Date pending background check. Salary \$85,000.
2. Approval of Myrna Serrano, Teacher for the 2026-2027 school year pending clearance for background check. Salary \$82,000.
3. Approval of Instructional Stipends Rate for 2026-2027 - \$40/hour
4. Approval of Non-Instructional Stipend Rate or 2026-2027 - \$25/hour
5. Acceptance of Resignation for Nanayaa Nketia, School Social Worker
6. Acceptance of Resignation for Nasyia Drayton, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Math Teacher
7. Approve posting for Teacher Search (in-district) to facilitate and coordinate WIDE & ELL/ESL instruction for 30 minutes per day.

K. Business Office Report ..... Karen Johnson

1. Approval of the Bills List for General and Special Revenue Funds for August 19, 2026, in the amount of \$46,120.97 (Attachment)
2. Approval of Payroll for the Month Ending July 31, 2026 - \$235,173.75 (attachment)
3. Approval of Treasurer of School Monies Agreement with Chris Lessard. \$500 per month. (Attachment)
4. Approval of Delta-T contract for the 2026-2027 School Year (attachment)
5. Approval of Essex Regional Educational Services Commission Contract for the 2026-2027 School Year – Speech/Language Services(attachment)
6. Approval of Essex Regional Educational Services Commission Contract for the 2026-2027 School Year – Child Study Team Services(attachment)
7. Approval of Consulting Agreement with Samad Mobley - \$500 for Phase 1 and \$2000 for Phase 2, if applicable.
8. Approval of the Grant Submission for the 2027 IDEA Consolidated Application and Acceptance of the Grant Award in the amount of \$81,538 – IDEA Basic.
9. Approval of the Grant Submission for the 2027 ESEA Consolidated Application and Acceptance of the Grant Award for the following applications:

|          |           |
|----------|-----------|
| Title I  | \$160,262 |
| Title II | \$14,463  |
| Title IV | \$11,994  |

L. Professional Development

| Staff                 | Location/Purpose                                      | Date            | Account Code                           |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------------|
| Marcia Wilson         | NJ Curriculum Leadership Summit                       | October 5, 2026 | No Cost to District                    |
| Dr. Crystal Covington | New Jersey Principal and Supervisors Association/Dues | 2026-2027       | \$930; 11-000-230-890                  |
| Joseph Wenzel         | PD Training- Summer Teacher Orientation               | August 19, 2026 | Contracted Hourly Rate; 11-000-230-331 |

M. Comments from the Public..... Ashley Taylor  
(2 Minutes per person)

N. Closed Session (Executive Session)

O. New Business..... Ashley Taylor

P. Adjournment..... Ashley Taylor

**The Next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for September 16, 2026.**

**The Board may adjourn to Executive Session  
to discuss personnel and individual student matters.**