



Dr. Pedro Albizu Campos High School Board of Directors  
Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, January 23, 2025 - 6:00 p.m.

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### **Mission Statement**

Dr. Pedro Albizu Campos Puerto Rican High School's mission is to provide a quality educational experience that empowers students to engage in critical thinking and social transformation, from the classroom to the Puerto Rican community. This mission is grounded in the philosophy of self-determination, a methodology of self-actualization, and an ethic of self-reliance.

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### **1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

**Chair:** Evelyn Rivera

**Roll Call conducted by:** Monica

- Evelyn Rivera – Present
- Milagros Fernandez – Present
- Jamie Moctezuma – Present
- Mike Staudenmaier – Present
- Rebekah Marcano – Present
- Milagros de la Rosa – Not Present

**Quorum established.**

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### **2. Approval of Agenda and Minutes**

- **Agenda Approval:** Motion by Jaime, seconded by Milagros. Unanimous approval.
  - **Minutes Approval:** Motion by Milagros, seconded by Jaime. Unanimous approval.
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### **3. Public Participation**

No public participants were present.

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#### 4. Principal's Report – Dr. Melissa Lewis

- Enrollment is a top priority; current enrollment is 139 students with a target of 200.
  - The school is nearing the end of the CPS renewal process. Scheduled for the February 4th CPS Board meeting, seeking a 3-5 year renewal.
  - The relationship between YCCS and CPS has had challenges. A request for increased autonomy was emphasized.
  - In light of federal immigration issues, a bilingual safety plan was shared with students and staff. Updated parent contact info is being collected.
  - Evelyn mentioned the availability of the Red Card (in English and Spanish) as a resource.
  - Melissa noted that Jesse is hosting a “Know Your Rights” event next week at Grace and Peace Church. State Rep. Lilian Jimenez has advised against sharing ICE sightings online.
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#### 5. Executive Director's Report – Marvin Garcia

- Urged board members and community partners to submit letters of support for the renewal process.
- Deadline for submissions: **Monday**.
- While the \$1.2M grant was not received, new national accreditation efforts are underway.
- The school is pursuing a partnership with Apprenticeship Training to expand student pathways.
- Public is welcome to attend meetings and speak during public comment.
- The 1112 N. California student training site is nearing completion. Soft opening planned for April.
- New website launched; feedback welcomed. Staff will receive PACHS hoodies instead of holiday gifts.

#### Comments:

- Milagros complimented the new website.
- Marvin invited board feedback via Monica.
- On finances, Marvin consulted Mike regarding an advance option, which was deemed too risky and not pursued.
- All board members supported the decision to avoid the advance.

#### Investment Discussion:

- Milady consulted an investor who recommended placing \$400K in a high-yield CD.
- She also proposed considering Bitcoin investment (~\$50K). Marvin noted the need for board consensus before taking any action.

#### Wellness Center Update:

- Marvin, Rebekah, and Melissa toured the facility with CPS representatives. Marvin and Melissa plan to get memberships.
- Evelyn inquired about room rentals; Jaime confirmed availability and suggested holding the April meeting there.
- Services include physical therapy, pools, kids' center, and salsa classes.

- Contact: **Diego Lopez**.
  - Ribbon cutting was attended by over 250 people and covered by all local news outlets except Fox
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## 6. Fiscal Report – Mike Staudenmaier

- Presented revenue and expense comparisons against budget and previous year.
- Noted a prior \$7K loss vs. current \$63K surplus.
- Health costs exceeded estimates but were manageable.

### Projected Surplus:

- \$120K expected by June. Plans to consult Kumar regarding use or rollover.
- Budget will be reapproved in September.
- Marvin praised Kumar's financial leadership; suggestion to invite him to a future meeting.

**Melissa:** Applauded collective efforts leading to improved finances.

**Next meeting:** April 17, 2025 at the Wellness Center. **Jaime:** Suggested ordering food for the meeting.

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## 7. Other Business

- **Rebekah:** Participated remotely from a flight.
- **Bylaws Review:** Evelyn led a discussion; no questions raised.
- **Motion to approve bylaws:** Jaime, seconded by Milagros. Unanimously approved.

### Vice Chair Vacancy:

- Evelyn and Marvin proposed opening the position to current members.
- Decision to revisit at the April meeting.
- Marvin encouraged members to review the bylaws and refer at least one candidate by April.
- Outreach targets: City Colleges, CHA.
- Referral packets to be created.

### Board Commitment:

- Evelyn and Marvin confirmed prior discussion and documentation of board expectations.

### Next Steps:

- Marvin will distribute a letter of support template and follow up with Diego and Jaime before the April meeting.
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## 8. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Mike, seconded by Jaime. Unanimously approved.

**Meeting adjourned.**