

AVANT GARDE ACADEMY, INC.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS – MINUTES ANNUAL BOARD MEETING

June 10, 2016, 7:00 p.m.

2880 Orange Blossom Trail, Kissimmee, FL 34741

The Meeting was called to order by Julia Valent at 7:10 pm. The following Board Members were present: Julia Valent, Mario Ruiz, Dr. Antonio Cruz and Dr. Agustin Lopez. Others present: Tiffany Hughes, Yatonda Ball, Dr. Steven Blinder, Samantha del Ponte, Madelin Ruiz, Jennifer Lucas, Yvonne Sardinias, Heather Confer, Melissa March, Frances Bolanos, Fabio Galoppi, Lillian Afre, Frank Bolaños, Suehaylee Benitez, Kibibi Austin, Patrick McNeece, Osmany Lugo, Marcos Lugo, Michael Smith, Nick Murdock, Maritza Galoppi, Ana Caputo, Keith Yarbrough, Dr. Yalcin Akin, Madelin Yarbrough, Angela Lomax.

I. Student Presentations

The AGA OBT US Naval Sea Cadets presented the Colors.

II. Approval of Minutes

A. Lopez moved, M. Ruiz seconded to approve the Minutes of the March 11, 2016 meeting. The motion passed.

III. Consent Agenda

- A. Finance Committee/Retirement Advisory Committee Recommendations:
 - a. Approve Revised Budgets for the CSP grants for Avant Garde Academy Pleasant Hill (PH) and McKinley campuses; Approval of Revised Budgets for the CSP Grants for PH and McKinley campuses; Approval of Revised School Budgets for all campuses; Approval of the April 2016 Financial Reports to the District and the school's financial condition for all campuses; Approval of New or Amended Vendor and Management Companies Contracts with Vendors for all campuses; Approval of L..O.C. with AES, CAM and Bank; Approve RFP's for Product and Service Contracts for all campuses; Approval of FF&E Orders for all campuses; Approval of PH expansion; Approval to proceed with New Charter School applications for August 1st 2016 submissions; Approve Agreement with Avant Garde Academy Foundation & AGA Foundation Scholarship Program; Approval of Pleasant Hill Expansion; Approve Amendment to Management Agreement for AGA of Broward (6-12); Approval of King & Walker as auditor for all schools.
- B. Approval of revisions to AGA Employee Manual, Policy and Procedures, Faculty Handbook
- C. Approval of School Uniform Policy
- D. Approval to Appoint Ivan Hernandez to Principal of AGA McKinley Campus Sixth through Ninth Grade; Approve Appointment of Ivonne Sardinias to Elementary Principal AGA Pleasant Hill; Approve Appointment of Madeline Ruiz to Middle School Assistant Principal AGA OBT
- E. Approval of Engagement of Silver Garvett for Legal Services.
- F. Approval of Amendment to OBT Sublease with Osceola Science School
- G. Approval to Updated Enrollment Plans and Numbers

- H. Approval of Staffing Matrix for 2016-2017 for all Campuses
- I. Approval of Committee to Review Principal, Teacher Evaluations & Leadership Promotions
- J. Approval of Cambridge Program and Application for OBT & PH.

A. Cruz moved to accept the consent agenda and A. Lopez seconded the motion. The motion passed.

IV. Open for Public Comment (regarding agenda items)
There were no comments from the public.

V. Election of Board Members

J. Valent asked Fabio Galoppi, as chair of the board recruitment committee to give the committee's recommendation. F. Galoppi announced that the board recruitment committee recommends the reelection of Julia Valent, Mario Ruiz and Dr. Antonio Cruz. A. Cruz moved to accept the recommendation of the committee with Julia Valent as President, Mario Ruiz as Secretary and Antonio Cruz as Treasurer. M. Ruiz seconded the motion and the motion passed.

VI. Update on AGA system-wide programs

a) Avant Garde Academy Ball

J. Valent gave an update on the planned fundraising event in the Spring of 2017.

b) US Naval Sea Cadets

c) Leader In Me

d) SimCity

e) Cambridge program

J. Valent stated that the board has given individual schools the ability to match their program offerings to the needs of the community that it serves. Each school has the opportunity & responsibility to establish best practices that can be exported to other schools. There are several programs that the board has identified as best practices. M. Ruiz moved to direct every AGA school to implement the programs listed above in the agenda. A. Lopez seconded and the motion passed.

f) School Culture

F. Bolanos discussed the school culture embodied in the AGA mission and guiding principles.

g) Update on AdvancEd Accreditation

The Board received the update and A. Cruz stated that receiving accreditation is very important to the Board.

V. School Reports

A. OBT CAMPUS (6-12 Charter, currently 6-11)

- i. Student Enrollment, Campus Data, Principal's Update
- ii. US Naval Sea Cadet Program
- iii. Florida Theatrical Association Partnership
- iv. Security Camera Update
- v. Osceola Science School Collaboration

M. Ruiz asked for and received an update on student safety and campus security.

T. Hughes and Y. Akin talked about the collaboration between OBT and the Osceola Science School.

B. PLEASANT HILL CAMPUS (K-8 Charter, currently K-8)

- i. Student Enrollment, Campus Data, Principal's Update

C. HOLLYWOOD MCKINLEY CAMPUS (K-8 Charter, currently K-8)

- i. Student Enrollment, Campus Data, Principal's Update
- ii. Food Service Workshop Update
- iii. Cambridge Program
- iv. Year End District Review

A. Lopez emphasized the importance of parent involvement for the success of the schools and asked the Principals to share their most successful parent outreach efforts.

D. CHAMPIONSHIP CAMPUS (6-12 Charter, currently 6-8)

- i. Student Enrollment, Campus data, Principal's Update
- ii. Transition to McKinley Campus

The Board, school leaders and managers discussed the FSA grades and steps to ensure academic excellence. J. Valent emphasized the Board is the legal entity that has the ultimate responsibility for our schools and our student's well being and stated that Board members are individually kept informed of school issues on a regular basis. A. Cruz moved to accept the school reports as presented by the school Principals, A. Lopez seconded; the motion passed.

VIII. Old Business

There was no old business.

IX. New Business

There was no new business.

X. Board Members Comments

A. Cruz stated that our school principals, teachers, support staff and our management company each have the opportunity & responsibility to work together for our common goal and the well being of our students. Dr. Cruz thanked the entire AGA family for another successful school year and for the important work ahead.