

AVANT GARDE ACADEMY, INC.
MINUTES BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING
May 26th, 2017, 3:30 p.m.

***Mission:** Avant Garde Academy will provide a student-centered learning environment that develops the whole child and provides them with the 21st Century skills to become responsible leaders in their community.*

The meeting was called to order at 3:40 pm.

Board members in attendance: Julia Valent, Mario Ruiz, Dr. Antonio Cruz and Erika Fernandez Perez. Other Attendees: I. Sardinias K. Rice, P. Chapman, J. Mesa, G. Chiles, K. Yarborough, A. Nelson, P. Plaza, J. Gutierrez, J. Soares, M. Yarborough G. Chiles, B. Rivera, A. Htikhar, C. Ortiz, E. Rivera, E. Hagos, H. Armas, F. Galoppi, F. Bolanos, M. March, F.C. Bolanos, M. March, J. Lucas, L. Afre.

I. Approval of Minutes

A. Cruz made a motion to approve the minutes of March 6, 2017, seconded by M. Ruiz. The motion was approved.

II. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Revised School Budgets for all campuses; Approval of the April 2017 Financial Reports to the District and the school's financial condition for all campuses; Approval of New or Amended Contracts with Vendors for all campuses; Approval of New Charter School Applications for the Upcoming Charter Application Cycle; Approval of Facility Leases & Expansion Plans; AGA Broward Premium Services Agreement; Lease with MRBK LLC for Pleasant Hill Property
- B. Approval of revisions to AGA Employee Manual, Policy and Procedures, Faculty Handbook
- C. Approval to Update Enrollment Plans and Numbers; Approval of revised Staffing Matrix and Organizational Chart for 2017-2018 for all campuses
- D. Approve Board Recertification Training

M. Ruiz made a motion to approve the consent items, seconded by A. Cruz. The motion was approved.

III. Open for Public Comment (*regarding agenda items)

There were not comments from the public.

IV. Human Resources & Centralized Purchasing

Improved centralized HR procedures and tools are in process. F. Bolanos reported that in a meeting held in March with Board Treasurer Dr. Cruz the importance of achieving efficiencies of scale with centralized purchasing was discussed.

A. Principal & Teacher Evaluations

The Principals were asked to complete the FCPCS principal evaluation as a self-assessment to initiate the Board's review.

B. AGA Foundation Leadership Academy

A leadership breakfast will be held on May 27, 2017 and a full day session on July 12th at OBT.

V. Update on AGA system-wide programs

- a) Avant Garde Academy Foundation Gala

J. Valent provided an update on the successful AGA Foundation gala with 100 attendees and \$29,000 in fundraising and thanked the volunteer committee. Frances Bolanos announced that the first scholarship would be awarded at OBT's senior graduation. A. Cruz thanked J. Valent for leading us to a successful gala.

b) US Naval Cadets Program

P. Chapman, I. Sardinas and J. Mesa provided an update of the program at their respective schools. M. Ruiz asked when the Hollywood campus was starting the program. A. Cruz asked for performance correlations. F. Bolanos requested and K. Yarborough provided information on the correlation with 7 Habits.

c) 7 Habits of Successful Students

a. Broward Initiatives

J. Mesa provided an update on school initiatives and program enhancements.

d) SimCity

P. Chapman, I. Sardinas and J. Mesa provided an update of the program at their respective schools.

e) Cambridge Program

f) AdvancEd Accreditation

VI. End of Year Financial State of Affairs & Preparation for Annual Audits

Dr. Cruz stated that he had reviewed the financial statements and asked the school leaders to prepare all the necessary documents for a successful audit. M. March and J. Lucas stated that all the schools would have a successful end of year, despite significant delays in CSP grant reimbursements.

VII. School Reports

J. Valent asked the school leaders and managers to answer the following during their school reports: How is your instructional program and delivery method "advanced, cutting-edge, progressive and state-of-the-art?"

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

- i. What were your 3 most significant challenges and successes this school year?
- ii. Define your school culture
- iii. What has your school done to meet its original purpose?
- iv. 2017 Graduating Class
- v. Accreditation Action Plan Update & Board Approval of Accreditation with AdvancEd

K. Rice and I. Sardinas presented the school report. J. Valent asked how the FTA partnership was going. M. Ruiz requested and received an update on the traffic issues and suggested a vending machine for students and additional security cameras around the building. A. Cruz moved to accept the AdvancEd accreditation and Cambridge program, seconded by E. Perez. The motion passed.

Ms. Chapman & Ms. Paynter please report on the PH campus...

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

- i. What were your 3 most significant challenges and successes this school year?
- ii. Define your school culture
- iii. What has your school done to meet its original purpose?
- iv. Mission Possible: Student Achievement Update
- v. End of Year Report on the Transformation Plan

Ms. Champman presented the school report and reported on the 14% improvement in 3rd grade Reading and the positive school culture shift.

Mr. Mesa please report on the Hollywood campus...

- C. HOLLYWOOD MCKINLEY CAMPUS (K-12 co-located charters, currently K-9)
 - i. What were your 3 most significant challenges and successes this school year?
 - ii. Define your school culture
 - iii. What has your school done to meet its original purpose?
 - ii. District Programmatic Review Action Plan Update

Dr. Cruz asked all the schools for the staff turnover rates and a discussion ensued around hiring right, improved communications and how to recruit and retain teachers and staff.

IX. Old Business

There was no old business.

X. New Business

E. Perez asked what school initiatives were in place for health-related issues, such as mental health and anti-bullying, education and careers and offered to help the schools in that effort.

XI. Board Members Comments

Dr. Cruz recommended the book "Change the Culture, Change the Game".

J. Valent stated: "As we conclude this very important year I want to thank all of you and the staff of our schools. This was a make or break year for PH and what a turn-around that has been! The OBT campus needed to receive its accreditation and have a strong 4th year as it heads into its contract renewal next year. And the Hollywood campus has now enrolled 1200 students in 2 years and is well poised to increase its enrollment to 1600 next year. Thank you all for a remarkable year."

Dr. Cruz made a motion to adjourn and M. Ruiz seconded it. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.