

**AVANT GARDE ACADEMY, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING**  
October 6th, 2017, 4:30 p.m.  
2025 McKinley St, Hollywood FL 33020

The meeting was called to order by J. Valent at 4:40 p.m.

The following board members were present: Julia Valent, Erika Gonzalez, Dr. Antonio Cruz and Luis De Varona. Also present were: Scott Crumpler, Madelin Ruiz-Yarbrough, JoAnn Soares, Melissa Adams, Melissa March, Frances Bolanos, Joel Mesa, Julian Cazanias Jr., Samantha Del Ponte, Shaquita Mills, Elaine Perez, David Hernandez, Frank Bolanos, Fabio Galoppi, Maritza Galoppi, Lillian Afre, Andrew Houghton, Stacy Brown, Guadalupe Kearney.

J. Valent read the school's mission statement: Avant Garde Academy will provide a student-centered learning environment that develops the whole child and provides them with the 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills to become responsible leaders in their community. J. Valent encouraged everyone to implement the mission with fidelity.

I. Approval of Minutes

Dr. Cruz made a motion to approve the minutes of May 26, 2017 and August 28, 2017, seconded by E. Gonzalez, the motion passed.

II. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Revised School Budgets for all campuses; Approval of the August 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;
- B. Approval of revisions to AGA Employee Manual, Policy & Procedures, Faculty Handbook, and Recruiting & Hiring Guidelines
- C. Approval of Digital Classrooms Plan; Approval of Employee Compensation/Pay for Performance Plan; Approval of Teacher and Principal Evaluation Systems for all Campuses; Approval of Out of Field Teachers (Attached)
- D. Approval of a Charter Application Implementation Committee
- E. Approval of Dr. Elaine Perez as Director of Professional Development

E Gonzalez made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Dr. Cruz. The motion passed. Dr. Perez thanked the board and all those present and said a few words at the request of J. Valent.

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

The status of the Hollywood school's honor society was raised. J. Cazañas explained that the honor society would be meeting in 2 weeks with a planned induction on October 25th.

IV. Approval of King & Walker 2016-17 Audits for all campuses

J. Lucas and M. March presented the audits and stated that there were no negative findings. Dr. Cruz talked about the importance of the school's good financial health and the importance of building reserves and thanked those responsible for the positive audits.

VI. September 2017 Diagnostic Test Results

J. Valent stated that it is crucial that we have diagnostic data as early in the school year as possible to positively impact the learning gains of our students. The school principals and management

company representatives discussed the results to date.

#### VII. Update on AGA system-wide programs

J. Valent stated that these are initiatives that are central to our mission and guiding principles and that the board has directed each school to implement and that the principals should update the board during their school report.

- a) Avant Garde Academy Foundation Gala
- b) Cadets Program
- c) 7 Habits of Successful Students
- d) SimCity
- e) Cambridge Program
- f) AdvancEd Accreditation

J. Lucas reviewed the upcoming requirements of the system-wide accreditation process.

#### VIII. School Reports

##### A. OBT CAMPUS (6-12 Charter)

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

M. Adams presented the school report and led the discussion around school culture, academics and the cadets program. J. Valent stressed the importance of improved academic performance.

##### B. PLEASANT HILL CAMPUS (K-8 Charter)

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

M. Yarborough and M. March presented the school report and initial positive results in the benchmarks.

##### C. HOLLYWOOD MCKINLEY CAMPUS (K-12 co-located charters, currently K-10)

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

J. Cazañas provided the school update and progress on the school-wide initiatives. J. Mesa stated that the cadet program had begun this year. Parent leaders provided a report of past and planned fundraising activities. Dr. Cruz congratulated the PALS members for their leadership and community involvement. F. Bolaños suggested a joint meeting of PALS and the AGA Foundation. E. Gonzalez and Dr. Cruz asked PALS to report back to the board with the parent's priorities.

#### IX. Old Business

There was no old business.

#### X. New Business

F. Galoppi presented the new AGA phone app.

#### XI. Board Members Comments

J. Valent thanked everyone for their concerted effort and success.

\*Public Comments participants may elect to speak on each regular agenda item for up to three minutes and for a combined total of six minutes.