

**AVANT GARDE ACADEMY, INC.**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING**  
**MINUTES**

September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 5 p.m.  
2025 McKinley St., Hollywood FL 33020

**Mission:** 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.

The meeting was called to order by Julia Valent at 5:10 p.m. The following board members were in attendance: Julia Valent, Erika Gonzalez, Dr. Antonia Cruz, Luis De Varona, Dr. Agustin Lopez. Also, in attendance were: Frank Bolanos, Frances Bolanos, Samantha DelPonte, Shaquita Mills, Joel Mesa, Alcides Nunez, Jennifer Lucas, Deanna Palonis, Guillermo Moreno, Jeffrey Hernandez, and Lillian Afre.

I. Approval of Minutes for August 23rd, 2018

L. DeVarona made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by E.Gonzalez. The motion passed.

II. Approval of August 2018 Financial Reports to the District for all Campuses

Board reviewed the August monthly financial reports to the Osceola District for schools OBT #0155 and PH #0161 and to the Broward District for schools Broward #5791 and Broward #5015.

Discussion was held among board members and administration regarding the financials. Broward #5015 & #5791 financials look good, came in under budget on furniture and curriculum.

PH and OBT budgets are impacted by under-enrollment and past due accounts that have now been paid or are being paid under an agreed to payment plan. Discussion took place regarding the lack of transparency by iSchools and their financial mismanagement and its impact on the school's financials. Meetings have been held with the landlords of both school and they are amenable to working with the school through this financial transition.

E. Gonzaler made a motion to approve the financial reports. L. De Varona seconded the motion. The motion passed.

III. Approval for Out of Field Teachers for all Campuses

Board reviewed and discussed the out of field for #0155, #0161, #5015, and #5791.

E.Gonzalez made a motion to approve the Out of Field Teachers, seconded by A.Cruz. The motion passed.

IV. Approval of Sublease for OBT & PH

Board discussed the Pre-School Sublease at PH #0161, it will be a good source of income and a student feeder for PH. The pre-school will purchase it's own furniture & fixtures and will carry it's own separate liability insurance.

A. Cruz made a motion to approve the PH Sublease, seconded by L. De Varona. The motion passed.

V. Approval of OBT & PH Wind & Hail Insurance

Board discussed and reviewed the Wind & Hail Insurance for OBT# 0155 and PH #0161.

L. De Varona made a motion to approve the Wind and Hail Insurance for PH & OBT, seconded by E. Gonzalez. The motion passed.

VI. Approval of Firewall Purchase for OBT & PH

Board discussed and reviewed the Firewall purchase for OBT# 0155 and PH #0161.

E.Gonzalez made a motion to approve the Firewall purchase for PH & OBT, seconded by A.Cruz. The motion passed.

VII. Approval of AGA Leadership & Teacher Conference

Board discussed an AGA Leadership & Teacher Conference for all campuses to drive collaboration and build morale. Date will be finalized once all campuses schedules are confirmed.

L. De Varona made a motion to approve the AGA Leadership & Teacher Conference, seconded by A. Cruz. The motion passed.

#### VIII. AGA Broward Renewal Update and Timeline

Board members were updated on the Broward 6-12 #5791 renewal. Identified gaps have been addressed and all plans and binders have been completed. District visit is Sept 25<sup>th</sup> and Nov 16<sup>th</sup> deadline for renewal.

#### IX. iSchools Contract Update

The Board received an update on the contract cancellation and upcoming mediation and discussed the options and next steps. The board discussed the items being presented.

A.Cruz made a motion to approve the update and the next steps to be taken, seconded by E. Gonzalez. The motion passed.

#### X. School Reports

##### A. OSCEOLA (K8)

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

Enrollment 258, fully staffed, all ESOL testing completed, iReady completed intervention started, clubs started, and prepared for district visit on 9-27-18

##### B. OSCEOLA (6-12)

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

Enrollment 536, district visit next week

##### C. BROWARD (K-8)

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

Enrollment 1201, still taking iReady, Book Fair @ Barnes & Noble on Oct 6<sup>th</sup>, Literacy Committee working on a Read-a-Thon, Tutoring program kicking off Oct 1st

###### ii. Review Title 1 Parent Compact and School Wide Plan

1<sup>st</sup> Title 1 meeting was attended by 100 parents, received lots of positive feedback School wide plan being worked on and parent contracts sent out

##### D. BROWARD (6-12)

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

Enrollment 574, need more ESOL & ESE support due to large population

Jeffrey Hernandez from NAEP gave an update on his review of OBT, PH and Broward.

PH - feedback very positive, principal is very collaborative and has buy-in from the staff, teachers, students and parents. He is doing a good job at recruiting new students and has implemented needed curriculum changes.

OBT – ongoing, because the principal has been out due to personal issues, which has not allowed for the school culture to change sufficiently.

Brwd 6-12 - The culture needs to be more outcome driven, more student-focused teacher plans needed and recommends additional leadership training for the 6-12 principal.

Frank Bolanos shared that another enrollment direct mail piece going out next week for OBT and PH.

#### XI. Public/Parental Comment (\*regarding agenda items)

There were not comments from the public.

#### XII. Old Business

There was no old business.

#### XIII. New Business

Pastor Lopez brought to the Board and administrations attention the issue he is having with parents parking in the church lot and being very un-orderly. Administration is going to send out an email telling parents not to

park there and also put it in the newsletter. Additionally the will have the SRO go to the church parking lot and tell parents they can't park there.

XIV. Board Members Comments

Julia Valent thanked everyone for his or her participation.

L.DeVarona made a motion to adjourn, seconded by A. Cruz. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20pm

## **ATTACHMENT**

### **Out of Field Teachers**

#### Broward K8

Alisha St. Louis - ESOL  
Andralia Fortune - ESOL  
Chelsea Hatch - ESOL  
Elana Yeffet - ESOL  
Erika Oberlender - ESOL  
Gary McCarthy - ESOL  
Giovahna Gonzalez - ESOL  
Jean McDowell - ESOL  
Lisa Brent - Gifted  
Marlene Ladyman - Elementary  
Maylin Machin - Elementary/ESOL  
Natacha Clergeau - ESOL  
Phillip Katz - ESOL  
Shemika Clarke - ESOL  
Susan Adelman - Elementary/ESOL  
Yasmin Astacio – ESOL

#### Broward 6-12

Carolina Forbes - World Languages - Spanish  
Kerry Mathews - Engineering and Tech Ed  
Lisa Levin-Reading; ESOL  
Mary Volpe-ESOL

#### Osceola K8

Aida Vega - ESOL  
Alex Araya - ESOL  
Edgar Cedeno - ESOL  
Eugenio Rejouis - Math  
Maria Velez Torres - Reading  
Marjorie Rivera – ESOL  
Sarah Barton – ESOL & Reading

#### Osceola 6-12

Ana Joglar – Math  
Clara Cordero – ESOL  
Mohamen Eshak - Reading  
Yaletza Peralta – ESOL