

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

July 22, 2019, 7:00 p.m.
11500 NW 41st St., Doral FL 33178

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 by Julia Valent at 7:08p.m. The following board members were in attendance: Julia Valent, Erika Gonzalez, and Dr. Antonio Cruz. Also, in attendance were Jeffrey Hernandez, Marcia Griffin, Yolanda Garcell, Guillermo Moreno, Samantha Walker, Rafael Mestre, Lorenzo Cobiella, Elaine Perez, Frank Bolanos, Frances Bolanos, and Lillian Afre

- I. Open for Public/Parental Comment (regarding agenda items)
Marcos Rodriguez, Broward Music Director presented the growth, successes and needs of the music program. Requested additional funds in order to purchase musical instruments to accommodate the growth of the program. The board asked staff to look at the budget to identify possible funds to allocate to the program. In addition, recommendations were made on funding avenues to pursue: Donors Choose, Symphony of the Americas and AGA Foundation.
- II. Approval of Minutes for June 15, 2019
A. Cruz made a motion to approve the June 15th, 2019 minutes, seconded by E. Gonzalez. The motion passed.
- III. Executive Session
A. Cruz made a motion to go into executive session to discuss legal matters; motion seconded by E. Gonzalez and the motion passed. The Board went into executive session at 7:35 pm. The board returned from executive session at 7:45 pm.
- IV. Review, Discussion & Approval of May and June 2019 Financials to the District for all campuses.
R. Mestre presented the financials that were developed by Building Hope for Broward 6-12 (#5791); Broward K8 (#5015); Osceola 6-12 (#0151) and Osceola K8 (#0161). Dr. Cruz requested a detailed comparison of the changes in financial conditions for all schools. R. Mestre pointed out the changes and variances between budget and actual for all campuses. The Board reviewed and discussed several items on the dashboard report and the district report for both Victory schools at OBT (previously AGA). M. Griffin and L. Afre will speak with Kevin Lugar to review accrual amounts for Victory schools. Several items were not reflected in the June financials for both Victory Schools. The Board pointed out the importance of continued transparency and concise information regarding the change in financial reporting from Building Hope to NAEP for the OBT schools.
A. Cruz made a motion to allow filing of a Revised June 2019 Financial Report to the district for 0155 and 0161; seconded by E. Gonzalez. The motion passed.
E. Gonzalez made a motion to approve the May and June 2019 Financial Reports as amended for Osceola 0155 and 0161 and Broward 5015 and 5791; seconded by A. Cruz. The motion passed
- V. Review and Discuss Avant Garde Academy Redbook Manual

E. Perez presented to the board a sample of the Avant Garde Academy Redbook. The manual when completed will house all operating procedures, requirements, forms etc., this will allow for all AGA schools to operate in the same manner.

- VI. Discussion and Approval of items for AGA Broward schools: 2019-20 Budgets for Broward K-5 and Broward 6-12; Approval of 2019-20 Student Parent Handbook; Approval of Active Assailant Response Policy and Procedures; Approval of A1A Transportation Renewal Contract; Approval of Board Resolution on Broward Loan Forgiveness; and Diversity Training.

Cruz made a motion to approve the Broward K-5 and 6-12 budgets; seconded by E. Gonzalez. The motion passed.

E. Gonzalez made a motion to approve the 2019-10 Student Parent Handbook and Active Assailant Response Policy and Procedures; seconded by A. Cruz. The motion passed.

S. Walker informed Board they may have to add an additional bus for students living in the beach area. E. Gonzalez made a motion to approve the A1A Transportation Renewal Contract; seconded by A. Cruz. The motion passed.

F. Bolanos shared with the Board the finance team's recommendation that the board approve a resolution of loan forgiveness transferred funds between the Broward schools. A. Cruz made a motion to approve the Board Resolution for Broward Loan Forgiveness; seconded by E. Gonzalez. The motion passed.

S. Walker recommended additional diversity training for all employees, including training to educate staff on LGBT. A. Cruz made a motion to approve the Diversity training; seconded by E. Gonzalez. The motion passed.

S. Walker updated the board on the Broward campuses, enrollment 2047, Master scheduled completion, interviewing open positions, terminated contract with cleaning company and brought in-house, upgraded security system with 21 new cameras and can now access cameras remotely, and upgrading outside door locks to fob entry for better security.

- VII. Discussion and Approval of 21st Century Grant items: Approval of RFP responses for AGA Broward and Victory Charter Schools; Approval of 21st Century Grant consultants: Robert J. Miller & Associates, Inc. (grant writer); and Center for Assessment Strategic Planning Evaluation and Research (evaluator).

J. Hernandez informed the board that due to a system glitch the 21st Century Grant did not make the submission deadline. He will be looking for other grants to submit request for the Victory schools.

Frances Bolanos will confirm for the board if the Broward 21st Century Grant was submitted before the deadline.

- VIII. Presentation, discussion and approval of Victory Charter School items and documents:

J. Hernandez presented to the board the items they have been working on and completed since assuming the management of the Victory schools; Leadership Retreat, Lease addendum, New Victory school signage, Co-location of both schools, New organizational chart, Title 1 budgets, will be using the District for Mental Health services to ensure all compliance is being met, New salary scale to make the schools more competitive and be able to recruit better teachers, Revised employment agreement with Duties that include 24 hours of PD, 20 hours of Report Card Conferences and 12 hours of after school community activities. Teacher training kickoff week August 1st to 9th, Curriculum program enhancements IXL for Tier 1 Instruction for Mathematics and Reading/ELA, IReady for Tier 2 Instruction for Mathematics and Reading/ELA, Eureka Math/Great Minds to increase mathematics rigor, College Board teacher training (covered by Title 4 funds) August 6th & 7th for SpringBoard. Master schedule, Enrollment 728 (102 elementary – 80 moved from PH), going to use the District for SRO and will change to SOS Security once they meet the new requirement, Leadership courses added for 6, 7 and 8th grades, lastly Meeting with the Superintendent scheduled for July 31st.

The Board highlighted the importance of continued communication and oversight between all members of the leadership team at all schools and emphasized the importance of promoting best practices.

Accept Lease Amendment for Victory Charter School (OBT Campus); Accept Signed Contract for the Training of SpringBoard with the College Board; Approve Contract for Outsourced Head of Schools/Principal Yolanda Garcell; Approve SBHSN School Grant; Approval of New Employment Agreement for Victory Schools; Approval of New Salary Scale for Instructional Personnel; Approval of Title I Budget for Victory Schools; Approval of Mental Health Plan; Approval of SRO Option to Contract with the Sheriff Office; Review and Accept the 2018-2019 Administrator Evaluations.

Dr. Cruz requested clarification of the principal's duties and time commitment. The Board asked several questions for staff to clarify the other items and their cost implications.

E. Gonzalez made a motion to Accept Lease Amendment for Victory Charter School (OBT Campus); seconded by A. Cruz. The motion passed.

E. Gonzalez made a motion Accept Signed Contract for the Training of SpringBoard with the College Board; seconded by A. Cruz. The motion passed.

A. Cruz made a motion to Approve Contract for Outsourced Head of Schools/Principal Yolanda Garcell; seconded by E. Gonzalez. The motion passed.

E. Gonzalez made a motion to Approve SBHSN School Grant; seconded by A. Cruz. The motion passed.

A. Cruz made a motion of Approve the New Employment Agreement for Victory Schools and New Salary Scale for Instructional Personnel; seconded by E. Gonzalez. The motion passed.

A. Cruz made a motion to Approve Title I Budget for Victory Schools; seconded by E. Gonzalez. The motion passed.

A. Cruz made a motion to Approve of Mental Health Plan; seconded by E. Gonzalez. The motion passed.

E. Gonzalez made a motion to Approve the SRO Option to Contract with the Sheriff Office; seconded by A. Cruz. The motion passed.

- E. Gonzalez made a motion to Accept the 2018-2019 Administrator Evaluations for Guillermo Moreno and Jason Gines; seconded by A. Cruz. The motion passed
- IX. Discuss and Approve Board Meeting Dates for 2019-20
The board discussed the meeting dates, would like to have board meetings every other month. Will send L. Afre their available dates to put the meeting list together.
- X. Old Business
There was no old business
- XI. New Business
E. Perez shared with the board a historical of school grade for all campuses. Brought to the board's attention that Broward 6-12 had missed a B by 1 point.
A. Cruz made a motion to appeal the grade for 5791 if data supports it; seconded by E. Gonzalez. The motion passed.
- XII. Board Members Comments
E. Gonzalez thanked Jeffrey for all the work they have done so far at the Osceola schools and asked to have regular updates and complete transparency with the board.
A. Cruz made a motion to adjourn, seconded by E. Gonzalez. The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.