

AVANT GARDE ACADEMY, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
January 22nd, 2020, 6:00 p.m.
8200 NW 41 ST, Suite 200, Doral FL 33166

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 6:25 p.m. The following board members were in attendance: Julia Valent, Erika Gonzalez, and Dr. Antonio Cruz. Also, in attendance were Arlene Valdes, Fred Clermont, Samantha Walker, Jennifer Lucas, Justin Matthews, Jeffrey Hernandez, Marcia Griffin, Artur Glants, Frances Bolanos, Frank Bolanos, Lillian Afre, Charles Robinson, Ms. St Louis, Ms. Hernandez, Ms. Maxham and Ms. Dafinis.

I. Approval of Minutes for December 6, 2019

E. Gonzalez made a motion to approve the December 6, 2019 minutes, seconded by A. Cruz. The motion passed.

II. Open for Public/Parental Comment (regarding agenda items)

F. Bolanos provided information on the public comments protocol and the importance of maintaining student confidentiality. Cruz made a motion of hear the comments on the items not on the agenda, seconded by E. Gonzalez. The motion passed.

C. Robinson discussed a situation that took place at the Hollywood school between two students and how the discipline was administered. The incident at the school gave way to conversations via social media and a potential confrontation between students. The student's initial five-day suspension was reduced to one day after discussions with the administration and further review. Student B was then suspended for 5 days for sexting. Both Mr. Robinson and Principal Valdes felt they had a fruitful and successful conversation. Mr. Robison requested that discipline be applied to both students consistently. Dr. Valdes thanked Mr. Robinson and stated she will look further into the matter and she appreciated the opportunity to continue a successful relationship in the best interests of our students.

Ms. St Louis spoke on behalf of her three fellow teachers from the Hollywood K5 school regarding the communication for: payment for the Best & Brightest teacher stipends, Saturday school payments, class wallet/IT issues, being proactive vs reactive, teacher expectations, teachers' responsibility to email administrators after following processes and forms, slow response to emails from HR, sharing BAS boxes and short deadlines.

F. J. Bolanos suggested a meeting at the school next week with the teachers and administrators to address the issues. A. Cruz stated the board appreciates the teachers and all the work that they do. The board wants to hear their concerns and work with the school's administration to find solutions.

III. Approval of AGA Inc. Form 990

The Board received and reviewed the corporate 990. E. Gonzalez made a motion to approve the AGA Inc. Form 990, seconded by J. Valent. The motion passed.

IV. Osceola School Report

- a. Approval of Osceola November & December Financials to the District
- b. Victory K5 New Application Acceptance
- c. Out of Field

M. Griffin advised the board Victory K8 school fund balance is less than when the year started and projected to be at (\$490K) on June 30th. Victory 6-12 fund balance has improved and is projected to end at \$98,261 on June 30th. RSM audit has started and is going well.

J. Hernandez advised diagnostics are taking place and data tier 3 reduced 13% in math and 17% in reading. The stretch goal has been reached by 18% of the students. Parent involvement has increased by doing evening events which enable more participation. All but 2 teachers have stated their intent to return next year.

A. Glants advised that after Survey 3 the district was very pleased with the results. IReady usage has greatly increased and the after school tutoring is going well. Lowest 25% have been identified and the leadership team is mentoring them. Baseball team won the under 14 youth championship and the girls won the Gatorade Challenge.

A. Cruz asked about enrollment numbers. J. Hernandez responded they are currently at a combined 857 and the goal is 1000. Doing digital registration, tours and early marketing campaign.

J. Valent made a motion to approve the Osceola November & December Financials, and the Out of Field Report, seconded by E. Gonzalez. The motion passed. E. Gonzalez made a motion to accept the Victory K5 New Application, seconded by J. Valent. The motion passed.

V. Broward School Reports

- a. Approval of Broward November & December 2019 Financials to the District
- b. Out of Field
- c. Website Renewal
- d. Stadio Lease Update

e. Broward K8 West New Application

J. Matthews advised that the financials are turning the corner and will continue to improve with the Title 1 payments and revised Capital Outlay. Also the second FFET loan will be paid off in April. Also, looking forward to when building is acquired via a bond the debt service will significantly improve.

Dr. Valdez informed the board that the High School had met the Benchmark 2 expectation; ELA was the strongest department. Math and Science had some challenges due to staff turnover. Plans to start hiring for next year early to secure strong teachers. Starting FSA and ELL camps. PD conducting 2nd round of data chats, teachers are using the data and focusing on primary and secondary goals. Teacher of the Year nominees are Mr. Mallard, Mr. Manley and Ms. Williams. Leader in Me is being delivered monthly via lesson plan thru social studies. Starting a weekly Senior Spotlight to recognize high performing students.

F. Clermont advised 99% of classes have made increases in iReady, academic coaches doing DI with teachers, walk-throughs are being conducted, PD every Friday by principal or team leads, started Saturday school, data usage is taking off, ELL tutoring being offered before and after school.

S. Walker advised recommitment text was sent out and 932 positive responses have been received. Will be following up on others with emails and flyers. Enrollment goal is 2000.

F. Bolanos updated the board that there is language modification being made to the Stadio Lease, pending response from Stadio's attorney.

J. Valent made a motion to approve the Broward November & December 2019 Financials, Out of Field Report and accept the Broward K8 West New Application.

E. Gonzalez made a motion to accept administration's recommendation for the Hollywood Website Renewal, seconded by A. Cruz. The motion passed.

VI. Old Business

Cruz asked if Mr. Rodriguez had been given the musical instruments he had requested. Was told PALS had purchased the tubas that he needed and that next year a specific music budget will be created to meet the needs of the music program.

VII. New Business

There was no new business.

VIII. Board Members Comments

There were no board member comments.

A. Cruz made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by E. Gonzalez. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.