

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

February 24th, 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 6:20 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, Jeffrey Hernandez, Marcia Griffin, Artur Glants, Guillermo Moreno, Frances Bolanos, Frank Bolanos and Lillian Afre.

- I. Approval of Minutes for January 22nd, 2019
E. Gonzalez made a motion to approve the January 22, 2019 minutes, seconded by A. Cruz. The motion passed.
- II. Open for Public/Parental Comment (regarding agenda items)
There were no public comments.
- III. Osceola School Report
 - a. Approval of Osceola January 2020 Financials to the District
 - b. Acceptance of RSM Audit Response
 - c. Approval of Victory K8 Loan Repayment Agreement
 - d. Approval of Victory Fiscal Policies & Procedures
 - e. Acceptance of Mid Year Principal Evaluation

M. Griffin advised financials are on track 57% into the year. Fund balance is at \$126K and is projected to end year at \$98K; \$534K over last year.

M. Griffin discussed the RSM audit findings and responses; advised the district was pleased with the changes to date. Had a low deficit balance in the past however as of December 2019 the fund balance was \$89K. Need a formal agreement for VSC K8 repayment to VSC. Late submissions of monthly financials were due to miscommunication with the district. Need board approval of fiscal policies and procedures. Checks missing 2 sigs were from the general fund and per Red Book not required. Moving forward employees will not be reimbursed for taxes.

J. Hernandez provided school report; only 3 teachers not returning for next year. Mr. Cobiella is working on 21st Century litigation. VCS Charter renewal is expected by next week. Have 241 new applications for high school next year. 31% of students have re-enrolled to date; enrollment goal is 1000. Have applied for a grant for fencing and have added cameras for safety. Had some issues with an employee that left and was posting a lot of negative social media comments. However American Enrollment has done a very good of minimizing the impact.

Have hired a new SRO officer. Researching contracting a new transportation company for next year due to issues with the current vendor. Have started conversation with ESJ to extend lease. Looking at salary schedule for next year due to a very competitive market and low availability of teachers in Osceola.

G. Moreno discussed positive growth on iReady and decrease in tier 3 students

A. Cruz made a motion to approve the January 2020 Financial, seconded by E. Gonzalez. The motion passed.

E. Gonzalez made a motion to approve the VCS K8 Loan Repayment Agreement, and VSC Fiscal Policies & Procedures seconded by A. Cruz. The motion passed.

A. Cruz made a motion to accept the RSM Audit Response and the Mid Year Principal Evaluation, seconded by E. Gonzalez. The motion passed.

IV. Broward School Reports

- a. Approval of Broward January Financials to the District
- b. Stadio Lease Update
- c. Approval LBS Recoverable Grant
- d. Approval of 5015 Charter Contract Renewal
- e. Approval of 5791 Charter Contract Change

F. Bolanos presented the financials; 5015 instructional expenses for the year increased due to additional materials ordered in September that were needed. Tracking positive to be positive at the end of the year. Have reduced management fees and providing a recoverable grant to ensure the health of the schools. Funds are being raised for any planned events. Budgeting process will be starting next week and will be inventorying all materials in the schools.

F. Bolanos advised have made good headway on the Stadio lease for soccer field, start time is still an issue being addressed. Once started it is due to be completed in 12 months. The renewal for 5015 is underway and will include the changes previously approved by the Board.

A. Valdes provided update for middle/high; 438 new applicants for next year. Holding and Open House on March 7th, students will be ambassadors, will be giving tours and six presentations are planned covering STEAM and Leadership. Course selection event will be held in April on the weekend to sign up students for next year. Department chairs are creating presentations for registration. Leader in Me will be conducting teacher training on March 3rd. Boys basketball team made it to Regionals and all sports in general are doing well. Robotics team won 2 awards and was recognized for the plan to get rats out of New York City sewers.

F. Clermont provided update for K-5; at open house parents will see videos of kids talking about AGA. Saturday boot camp is going well and Stem Lab is being

used to remediate 5th graders. STEAM fest planned for April 9th and will also be giving school tours. 174 kindergarteners have applied for next year.

E. Gonzalez made a motion to approve the Broward January 2020 Financials; seconded by A. Cruz. The motion passed.

E. Gonzalez made a motion to approve the LBS Recoverable Grant, 5015 Charter Contract Renewal and 5791 Charter Contract Change; seconded by A. Cruz. The motion passed.

V. Old Business

F. Bolanos provided an update on teacher concerns; a meeting was held with the teachers and issues have been addressed. There a couple of things that are still being worked thru. The teachers expressed their appreciation for being heard and included in the process.

VI. New Business

There was no new business.

VII. Board Members Comments

J. Valent reminded the Foundation Gala is April 26th at the Costa Resort in Hollywood Beach; tickets \$75. Will be recognizing a volunteer of the year and considering awarding a philanthropist of the year and asked principals to communicate the information to parents and encourage them to attend.

E. Gonzalez made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by A. Cruz. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 pm.