

Avant Garde Academy Foundation, Inc.
Board Meeting Minutes
February 1st, 2021 at 4:00pm
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 21st Century skills to become responsible leaders in their community.

The meeting was called to order by Maria Diaz Kremer at 4:06pm. The following board members were in attendance: Maria Diaz Kremer, Ron Legler, Marc Spiegelman and Mark Riedmiller. Also, in attendance were, Lorenzo Cobiella, Justin Matthews, Arlene Valdes, Juan Rivera, Samantha Walker, Rafael Mestre, Frank Bolanos, Frances Bolanos and Lillian Afre.

- I. Approval of the November 19, 2020 AGA Foundation Board Meeting Minutes
M. Spiegelman made a motion to approve the November 19, 2020 board minutes, seconded by R. Legler. The motion passed.

- II. Executive Session
M. Spiegelman made a motion to go into executive session to discuss legal matters. Seconded by M. Riedmiller. The motion passed. The board went into executive session at 4:09pm. Executive was finalized at 4:30pm. Regular session reconvened at 4:35pm.

- III. Open for Public Comments (regarding agenda items)
There were no public comments.

- IV. Consent Agenda Items: Approval of Amended Bylaws, Approval of Corporate Annual Filing, Approval of Out of Field, Approval to Authorize Board President to Finalize and Execute MRBK Mediation Agreement.
F. Bolanos shared with the board the use of consent agenda items and how they may be moved to regular agenda items if further discussion is needed.
M. Spiegelman made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items, seconded by R. Legler. The motion passed.

- V. Approval of December 2020 Monthly Financials for AGA Broward K5 (5015) & AGA Broward 6-12 (5791)
F. Bolanos explained to the board the finance process and checks and balances in place to assure funds are being used and tracked appropriately.
J. Matthews and R. Mestre reviewed the December financials with the board. M. Spiegelman asked regarding accruals and where grant funds are reflected.

M. Riedmiller made a motion to approve the December 2020 Monthly Financials, seconded by M. Spiegelman. The motion passed.

- VI. Approval of Facility Lease with Educational Growth Fund, LLC
F. Bolanos shared there will not be any increase in rent from the original lease, the additional amount in the 21-22 year will be credited back to the school.
L. Cobiella shared with the board that at the end of the new lease the school and the property would become the property of the Foundation for \$1 dollar.
M. Spiegelman asked regarding the 3% usage allowed for rental purposes, wanted to know if that was a firm number or if it could be negotiated. L. Cobiella stated he thinks it's is a fixed number due to bond regulations but will look into it. If there is no material change due to this it will not need to be brought to the board again.
M. Riedmiller made a motion to approve the Facility Lease with Educational Growth Fund, LLC; seconded by M. Spiegelman. The motion passed.
- VII. Approval of Annual Form 990
L. Afre shared this 990 reflects the financials for the Foundation prior to the Broward schools were operating under the Foundation.
M. Spiegelman made a motion to approve the Annual Form 990, seconded by M. Riedmiller. The motion passed
- VIII. Approval of Computer Lease with CIT
L. Afre shared the computers being purchased are to replace the 5-year-old teacher computers that are not able to adequately process Zoom conferencing.
R. Legler made a motion to approve the Computer Lease with CIT, seconded by M. Spiegelman. The motion passed
- IX. School Reports
Principal Dr. Valdes presented the school report for AGA Broward 6-12, shared with the board Benchmark 2 scores averaged 55%, congratulated science and social studies teachers whose students came in at 60-70%. Has submitted the 6 assurances to the district. Calling students not attending and planning home visits. All ESOL and ESE accommodations have been made. Planning one-on-one parent meetings with parents /seniors not on target to graduate. Providing extended learning opportunities, FSA Bootcamp and ELL Bootcamp. Math Honor Society students are also providing tutoring. Providing PD, meets 3 times per year with each teacher on IPDs to discuss team and personal goals, as well as PLC "Teach Like A Pirate". The current challenge is reaching the students/parents of students not performing well remotely to try to get them back in the classroom. Will need more Paraprofessionals for next year.
- Principal Mr. Rivera presented the school report for AGA Broward K-5, shared with the board that his student population is slowly shifting from remote to live, currently 57% are live. There has been no regression from the last testing results, based on results focusing on vocabulary, literature and comprehension. Lan School was

purchased to ensure testing results are legitimate. 30% of the students are not making adequate progress due to the remote environment. ESE and ESOL are in compliance. They are now One to One, all students were given new computers purchased with grant revenue. All new teachers are being sent to New Teacher Academy at the district. He and Dr. Valdes have been invited to present at the Leader In Me Symposium. Received an teacher intern from Spain that wanted to teach at AGA because of all they good things she had heard about the school.

X. Old Business

There was not old business.

XI. New Business

There was no new business.

XII. Board Member Comments

M. Diaz Kremer thanked the principals for all the great work they are doing.

M. Spiegelman asked how we could do a better job of communicating to the parents. Also questioned how the 30% of students failing will affect the enrollment next year.

M. Riedmiller asked were there any Summer school offerings for students that are failing.

M. Diaz Kremer suggested supporting action for additional funds to provide Summer school to students.

M. Spiegelman suggested conducting a survey with parents to find out their reasons for not sending students having difficulties to school.

M. Spiegelman made a motion to adjourn, seconded by M. Riedmiller. The meeting was adjourned at 6:33pm.