

# Board of Education Agenda- Southwest Leadership Academy

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING SOUTHWEST LEADERSHIP ACADEMY GOVERNING BOARD

Pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the public, that the Governing Board for Southwest Leadership Academy will hold a meeting open to the public as well as a Board retreat as specified below. The Board reserves the right to change the order of items on the agenda, with the exception of public hearings. One or more Board members may participate telephonically. The meeting will take place at Southwest Leadership Academy 4301 West Fillmore Street, Phoenix, AZ 85043.

Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.02 (H), the Board may discuss and take action concerning any matter listed on the agenda.

Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A) (3), the Board may vote to go into Executive Session, which will not be open to the public, for legal advice concerning any item on this agenda.

Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Rachel Parson, Board Liaison at (602) 265-2000. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

DATED AND POSTED this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 2021.

By

Rachel Parson

Board Liaison/Compliance Manager

### AGENDA

Southwest Leadership Academy Governing Board Tuesday,

March 23, 2021

5:30 PM (MST)

At

Southwest Leadership Academy, 4301 West Fillmore Street, Phoenix, AZ 85043

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Call in Number: Join Zoom Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://rop.zoom.us/j/8530836461>

Meeting ID: 853 083 6461

One tap mobile

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+12532158782,,8530836461# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

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+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

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+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

Meeting ID: 853 083 6461

Find your local number: <https://rop.zoom.us/u/cdHLQ49bm>

Join by SIP

[8530836461@zoomcrc.com](mailto:8530836461@zoomcrc.com)

All items on this agenda are open for discussion and possible action, including reports and action items. Public comment will be acknowledged at the end of the Agenda items.

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A copy of the Agenda and Meeting Minutes are available for review on our website: [www.southwestleadershipacademy.com](http://www.southwestleadershipacademy.com)

If authorized by a majority vote of the members of the Governing Board, any matter on the open meeting agenda may be discussed in executive session for the purpose of obtaining legal advice thereon, pursuant to A.R.S. 38431.03 (A)(3). In addition, the Board, by majority vote may enter into Executive Session for discussion and consultation with administration regarding student matters pursuant to A.R.S. §§15-342, 15-521, and 15-843; A.R.S. §38431.03 (A)(2) (consideration of records exempt by law from public inspection); legal advice/instruction to attorney pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03 Subsections (A)(3) and (A)(4). The executive session will be held immediately after the vote and will not be open to the public.

\*Additional information regarding any of the items on this agenda may be obtained prior to the meeting by calling Nancey Carter at (602) 265-2000. Also, you can attend the foregoing meeting by teleconference from the School. Please contact Nancey Carter of the School's administration to find out how.

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- 1. Call to order and roll call. (Board President): Mike Gantt, Ruben Olivas (Vice President), Brian Heath (Treasurer/Secretary, Terry Hines, and Drew Ainsworth.**
  
- 2. Introduction of Visitors: Dr. Philip Geiger (Superintendent), Dr. Greg Fowler (Principal), Jessica Vensel (Assistant Principal), Meghan Miller (Assistant Principal, Paula Signorelli (Director of Business Operations), Rachel Parson (Compliance Officer), Ski Broman (ROP CEO), CJ Bower (CFO), and Tracy Bennett Joseph (National Director of Education).**

### **3. Approval of Agenda –**

**Motion: Move to approve the agenda as submitted.**

### **4. Pledge of Allegiance**

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5. **Presentation on the use of tax-free bonding to create a new charter school under the direction of the existing SLA school board and its charter. (William Gelm, bond counsel at Buchalter, and Paula Permenter, financial advisor of Choice Advisors to make a 75-minute presentation to the SLA Board)**
6. **Approval of December 15, 2020, December 29, 2020 and January 12, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes.**

**Motion: Move to approve the minutes of December 15, 2020, December 29, 2020 and January 12, 2021 Board minutes as presented.**

7. **Finance– Paula Signorelli- Review December 2020, January 2021, and February 2021 Financial Reports (as of 3/18/21- February’s financials were note available)**

**Motion: Move to receive the December 2020, January 2021, and February 2021 financial reports as submitted.**

8. **Financial Report from the AZ State Board for Charter Schools – The Charter Board’s financial letter of January 8, 2021 is attached indicating the Charter meets the financial performance expectations.**

**Motion: Move to acknowledge the January 8, 2021 letter from the Arizona State Board for charter Schools noting that the school received a rating of “good standing” and meets the Charter Board’s financial performance expectations.**

9. **Approval of Budget Revisions for FY21 – Attached are the proposed budget revisions for the FY21 budget. In June 2021, the Board will be asked to approve final budget revisions to reflect the actual expenditures for the year. (As of 3/18/21, this information was unavailable)**

**Motion: Move the approved the adjustments to the FY21 budget as submitted.**

10. **Update regarding Board Policies – Rite of Passage has started putting all the policies approved by the Board into the ROP format and when completed the final set of policies will be presented to the Board for final adoption as a complete set of Arizona School Board Policies for a Charter School. Attached are samples of the policies that were previously approved by the Board and**

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reformatted into the ROP style. (Many thanks to Rusty Alexander and his staff for providing these reformatting services.)

**Motion: No action required at this time.**

- 11. Termination of the Day Care Agreement with Rise ‘N Shine Preschool –** Rise ‘N Shine has been operating since 2019 but the pandemic had a significant negative impact on their operations. They have indicated that they do not want to exercise their option for renewal at this time, so the administration is recommending that we terminate the agreement effective June 30, 2021. If we can finally get DES to work with us so our students who have children can receive day care tuition relief, we will seek another daycare to serve our students and our community.

**Motion: Move to terminate the contract with Rise ‘N Shine preschool effective June 30, 2021 and to authorize the Superintendent, Dr. Philip Geiger, to seek a replacement vendor if SLA can get tuition relief for its students from DES.**

- 12. Approval to remove Nancey Carter as a Charter School Representative for Southwest Leadership Academy and appoint Rachel Parson as a new Charter School Representative effective immediately.** Since Nancey Carter resigned her position as compliance officer for SLA in December and Rachel Parson has been appointed to replace her, it makes sense to approve the change in charter school representatives. Mrs. Parson will join Mr. Gantt, Mr. Heath, Dr. Fowler and Dr. Geiger as the charter representatives for SLA.

**Motion: Move to appoint Rachel Parson, SLA compliance officer, as a charter school representative or Southwest Leadership Academy effective immediately replacing Nancey Carter who has accepted a position with another ROP program.**

- 13. Principal’s Report –** Dr. Fowler will present information on the professional development, current academic programs, student achievement athletics, after school clubs, evening school student behavior, personnel, Galileo, ACT and AZM2 Testing and future plans.
- 14. FY22 Reopening Plan –** The Board has already approved the FY22 calendar, but we do need to discuss and approve returning to delivering instruction primarily in-person, or on-line or at evening school effective July 1, 2021. We

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are only funded 95% of the daily reimbursement by the state so moving students back to in-person is best financially as well as instructionally. If we have a significant number of students enrolling in the on-line program, we may have to modify the designed instructional program which we will have to forward to the AZ Charter School Board.

**Motion: Move to approve opening school effective July 1, 2021 focused on in-person instruction in conjunction with our approved on-line and evening school.**

- 15. Award of ESSER II funds** – SLA has received \$371,091.85 in ESSER II funds to be used for any purpose approved in our ESSER I application or any of our federal title programs. These funds do not have to be spent until 2023 so we are waiting until the FY22 budget is finalized to determine if those funds need to be expended to maintain a high-quality program at SLA and retain as many programs as possible in FY21 or FY22.

**No action required at this time by the Board.**

- 16. Approval of 301 Teacher Matrix for FY22** – Attached is a revised 301 teacher award matrix criteria to take effect July 1, 2021.

**Motion: Move to approve the revised 301 teacher award matrix to take effect July 1, 2021.**

**17. Announcements –**

- a. Mr. Connor is resigning effective June 30<sup>th</sup> and moving to California to commence a new career in theology.
- b. HR is going to issue FY22 teaching agreements this month so we can finalize staff for FY22.

**18. Adjournment**

The next regular meeting is June 29, 2021 @ 10:30 AM (MST) at Southwest Leadership Academy, 4301 West Fillmore Street, Phoenix, AZ 85043.