

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 University Club of Phoenix, 39 E Monte Vista Road, Phoenix, AZ 85004

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 Nancey Carter, 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 3rd day of April 2019.

By

Nancey Carter

Board Liaison/Compliance Manager

AGENDA

Southwest Leadership Academy Governing Board Tuesday,

April 9, 2019

5:45 PM (MST)

At

University Club of Phoenix, 39 E Monte Vista Road, Phoenix, AZ 85004

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Call in Number: 1-646-876-9923

Meeting ID: 853-083-6461

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.

A copy of the Agenda and Meeting Minutes are available for review on our website: 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.

**Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Nancey Carter at (602) 265-2000. Requests should be made as early as possible to arrange the accommodation.

1. Call to order and roll call. (Board President): Mike Gantt, Mark Hendershot (Treasurer), Ruben Olivas (Vice President), Terry Hines and Brian Heath.
2. Introduction of Visitors: Dr. Terry Rowles (presenter from Arizona School Boards Association, Robert Di Bacco and Yvonne Watterson speakers from Arizona Charter Schools Association, Dr. Greg Fowler (Principal), Dr. Philip

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Geiger (Superintendent), Paula Signorelli (Director of Business Operations), , Esmeralda Delgado (registrar), Cinthia Lopez (administrative assistant), Sylvia Alaniz (administrative assistant), Greg Peters (math teacher and school leader) , Chuck Connor (math teacher, school leader), Jon Walker (science teacher-school leader), Myles Jackson (lead behavior mentor), and School leader) and Marguerita Trujillo (former SLA +school requirements for an administrative certificate).

3. Board Retreat

- a. Presentation by Dr. Terry Rowles, Arizona School Boards Association** - the importance of policy development, changing rules, and the differences between charter policies and standard public school policies.
- b. Ten minute break**
- c. Presentation by Robert DiBacco and Yvonne Watterson from the Arizona Charter Schools Association**
 - i. How is equalization aid determined?
 - ii. Classroom Site Fund- how is that funding determined, what are the rules around spending those funds, how do you deal with funds that go unspent, what are the restrictions on these funds?
 - iii. Titles I, II, II, IV - similar questions to the one above
 - iv. What are the special financial benefits SLA gets as an alternative high school?
 - v. How should the Board be addressing the near \$1M surplus it currently has? What are the benefits and deficits of maintaining funds at that level?
 - vi. Knowing what you do about our dashboard, what do we need to do to qualify for expansion?

Regular Board meeting

4. Approval of Corrected Meeting Minutes from January 24 2019 board meeting.

Motion: Move to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2019 Board meeting attached.

5. Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 28, 2019 board meeting.

Motion: Move to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2019 Board meeting attached.

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- 6. Review of FY19 Budget, financial Reports for February 2019, Status of Revenue Recovery for Past Auditor's Fees, 1.06% funds, Filing of revised budget with AZDE, retroactive teacher pay, placement of personnel increases and average teacher salaries on the SLA website as required and the FY 18 Federal Tax Return** -Paula Signorelli, ROP Director of Business Operations, will review the monthly budget summary, expenditures, revenue, and projected budget performance and answer questions. She will also address the FY18 Federal Tax Return and the status of several outstanding items.

Motion: Move to receive the February 2019 financial reports as submitted.

- 7. Designation of Staff considered teachers for the purpose of 301 funds and salary increases** – According to the Attorney General's Office; it is the Board of Education that can determine which employees are considered teachers for receiving 301 funds and specific salary increases designated for teachers. This Board has never taken a vote on this issue but to clarify the Board's intentions regarding inclusion of certain positions, the Board is being asked to approve the motion noted below. The positions must be those of teachers, in the public school arena they also must be certified personnel, but not necessarily certified in charter schools; however, they must have instructional interaction with students.

Motion: Move to designate all full time teachers as teaches for the purpose of receiving 301 funds and specific teacher salaries, and excluding administrators, compliance officers and guidance counselors.

- 8. Principal's Report** – Dr. Fowler will present information on the changes to the school program and results for FY19 including Galileo Test results, Rosetta Stone, Beyond Textbooks, Reading 180, student academic performance for the first three quarters of the year, athletics, after school clubs, student behavior, personnel, and future plans.
 - 1. Academic and Career Fair 3/22**
 - 2. Galileo Scores**
 - 3. AZ Merit**
 - 4. AIMS Science Exam**
- 9. Approval of Futures Education Services for Special Education-** Attached is a proposal from Futures Education Services to fulfill an expanded role in providing special education services to the students at SLA for FY20. This

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proposal includes administrative support to ensure that we are complying with all state and federal regulations in special education. Futures will also employ and supervise our special education teacher.

Motion: Move to approve the proposal from Futures Education for FY20 to provide special education services and oversight at the rates noted in the proposal.

- 10. Expansion of Technology Program (through Woz U Education) –** This past year we purchased three programs from Woz U Education drones, coding and cybersecurity. This year we are looking to add applications development and engineering (including 3D printing). The total cost to replenish our existing kits and to add the two new kits is \$30,000 of which The Woz Foundation will fund \$21,000.

Motion to approve the expansion and replenishment of the technology program using Woz U Education technology kits at a cost of \$30,000, of which The Woz Foundation will fund \$21,000.

- 11. Transportation Equipment for FY20 –** Currently we have four vans that we use to transport students to and from school, field trips, athletic events, and for school use to pick up and deliver equipment, furniture and a host of miscellaneous activities. One of those van's leases will expire at the end of May and we do not intend to renew the lease as the vehicle has in excess of 100,000 miles and is in need of additional maintenance. This year we have spent a lot of money on vans due to replacement of catalytic converters that were stolen, A/C that was not working, engine problems, and a host of other problems costing us in excess of \$5K this year alone. The administration requests approval to seek competitive quotes and/or cooperative procurement agency bids for both a 12-passenger van (that only requires a standard driver's license) and a 24-passenger school bus (that requires a CDL license) for award at the June meeting or earlier if necessary.

Motion: Move to authorize the administration to obtain pricing for both a 12-passenger van and a 24-passenger school bus.

- 12. Authorization to Extend the Facilities Use Agreement with the Isaac School District No. 5 –** The current lease with Isaac School District expires June 30, 2019 and has a requirement to notify the District if we intend to renew

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our lease 60 days prior, which is April 30, 2019. Therefore, the administration would like approval to negotiate a renewal of the agreement and the cost for the FY20 school year.

Motion: Move to authorize the superintendent or his designee to negotiate a one-year renewal of the school site at 4301 West Fillmore Street effective July 1, 2019 to June 20, 2020.

13. Continuation of Evening School for FY20 - Expulsion of Student –

Evening school began right after Thanksgiving 2018 with 11 enrolled students. Currently we have 2-4 students showing up on any given night but we know that there are many students who have simply dropped out of school and are not attending any other school. We have had some day students come in the evening for help with their work but in general, the program has been a struggle and did not come close to meeting our expectations. The question is do we want to try and promote the evening school for FY20? We know there are students out there that need to be served. This past year we have been able to subsidize the program with our \$31K graduation grant and hopefully we can have that grant renewed for another year, as our graduation rate is also unacceptable. Attached is a summary of the budget and plan to operate the evening school for another year, which shall include aggressive recruiting, more engaging instruction, and a person responsible for its success.

Motion: Move to authorize evening school for FY20 in accordance with the plan provided by the administration attached.

14. Approval to Submit a Request for a CAP Increase to 500 - During the Charter Board meeting last year, the Charter Board president stated that if we have significantly improved scores on the AZ Merit test for FY19 the SLA Board could apply for an enrollment cap. To qualify we will need 85% of our current CAP of 400, which is 340 students to qualify.

Motion: Move authorize the superintendent to formally request a CAP increase from 400 students to 500 for the FY20 school year.

15. Authorization to Retain Consultants to Assist in the Preparation of a New Charter Application, a New School Amendment Application, a CAP increase and possible Grade Expansion- The administration recommends issuing consulting agreements to Dr. Leonora Ketyer and Dr. Sharon Hill to

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function under the direction of the superintendent to assist in the preparation of these applications, which have specific deadlines at the rate of \$35 per hour and approved expenses.

Motion: Move to authorize the superintendent to issue consulting agreements to Dr. Ketyer and Dr. Hill (resumes attached) to assist in the preparation of various applications to the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools at the rate of \$35 per hour and approved expenses.

16. Student Expulsion – (ALL MATERIAL PROVIDED IS STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL) The Board has received confidential information about a student FM who assaulted a staff member and based upon the facts of the matter has been recommended for permanent expulsion. FM’s parents have been advised that they may attend the Board meeting to represent their son before a final decision is made.

Motion: Move to permanently expel FM for serious infractions of the school’s code of conduct.

17. Adjournment

Next regular meeting is June 30, 2019 at 10:30 AM (MST) at 4301 West Fillmore Street, Phoenix, AZ 85043.

References:

Timeline for a New Charter School Application

KEY STEPS	MONTH
Applicant Workshop	Held in March
Application Due	June 19, 2019
Soft deadline date	May 10, 2019
Applicant Capacity Interview	October 2019
ASBCS Consideration	December 9 and 10, 2019