

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING
SOUTHWEST LEADERSHIP ACADEMY
GOVERNING BOARD**

Pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) 38-431.02, notice was given to the general public, that the Governing Board for Southwest Leadership Academy will hold a meeting open to the public on Tuesday, March 13, 2018 at 10:30 AM (MST). The meeting was held at 4301 West Fillmore Street, Phoenix, AZ 85043 at Southwest Leadership Academy.

Michael Gantt, Board President, called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM. Mr. Gantt called the roll and those present were Jenny Diaz, Ruben Olivas, Terry Hines, Brian Heath and Mark Hendershott. All Board members were present.

In addition to the Board, also present were Dr. Gregory Fowler, principal and Dr. Philip Geiger, Regional Director of Education.

President Gantt said he wanted to discuss the expansion plans for both the school at South Mountain Community College and the new one proposed on today's agenda. Dr. Geiger described the plans for the school the expansion school the board had already approved and a potential new site located at 36th Street and McDowell in Phoenix (Starshine Academy). Mr. Hendershott asked about security at South Mountain Community College to which both Dr. Geiger and Mr. Heath noted that the building is quite secure with iron fencing to prevent access except where there are fire exits and that the college does provide its own security force. Dr. Geiger suggested that further discussion on the expansion plans be deferred until that portion of the agenda. At that time, Mr. Heath submitted a motion.

Motion to Amend the Agenda: Mr. Heath made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hendershott, to add the approval of a second expansion school to the agenda as an emergent issue in order to submit the application for the second expansion school to the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools by their expansion deadline of March 16, 2018. The item was also posted on the Southwest Leadership website and the door of the school on Monday, March 12, 2018. Motion passed unanimously.

1. Approval of Revised FY18 School Calendar

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Hines, seconded by Mr. Olivas to approve the revised 2017/2018 school calendar for Southwest Leadership Academy and the accompanying documents and to authorize Dr. Philip Geiger to submit these documents to the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools. Motion Passed unanimously

2. Approval of FY19 School Calendar

Motion: Mr. Heath made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hendershott to approve the proposed school calendar for Southwest Leadership Academy for 2018-2019 and authorize Dr. Philip Geiger to submit the calendar to the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Approval for expansion of a third alternative high school for 2018-2019

The Board discussed the site of Starshine Academy and wanted to know why the property was available. Dr. Geiger discussed the status of that charter in regards to the State Board for Charter Schools and the bankruptcy court. Mr. Heath described the property in detail and noted that several expert staff members from Rite of Passage examined the facility and found the property to be an excellent choice for a charter school that Southwest Leadership Charter Board could add to its current contract with the State Charter Board. Mr. Hendershott asked about plans for addressing an “active shooter” at the facility to which Mr. Heath noted that ROP has protocols and in fact was providing training for such an event this particular day.

Mr. Heath and Dr. Geiger explained why the Board needed to take action on the request for a second expansion school at this time since the new school expansion requests are due to the Arizona Board for Charter Schools this coming Friday, March 16, 2018.

Motion: Ms. Diaz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Heath to authorize the administration to submit a second expansion request for a second new charter school for FY19 and further authorizes Dr. Philp Geiger to represent the Board in this endeavor and to take action on behalf of the Board. The motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business, President Gantt adjourned the meeting at 11:13 A.M.