

**Meeting Minutes**  
 Southwest Leadership Governing Board  
 Tuesday, September 24, 2013  
 8:30-10:30 AM  
 Via Webex

**In attendance:**

Harriet Caruso, Board President  
 Mike Gantt, Board Secretary  
 Barry McBride, Board Treasurer  
 Brian Heath, EMO  
 CJ Bower, EMO  
 Cole Arnold, EMO  
 Mikii Bendotti, EMO  
 Mark Yockus, EMO  
 Nancey Carter, EMO Board Liaison

**Absent:**

No members of the public present.

1. Call to order and roll call by Harriet Caruso @8:40 am.
2. Draft Meeting Minutes from the 8.27.13 Board meeting will be tabled for the next meeting.
3. Board Business
  - a. Recruiting Update (Information/Discussion/Action)
    - i. Mike Gantt made a motion to recommend Ms. Diaz, upon receipt of all required documents and approval by the Charter Board, as a Board member. Barry McBride 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, all in favor, so moved.
    - ii. Mike Gantt made a motion to recommend Ms. Villareal, upon receipt of all required documents and approval by the Charter Board, as a Board member. Barry McBride 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, all in favor, so moved.
 

As a Board member, Ms. Villareal would also like to begin looking for funding to potentially create a play center within the school to assist students
    - iii. Not on the Agenda, but a person to consider for a role on the Board as a student representative is Adrian Vyas. Mr. Vyas was at Canyon State Academy and is currently a senior at ASU. He has spoken in Washington, DC about youth in the Foster Care system and has dedicated his life to helping other kids.
 

Action called by Board to continue discussing adding Mr. Vyas to the Board and in what capacity.
  - b) Logo Decision (Discussion/Action)
 

Six new logos presented to the board, moving toward the concept of a shield to represent the school. Board reviewed all the logos presented thus far and decided

to table for next meeting, once all logos were reviewed and voted on by the Board.

4. Financial Review—Financials for August were reviewed and discussed by Cole.

Harriet Caruso indicated they are still waiting for IDEA to put the grant up on the DOE website; will be based on the Oct 1 dollars. Information regarding the funding has been forwarded to EMO for budgeting purposes.

Title I has to be submitted after 40<sup>th</sup> day.

5. School Report—Mark Yockus

a. School Update Summary/Overview:

Charter Board visited the school to review SLA and observe classrooms. Overall impression was good. Attendance documentation and teacher rosters forwarded to Charter Authority per their request.

NCA Survey to be set up and committee put together. MAP testing is on hold right now.

b. Student Count is currently between 190-220 students physically in seats, but around 240 in Powerschool.

c. Current Marketing Plan: Open house on Thursday; flyers mailed and handed out.

d. Personnel/Staffing: None mentioned.

e. Calendar: Two more weeks before end of first block. Make-up school is started for those students needing to make up lost classroom time. Student Achievement Assembly scheduled for 10/3.

Outside athletic field will be used more for student incentive to reward achievement. Basketball is starting in October.

f. Needs/Concerns: None mentioned.

6. Student Achievement and State Reporting—Mikii Bendotti and Harriet Caruso (Information/Discussion)

a) Curriculum and Instruction-doing informal observations in the classroom using the teacher evaluation instrument. Met with teachers and their goal for the year is to design a curriculum map accommodate students that SLA serves.

b) AZELLA testing-25 completed tests (includes a telephone interview). Held back by limitation of telephone lines available for students to use. AIMS testing has started. Ms. Bendotti will report scores once completed.

c) Professional Development

Continually developing Special Education training. Also working to make teachers comfortable with the new teacher evaluation instrument.

d) State Reporting

All teachers now in Powerschool; this week will need to upload Student data into the State system. Major hurdles with Powerschool, but roughly 345 students are being seen at the State level. New Registrar is being brought up to speed. Special Education policies/procedures. Currently, SLA has 29 in-house IEPs.

1. Policies/procedures for adoption

Ms. Caruso asked when the Policy and Procedure Manual will be distributed to the Board. Ms. Bendotti indicated the Student Handbook is completed but has not been distributed. Policies are currently being written; Ms. Caruso stated that AZ Statute must be followed when writing these policies to ensure SLA is in compliance.

Ms. Caruso asked Mikii Bendotti to send out the Handbook and the statutes to the Board so they may begin reviewing. The next plan for these P&Ps is to be approved by the State. Ms. Bendotti will also review the evaluation tool with the board during the next regular Board meeting.

e) Accreditation Advanced-ED

Fee paid and application sent in to NCA. Once the survey is completed, NCA will have someone come out and visit to give initial approval for accreditation. Crucial to be accredited through NCA and Elite so the funds can be pulled down from Title I and II. MCESA wants to partner with SLA for the Race to the Top funds. Ask Jenny Diaz for a letter of support to submit.

7. Identify future agenda items. (Discussion/Action)

Revisit discussion of Adrian Vyas.

Teacher/Principal evaluation tool and P&Ps for Board review.

9. No public comment received. Mike Gantt approved adjourning the meeting; Barry McBride 2nds, all in favour, so moved. Meeting adjourned at 10:20am by Harriet Caruso.

Minutes scribed by Nancey Carter for Harriet Caruso.

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