

Board of Education Minutes- Southwest Leadership Academy May 4, 2020 10:00 AM

Pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) 38-431.02, notice was given to the public, that the Governing Board for Southwest Leadership Academy will hold a meeting open to the public on May 4, 2020, at 10:00 AM at Southwest Leadership Academy located at 4301 West Fillmore Street, Phoenix, AZ 85043.

Call to order and roll call. Mike Gantt (Board President) called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM and called the roll: Present were Mike Gantt, Mark Hendershot (Treasurer/Secretary), Ruben Olivas (Vice President), Terry Hines and Brian Heath.

Also present were Nancey Carter, Compliance Officer, and Dr. Philip Geiger, superintendent.

Mr. Gantt thanked Board members for joining the meeting and turned the meeting over to Dr. Geiger

Dr. Geiger stated that there is only one agenda item which is the approval to apply to the State Board for Charter Schools to offer online instruction for the FY21 school year. Dr. Geiger said that the information provided to the board on the agenda describes the request. Dr. Geiger indicated that there is no guarantee of approval and there is a \$3,000 fee to apply.

Approval to Submit a Request to Provide On-Line Instruction for FY21 – In light of the recent shift in instructional methodologies due to school closures and the success that many operators are having during this time, the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools (Board) is aware that charters are exploring the option of adding online instruction for the upcoming school year. The ASBCS Board and staff were able to solidify a process with Rio Salado to provide an opportunity for charters wishing to add an AOI to their contract for the upcoming year.

Typically, an AOI (Arizona on line) request must be approved by the Board's May meeting. However, during this time of school closures, the Board will offer an expedited process. If a charter holder that is eligible for expansion files an **administratively complete AOI Amendment Request no later than May 14, 2020**, it will be reviewed by Rio Salado, and if deemed substantively complete, it will be considered by the Board at a special meeting (date and time to be determined) to allow for the charter to provide instruction through the means of the AOI for the upcoming school year.

The submission and review process for adding an AOI will remain unchanged and will require a charter to be [in compliance](#), eligible for expansion (received an A, B, or C letter grade in FY 2019), and file a complete [AOI amendment request](#). The AOI process includes an administrative review by Board staff, a substantive review by Rio Salado (including a virtual demonstration), and consideration by the Board at a public meeting. If the request is deemed administratively incomplete (due to missing documents or non-payment of the required fee) it will be closed and will not be forwarded on for consideration.

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Southwest Leadership Academy is a “B” rated school and meets the other qualifications for submission for approval. The administration recommends that on-line instruction be added to the repertoire of instructional delivery methods provided at SLA.

A motion was made by Mr. Hendershot, seconded by Ms. Hines to authorize the Superintendent, Dr. Philip Geiger, to submit an application to the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools to provide online instruction during the FY21 school year and to submit payment of \$3,000 to the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools. The motion passed unanimously.

President Gantt adjourned the meeting at 10:04 AM and advised the members that the next regularly scheduled board meeting is Tuesday, May 19, 2020, at 10:30 AM at Southwest Leadership Academy.

The regular June board meeting is Tuesday, June 23, 2020, at 10:30 AM (MST) at Southwest Leadership Academy.