

Minutes of the July 15, 2021, Special Board of Education Meeting
SOUTHWEST LEADERSHIP ACADEMY
GOVERNING BOARD

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 July 15, 2021. The meeting took place at Southwest Leadership Academy 4301 West Fillmore Street, Phoenix, AZ 85043.

- 1. Call to order and roll call. (Board President): Mike Gantt called the meeting to order at 10:33 AM (MST). Present were Mr. Gantt, Terry Hines (Vice President), Drew Ainsworth (Treasurer/Secretary). And Ruben Olivas. Brian Heath was absent.**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance -President Gantt led those attending in the Pledge of Allegiance.**
- 3. Introduction of Visitors: In addition to the Board the following persons were also present: Dr. Philip Geiger (Superintendent), Dr. Greg Fowler (Principal), Valerie White (New Assistant Principal), Abigail Standley (New Assistant Principal for Special Programs), Sean M. Diana (candidate for the board) and Jacques LeMaitre (school accountant).**
- 4. Approval of June 29, 2021, Board Meeting Minutes.**

A motion was made by Mrs. Hines, seconded by Mr. Ainsworth to approve the minutes of the June 29, 2021, Board meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

- 5. Appointment of a new board member –**

Current Board member terms expire as follows:

Mrs. Hines 6/30/22

Mr. Olivas 6/30/23

Mr. Ainsworth 6/30/23

Mr. Heath 6/30/23

Mr. Gantt 6/30/24

Recommendation to appoint a new board member: Mr. Sean M. Diana, an educator who owns and operates Mandarin and Spanish immersion preschools and is an applicant to the State Charter School Board for a similar program in a K-8 charter school has indicated an

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interest in serving on the SLA Board. Dr. Geiger met with Mr. Diana and believes he would be an asset to our board. Contacted again recently Mr. Diana expressed his continued interest in a Board position. Mr. Diana told the Board about his background and his experience in the education field as well as his desire to serve underprivileged students by becoming a member of the SLA Governing Board.

A motion was made by Mr. Olivas, seconded by Mrs. Hines to approve the appointment of Sean M. Diana as a member of the Southwest Leadership Academy Board effective July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2024 (Resume attached). The motion passed unanimously.

- 6. Approval of Capital Expenditure from FY21 budget** – As we projected a positive balance for the end of FY21, we decided to use as much of those funds as possible rather than placing the surplus into reserve and thereby reduce expenses in FY 22 and purchased 220 Chromebooks. Each teacher will have a supply of Chromebooks for their classroom this coming year stored in their classroom in individual, locking charging cabinets. Competitive quotes were obtained and DHE provided the lowest per unit cost. This is the same company we used previously for Chromebooks. Approval by the Board will be appreciated.

A motion was made by Mr. Ainsworth, seconded by Mr. Olivas to approve the purchase of 220 Chromebooks in the amount of \$61,448.20 plus tax from the FY 21 school budget. The motion passed unanimously.

- 7. Finance-** At this time, the Board opened the meeting to the public for comment on the recommended FY22 school budget. There were no questions. Dr. Geiger did note that the state's budget was recently approved, and the new budget numbers are not included in the budget submitted. Therefore the state is asking school districts to submit a revised budget with the new state funding number on or before September 15, 2021.

A motion was made by Mrs. Hines, seconded by Mr. Ainsworth to approve the recommended FY22 annual school budget as submitted (attached). The motion passed unanimously.

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State of AZ budget due dates for charter schools

Federal and state maintenance of operations declaration form – July 3 (Saturday)

Proposed Budget (approved and uploaded) – July 5 (Monday)

Estimated Student Count Enrollment list per SF21-044 – July 9 (Friday)

Adopted Budget (board approval) – July 15 (Thursday)

Adopted budget (uploaded July 18 – (Sunday)

8. **Approval of Lease Agreement with the Isaac School District-** The Isaac School District business administrator has forwarded the new, but unchanged lease for 4301 West Fillmore Street. A copy is attached. The lease is between Rite of Passage and Isaac School District and SLA will be a sublessor. Dr. Geiger noted that once this lease is approved by the Board, ROP will execute the lease as the lessee and will submit sublease for the Board to approve between ROP and SLA, the sublessee.

A motion was made by Mr. Olivas, seconded by Mrs. Hines to approve the lease with the Isaac School District for the FY22 school year. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Announcements

Regularly scheduled board meetings at Southwest Leadership Academy on 4301 West Fillmore Street commencing 10:30 AM (MST) unless noted otherwise – Tuesday, September 21, 2022; Tuesday, December 14, 2022; Tuesday, March 22, 2022 (plus retreat) @ 5:30 PM at a location to be determined and Tuesday, June 28, 2022.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting is September 21, 2021, at Southwest Leadership Academy.

A special board meeting will be held to approve a revised FY22 budget on or before September 15, 2021. Further details will be forthcoming.

SCHOOL STARTS – August 2, 2021

10. **Adjournment _ President Gantt adjourned the meeting at 11:07 AM (MST).**