

**Board of Education Minutes- September 21, 2021**  
**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 Tuesday, September 21, 2021, at 10:30 AM (MST) at Southwest Leadership Academy 4301 West Fillmore Street, Phoenix, AZ 85043. Notice was posted on the SLA website and at the school on Thursday, September 16, 2021, and access via zoom was published.

1. **Call to order and roll call.** Board president, Mike Gantt called the meeting to order at 10:34 AM (MST). Other board members present online were Drew Ainsworth (Treasurer/Secretary), Ruben Olivas, and Brian Heath. The following board members were absent: Terry Hines (vice president) and Sean Diana.
  
2. **Introduction of Visitors: President Gantt also welcomed the following individuals to the meeting as well:** Dr. Philip Geiger (Superintendent), Dr. Greg Fowler (Principal), Paula Signorelli (ROP Business development director), Jacques LeMaitre (school accountant) and Valerie White (SLA assistant principal).
  
3. **Pledge of Allegiance:** President Gantt led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance.
  
4. **Principal's Report:** Dr. Greg Fowler commented on the programs listed below indicating that the Literacy Grant program is underway with a teacher and a paraprofessional for students who need to increase their reading capabilities. He noted that the sports program has been very successful especially the women's volleyball team which is still undefeated. He said that we are still looking for a second assistant principal and a part time homeless student liaison. At the request of Mr. Heath, Dr. Geiger explained

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that Naviance is a new software program SLA has purchased to create and monitor a student's academic and career plan and to provide them with resources needed to maximize each student's potential. Dr. Fowler said the summer school was well done. Mr. Heath thanked Dr. Fowler for his leadership in getting staff immunized from Covid 19.

- a. Status of Literacy Grant (\$888K)
  - b. Continuing Programs: Beyond Textbooks, Galileo, Reading 180, Rosetta Stone, Standards Based Instruction,
  - c. Sports Programs
  - d. Staffing & new personnel (Art, tutor, new behavior mentor, school within a school, new administrative assistant, 2 new assistant principals
  - e. New Programs: Math 180, Naviance (E-Cap), Performance Matters, artificial intelligence (WOZ)
  - f. Summer School
  - g. Galileo Test Results, AZM2 results
5. **Approval of June, July and August Financial Reports-** Jacques LeMaitre carefully reviewed the financial reports for July and August which they previously received but also displayed the complete August financials which had just been finalized.
- A motion was made by Mr. Heath, seconded by Mr. Ainsworth to approve the June, July, and August 2021 financials for Southwest Leadership Academy. The motion passed unanimously.**
6. **Update regarding Board Policies –** With special thanks to Rusty Alexander, corporate business manager, previously approved policies have now been restated into the ROP model

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and are being presented today for the Board's approval. Mr. Heath said that the proposed policies have not yet been reviewed by the financial and HR leadership at ROP to make certain that they conform to overall ROP policies and recommended that the approval of these policies be tabled until the next Board meeting.

**A motion was made by Mr. Heath, seconded by Mr. Ainsworth to table the approval of these policies attached to the next Board meeting. The motion passed unanimously.**

**7. Approval of August 3, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes.**

**A motion was made by Mr. Heath, seconded by Mr. Olivas to approve the minutes of the August 3, 2021 Board minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.**

8. **Approval of sublease agreement** between Rite of Passage and Southwest Leadership Academy for FY22 school year. Annually the Isaac School District and Rite of Passage for the lease of 4301 West Fillmore Street property, Phoenix, AZ, previously called Carl Smith Middle School enabling ROP to sublease to the non for profit, Southwest Leadership Academy to operate a charter school. Attached is the fully executed agreement between the parties which was also approved by the SLA School Board. Also attached is the proposed sublease from ROP to SLA for the FY22 school year which the Board needs to approve and authorize the Board president or his designee to execute.

Mr. Ainsworth noted that the agreement between SLA and ROP mirrors the agreement with ROP and Isaac School District making the SLA agreement basically a pass through.

**A motion was made by Mr. Ainsworth, seconded by Mr. Olivas to approve the sublease between Rite of**

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**Passage and Southwest Leadership Academy for the use of 4301 West Fillmore Street, Phoenix, AZ for the FY 22 school year and to further authorize Board President, Michael Gantt, or his designee to execute the agreement on behalf of the Board. The motion passed unanimously.**

9. **Status of COVID 19 Mitigation Procedures at SLA** – At this time, SLA is taking the following precautions:
1. Students will be offered a mask upon entry to school, encouraged to wear it but not required.
  2. Students will be asked if they are feeling well and if there is a concern, their temperature will be taken and if above 100.4, they will be sent home.
  3. Each day classrooms will be fogged nightly. A determination will be made regarding the continuation based on COVID cases reported.
  4. Plexiglas shields have been placed between students and the front office staff.
  5. Hand sanitizer machines have been placed throughout the school.
  6. Each classroom has hand sanitizer available to staff and students.
  7. Temperature monitoring devices have been installed each classroom, the main hallway upon entry, and the front office.
  8. SLA conducted a COVID 19 vaccination clinic for all staff, students, and community members on August 31<sup>st</sup> with a follow up clinic on September 21<sup>st</sup>.

**A motion was made by Mr. Heath, seconded by Mr. Ainsworth to approve the ongoing COVID mitigation steps taken by the school administration and to authorize the superintendent to arrange for additional vaccination clinics at the school to enable the community, students,**

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**and staff to be immunized against COVID 19. The motion passed unanimously.**

**10. Adjournment-** President Gantt adjourned the meeting at 11:37 AM (MST).

**Announcements:** Regularly scheduled board meetings are held at Southwest Leadership Academy on 4301 West Fillmore Street commencing 10:30 AM (MST) unless noted otherwise – 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 at 10:30 AM (MST), December 14, 2021, at Southwest Leadership Academy.**