

# Board of Education Meeting Minutes - Southwest Leadership Academy

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING SOUTHWEST LEADERSHIP ACADEMY GOVERNING BOARD

Pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the public, that the Governing Board for Southwest Leadership Academy will hold a meeting open to the public as well as a Board retreat as specified below. The Board reserves the right to change the order of items on the agenda, with the exception of public hearings. One or more Board members may participate telephonically. The meeting will be held via video conferencing.

Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.02 (H), the Board may discuss and take action concerning any matter listed on the agenda.

Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A) (3), the Board may vote to go into Executive Session, which will not be open to the public, for legal advice concerning any item on this agenda.

Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Bridget Carrington at (480) 987-9700 ext 5898. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

DATED AND POSTED this 25<sup>th</sup> day of March 2024.

By

Miqala Salinas, Compliance Coordinator

### AGENDA

Southwest Leadership Academy Governing Board

March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024

3:00 PM

Topic: SLA March Board Meeting  
Time: Mar 26, 2024 03:00 PM Arizona

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://rop.zoom.us/j/83014341090>

# Board of Education Meeting Minutes - Southwest Leadership Academy

Meeting ID: 830 1434 1090  
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+1 564 217 2000 US  
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All items on this agenda are open for discussion and possible action, including reports and action items. Public comment will be acknowledged at the end of the agenda items.

A copy of the Agenda and Meeting Minutes are available for review on our website: [www.southwestleadershipacademy.com](http://www.southwestleadershipacademy.com)

If authorized by a majority vote of the members of the Governing Board, any matter on the open meeting agenda may be discussed in executive session for the purpose of obtaining legal advice thereon, pursuant to A.R.S. 38431.03 (A)(3). In addition, the Board, by majority vote may enter Executive Session for discussion and consultation with administration regarding student matters pursuant to A.R.S. §§15-342, 15-521, and 15-843; A.R.S. §38431.03 (A)(2) (consideration of records exempt by law from public inspection); legal advice/instruction to attorney pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03 Subsections (A)(3) and (A)(4). The executive session will be held immediately after the vote and will not be open to the public.

\*Additional information regarding any of the items on this agenda may be obtained prior to the meeting by calling Bridget Carrington at (480) 987-9700 ext 5898. Also, you can attend the foregoing meeting by teleconference.

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# Board of Education Meeting Minutes - Southwest Leadership Academy

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** Mike Gantt, Board President; Drew Ainsworth, Treasurer/Secretary; Brian Heath, Ex-Officio Member, Dr. Molly Schloderback, Member; Emily Beard, Member.

Called meeting to order at 3:02PM.

Attendance: Mike Gantt, Board President; Molly Schloderback, Member; Emily Beard, Member; Brian Heath, Ex-Officio Member; Drew Ainsworth, Treasurer/Secretary

2. **Introduction of Visitors:** Bridget Carrington, Superintendent; Christae Spivey, SLA Principal; Miqala Salinas, SLA Compliance Coordinator; Jennifer Gentle, Assistant Principal; Cheryl Myers, Accounting Manager; Alicia Sullivan, Senior Accountant; Keith Chilton, Director of Business Operations

Attendance: Bridget Carrington, Superintendent; Christae Spivey, SLA Principal; Miqala Salinas, SLA Compliance Coordinator; Jennifer Gentle, SLA Assistant Principal; Alicia Sullivan, Senior Accountant; Cheryl Myers, Accounting Manager

3. **Pledge of Allegiance:**

Mike Gantt presented the Pledge of Allegiance

4. **Approval of Agenda:** Agenda for March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Motion:** Move to approve the March 26<sup>th</sup> agenda as submitted.

**Discussion:** A motion was made by Brian Heath, seconded by Drew Ainsworth. The motion passed unanimously.

5. **Approval of Board Minutes:** Minutes for January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Motion:** Move to approve the SLA Board Meeting Minutes for January 24<sup>th</sup> as presented.

**Discussion:** A motion was made by Brian Heath, seconded by Emily Beard. The motion passed unanimously.

6. **Approval of Single Audit Submission:** Final fiscal year 2023 audit to submit to Arizona State Board for Charter Schools.

**Motion:** Move to approve the FY23 audit as presented.

**Discussion:** The Arizona State Board for Charter Schools deadline for the FY23 audit submission is due Friday 3/29/2024. However, we received confirmation from the audit firm that that we do not need board approval prior to submission. Once the final audit is received to accounting, we will submit. There were two findings that were left at the end of the audit.

A motion was made by Mike Gantt, seconded by Drew Ainsworth. The motion passed unanimously.

7. **Approval of 2024-2025 Bell Schedule:** Please see attached.

# Board of Education Meeting Minutes - Southwest Leadership Academy

**Motion:** Move to approve the bell schedule for FY25 as presented.

**Discussion:** Christae Spivey presented the FY25 Bell Schedule. The bell schedule will be updated for FY25 to reflect six periods per day as opposed to an A/B block schedule with eight periods. This will reflect a traditional high school schedule, and also prevent the students from graduating early. The issue we see with graduating early will impact our numbers as well as the preparation for post-graduation life.

Drew Ainsworth asked about the lunch period and how this will impact the students. Christae Spivey explained that we have a closed campus so it will not interfere.

A motion was made by Mike Gantt, seconded by Emily Beard. The motion passed unanimously.

## 8. **Approval of 2024-2025 Calendar:** Please see attached.

**Motion:** Move to approve the calendar for FY25 as presented.

**Discussion:** Christae Spivey explained this is a mirror calendar of Phoenix Union District, plus it also mirrors SLA's FY24 calendar.

Drew Ainsworth asked about May 23<sup>rd</sup> listed on the calendar. Found that it was a typo, the last day of school is an early release day on May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

A motion was made by Brian Heath given that we edit the calendar to reflect the valid last day of school, seconded by Drew Ainsworth. The motion passed unanimously.

## 9. **Approval of 301 funding for the 2024-2025 school year:**

**Motion:** Move to approve the Prop 301-teacher incentive for 2024-2024 school year.

**Discussion:** Mike Gantt found typo on title header stating SY23-24. This will be corrected to reflect "SY24-25". Additionally, found a typo under section "Quarter 4" that will reflect the additional amount of \$600 that will come from the Teacher Evaluation.

Christae Spivey explained how the teachers will need to meet the updated requirements in order to receive Prop 301 compensation.

Mike Gantt asked if all teachers have received the incentive in prior years. Christae Spivey explained all of them have received the incentive, although they may not have met the full capped amount.

Brian Heath asked why the home-visits are being removed from the 301 incentive. Christae Spivey explained the teachers were not feeling safe, they weren't adding value.

Mike Gantt asked what portion of staff is taking advantage of the incentive, and how often this is done. Christae Spivey explained this is done every quart. Jennifer Gentle does walk-through of classrooms, documents findings, and then reviews if the teacher meets the requirements. A meeting is held individually with each teacher at the end of each quarter.

# Board of Education Meeting Minutes - Southwest Leadership Academy

Brian Heath asked how we will measure the formative assessment. Christae Spivey explained that there will be common formative assessments across the board. The lesson plans will be based on classroom walk-throughs, and the forms used during the walk-throughs will measure the data on how much lesson plans were leveraged. Additionally, Brian Heath asked who can participate, and if we can extend this to more than just the teachers. Christae Spivey explained that all teachers and the guidance counselor are receiving the incentive currently.

A motion was made by Brian Heath to approve the 301 with the following amendments:

1. Amend school year title from SY23-24 to SY24-25
2. Quarter 4 Individual Professional Growth – add to reflect the annual evaluation with amount up to \$600
3. Leadership team to evaluate if we can add additional staff (legally) outside of teachers i.e. Social Worker, Food Services

The motion was seconded by Emily Beard, and passed unanimously.

## 10. **School Report:** Review of Southwest Leadership Academy updates as presented.

Christae Spivey presented the report:

- Enrollment at 235
- ACT Testing this week 3/25/2024 for the 11<sup>th</sup> graders.
- SLA Showdown Tournament Fundraiser on 4/5/24
- College & Career Fair 4/18/2024 as well as a new SLA promo video being recorded
- Prom will be held on 4/27/2024
- Graduation will be held on 5/22/2024

**Discussion:** Brian Heath mentioned he will support 1 team, as well as volunteering to be a court monitor.

Bridget Carrington will be sponsoring 2 teams, and will be attending.

Spivey explained the SLA Showdown is a fundraising/marketing event. This will help fundraise for athletics, provide some school moral. From 9:30-2:30PM on April 5<sup>th</sup> at the American Sports Complex.

## 11. **Financial Report:** Review of December 2023, January 2024, and February 2024 financial reports as presented.

**Motion:** Move to receive the December 2023, January 2024, and February 2024 financial reports as submitted.

**Discussion:** Alicia Sullivan presented the financial report.

December income we brought in more than budgeted. We brought in an additional \$2,198.37. We are slightly under on payroll/personnel. We are slightly over on Direct Student Care.

Brian Heath asked if we will see the adjustment to the instructional supplies cost once we are reimbursed from the grants.

Mike Gantt asked what the large expense was for the vehicle maintenance. Alicia Sullivan explained that we had to fix our vans as they are older, so there is a bit of upkeep for them. Christae Spivey explained

# Board of Education Meeting Minutes - Southwest Leadership Academy

that we will be looking into grants for the upcoming year to gain new vans for transportation as well as marketing efforts.

Drew Ainsworth noticed that the current month for December 2023 balance sheet also matched the “previous month” numbers. Alicia Sullivan expressed that she will review the prior month, but has confidence that the December numbers are valid.

January income was \$195,376.41. We were under Direct Student Services by 58%. Transportation costs went down. Total expenses YTD are under by \$32,348.96. We are showing a net income of \$10,263.23 for the month.

Brian Heath asked why we are not seeing a positive trend in our YTD net income from December to January. Alicia Sullivan explained the reason behind this was due to reclassifications from federal grant funds, and we do see the Net Income increase come February 2024.

Drew Ainsworth asked why we are seeing a negative revenue for our CLSD Grant. Alicia Sullivan explained the negative amount was due to grant project end dates and a reclassification of the funds.

February income for the month was \$3,013.55 and YTD loss of \$124,752.57. We will see an increase for both equalization and the YTD income.

Drew Ainsworth asked if we see a change to the assets over the past 3 month. Alicia Sullivan explained we are seeing a change of about 1%. Brian Heath explained that we are looking to correct the revenue stream that we will just need to focus on keeping the budget really tight, not spending.

Brian Heath mentioned that he will not approve the December Balance sheet as it is not reflecting the November 2023 numbers

A motion was made by Drew Ainsworth to approve January & February 2024, but will only approve the December Balance Sheet once it has been corrected with November (previous month) figures. The motion was seconded by Brian Heath, and passed unanimously.

## 12. Announcements:

### a. Budget Approval Impromptu Meeting

Christae Spivey explained that we will need to submit budget by May & will need to have the board approve at an impromptu meeting in April. This meeting will be set for 4/25/2024 at 4:00PM.

Emily Beard asked about the joint board retreat between Canyon State Academy and Southwest Leadership Academy. Brian Heath explained that we will have to revisit the venue and be within a smaller budget. This will be held on 6/7-6/8/2024.

## 13. Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 4:44PM