Board of Education Agenda 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. 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 or through video conference. 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 (602) 265-2000. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

DATED AND POSTED this 20th day of October 2026.

By

Lola Donaldson, Principal

AGENDA

Southwest Leadership Academy Governing Board

Wednesday, October 21, 2026

Christae Spivey is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: SLA Education Board Meeting
Time: Oct 21, 2026 03:30 PM Arizona
Join Zoom Meeting
https://rop.zoom.us/j/81968720295

Meeting ID: 819 6872 0295

One tap mobile
+13462487799,,85079817926# US (Houston)
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Join instructions
https://rop.zoom.us/meetings/85079817926/invitations?signature=99_vrOs955Z56ml9Or9-MpazTgPzjm2E2Xsd7cpXpMU

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• +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
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• +1 386 347 5053 US

Meeting ID: 880 7754 3229

Find your local number: https://rop.zoom.us/u/kbe5E1QJNV

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

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 Christae Spivey at (602) 265-2000. You may also attend the foregoing meeting by teleconference.

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

    - Call to order 3:14 pm Attendance: Mike Gantt, Board President; Drew Ainsworth, Treasurer/Secretary; Dr. Molly Brann, Member; Brian Heath, Ex-Officio Member; Emily Beard, Member.

2. **Introduction of Visitors (Brain Heath):** Christae Spivey, Superintendent; Lola Donaldson, SLA Principal; Keith Chilton, Director of Business Operations & Initiatives; Kassandra Leyva, Compliance Coordinator; Marcia Pruitt, Accountant; Gregory Peters; Special Education Director

    - **Attendance:** Christae Spivey, Superintendent; Lola Donaldson, SLA Principal; Keith Chilton, Director of Business Operations & Initiatives; Kassandra Leyva, Compliance Coordinator; Marcia Pruitt, Accountant; Gregory Peters; Special Education Director, Bridget Carrington, Potential Board Member

3. **Pledge of Allegiance (Brain Heath)**

4. **Approval of Agenda (Brain Heath):** Agenda for October 21, 2026

    Motion: Move to approve October 21, 2026, agenda as submitted.

    - Motion made to approve October 21 agenda as submitted by Mike Gantt, Seconded by Drew Ainsworth.
    - Motion Passed unanimously.

5. **Approval of Board Minutes (Brain Heath):** Minutes for September 3, 2026, approval

    Motion: Move to approve the SLA Board Meeting Minutes for September 3, 2026, SLA Board Meetings as presented

    - Motion made to approve SLA Board meeting minutes for September 3,2026 as submitted by Mike Gantt, Second by Emily Beard.
    - Motion Passed unanimously.

6. **Financial Review (Keith Chilton):** Review of previous month's financials
   Motion: Move to receive previous month's financial reports as submitted.
   - Discussion:
     1. Negative Number expenses are not spread out causing high expenses for the month of September.
     2. Northern Chemical expense for the month high something to look out for.
     3. Rent for the building was budgeted wrong leading to higher expenses than expected.
     4. Athletics high expense for Basketball season has not started.
     5. Balance sheet looks good.
     6. Negative budget is given a month late and not for current month.
   - Motion made to approve previous months financial report as submitted by Drew Ainsworth, seconded by Mike Gantt.
   - Motion passed unanimously.

7. **Review of Provisional Candidate Application and Consideration of Bridget Carrington to the Governing Board (Brain Heath)**

   Motion: Move to approve Bridget Carrington as a voting member of Southwest Leadership Academy Governing Board, consistent with the Board's bylaws.

   - Discussion:
     1. Change initial request from Provisional term to permanent term.
   - Motion made to approve permanent term application for Bridget Carrington to join governing board as submitted by Mike Gantt, seconded by Emily Beard.
   - Motion passed unanimously

8. **Re-election of Molly Brann to the Governing Board (Brain Heath)**

   Motion: Move to re-elect Molly Brann as a voting Governing Board member for the term stated above, consistent with the Board's bylaws.
   - Motion to approve re-election of Molly Brann as voting Governing Board member for a full new term (Two Years) as submitted by Drew Ainsworth, seconded by Brain Heath.
   - Motion passed unanimously.

9. **Approval of Lola Donaldson as Charter Representative (Brain Heath)**

   Motion: Move to approve Lola Donaldson as Charter Representative effective 10/21/2026 and authorize submission of the required documentation to the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools.
   - Motion to approve Lola Donaldson as Charter Representative Effective 10/21/26 and authorized submission of the required documentation to ASBCS as submitted by Mike Gantt, seconded by Emily Beard.
   - Motion passed unanimously.

10. **School Report (Lola Donaldson)**

a. School Report: Power point presentation presented by Lola Donaldson.
b. Academic Progress & Achievement
c. Sports/Activities/Clubs
d. Community Events/Involvement

- Presentation:

1. October assembly we had 43 academic awards given out including principal honor roll, A-B honor roll and hundred percent attendance.
2. 96% are on track to graduate and 75 credits have been earned so far.
3. Student council led by Ms. Kassandra have taken to volunteering this year at St Mary's food bank, St Vincient be Paul and they were featured on channel 5 news student council students also more involved in daily announcements they have also done many fundraising events for prom like car wash and movie night that is upcoming.
4. SLA was selected to receive the Passageway Grant from Rite of passage to develop and enhance our culinary arts program (funding for foundation grant comes from employees at rite of passage).
5. Girls Volleyball team demonstrated great sportsmanship and more girls participated this year including 7 seniors and 1 graduating early.
6. Boxing Program 8 students run Monday-Thursday.
7. Boys Flag football played 10 games and have won 6 they will be making the play offs number 4 in the division.
8. Guidance counselor taking seniors on college tours today was ASU and GCU coming up as well as Pima Medical Institute one of our seniors has been accepted to all three-state school another has been offered a sports scholarship from Jorge Cox.
9. Social Worker does all seniors CPR/First aid certification she also oversees wellness Wednesdays to help students to cope with emotions.
10. Pier mentorship started to support more student leadership and freshman support.

11. **Adjournment (Brain Heath)**

- Discussion:
    1. Update in Southwest Leadership Academy Mesa passed the due diligence faze have not closed on the campos but is a go.
    2. Brain Heath Announced his parting from Southwest Leadership Academy Governing Board Leaving Bridget Carrington in his place.

Meeting Adjourned 4:07 pm.