



# LA ACADEMIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NOVEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup>, 2019

## OUR MISSION

A dynamic learning community sustained by partnerships, La Academia transforms today's learners into tomorrow's leaders through innovative instruction, comprehensive student supports, cultural competency, and work-based learning.

## OUR VISION

Our students will be critical thinkers and global citizens, recognized by their commitment to lifelong learning and meaningful contributions to the world.

30 North Ann Street  
Lancaster, PA 17602

### i. Call to Order / Roll Call

| Board of Directors                  | P / A / T |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Dr. Aida Ceara, President           |           |
| Mr. Carlos Graupera, Vice President |           |
| Mr. C. Ted Darcus, Treasurer        |           |
| Ms. Colleen Wagner, Secretary       |           |
| Mr. Kenneth Hammel                  |           |
| Mr. Victor Ramos                    |           |
| Ms. Ellen Svrcek                    |           |
| Mr. Radames Melendez                |           |
| Mr. Ommie Rivera                    |           |
| Ms. Susana Cortina                  |           |
| Mr. Joseph Morales                  |           |
| Mr. Christopher Boyd                |           |

### ii. Consent Agenda

- a. Items on the Consent Agenda will be enacted without a separate discussion of each entry but may be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed as a separate action item per a Governing Board Member request for discussion/action.

### iii. Approval of the October Minutes

### iv. Approval of the Revised September Minutes

### v. Reports, information and Discussion Items

- a. Tommy Henley, Principal / Chief Executive Officer Report
- b. Finance Committee
- c. PR / Development Committee
- d. Ad Hoc Bylaws Committee

### vi. Action Agenda Items:

- a. Discussion, consideration and possible approval of the revised bylaws
- b. Discussion, consideration and possible approval of a resolution to Thank the Lancaster County Stem Alliance
- c. Discussion, consideration and possible approval of the 2018-2019 School Year Fiscal Audit.
- d. Discussion, consideration and possible approval of the application for a foundation 501©3.

### vii. New Business:

### viii. Public Comment:

### ix. Adjournment

## Board Minutes

November 20, 2019

La Academia Partnership Charter School, Conference Room

Board Members Present: C. Graupera, E. Svrcek, K. Hammel, R. Melendez, J. Morales, C. Boyd, O. Rivera, S. Cortina, T. Darcus

Non-Voting Members present: P. McCartney, S. Almanzar

I. Welcome - C. Graupera called the meeting to order at 4:03 pm.

II. Consent agenda - C. Graupera called for a vote to approve the consent agenda. E. Svrcek made a motion and J. Morales seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

III. October 2019 Board Minutes - c. Graupera called for a vote to approve the October Board of Directors minutes as submitted. A motion was made by J. Morales and seconded by K. Hammel as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

### IV. Reports

#### A. CAO Dashboard - Tommy Henley

i. 1 vacancy - 6th grade teacher

ii - school-wide attendance is at 93%

iii - enrollment is capped at 235 with a waiting list

iv - discipline - violence is down, disrespect/defiance is up but research shows this will happen. 140 referrals for 15 weeks of school.

Tommy questioned a report that was made by a board member about the safety of the school. Radames called Aida to report that a parent is concerned about the fights that have happened in the school. The parent does not want to be disclosed. Carlos urged the members of the board to support the leaders of the school. If they receive a complaint about the school or the leaders, encourage them and direct them to the leaders of the school. J. Morales agreed with his sentiment. He did agree that there should be an anonymous way for parents to communicate concerns to the leaders. Carlos reiterated that we should discourage parents from complaining to the board. The board should be encouraging them to come directly to the school.

#### v. Highlights from the month -

-First basketball game 11/19/2019

-First Annual Appreciation Feast 11/22/2019

-ExtraGive 11/22/2019

-Tech Centro Pilot Program

-College Tours - 12/2, 12/3, 12/4

J. Morales asked a question about the EITC tax credit. Businesses can get a 90% tax break on donations.

#### B. Finance Committee - Ted Darcus

Finance Committee met on 11/14/2019. All the numbers look very good from the audit report. Mike from Baker Tilly said it is a very clean audit. PSERS is a significant number. There is a fund balance of almost \$900,000, which is an increase of over \$700,000. Tommy will be meeting with IU13 regarding Special Education contracts. An updated budget was submitted.

Tommy added more information about the staff changes. The Spanish teacher combined with the math classes. This allowed for another Restorative Justice Coordinator to be hired. 6 new cameras will also be installed throughout the campus.

T. Darcus recommended to the board for the approval for the audit. T. Darcus made a motion to approve the audit with the necessary changes. S. Cortina seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### C. PR/Development Committee - Ken Hammel

The committee is looking at hiring someone part-time for development. The person could apply for grants and solicit donations. Tommy will work on the job description. There will be an action item about La Academia becoming a 501c3 for making donations easier.

ExtraGive is on Friday. Board members should donate - the goal is 100% participation. Board members should also solicit 12 donations.

A discussion was held around bringing new board members on board with skills that will complement current board members. Bylaws will require term limits so this important.

#### D. Ad Hoc Bylaws Committee

### V. Action Agenda Items

#### A. Bylaws - Ken Hammel

Met with the solicitor after the last meeting. Ken read notes from that meeting regarding training requirements required for board members. There is also an ethics form that must be filled out by all board members regarding the statement of financial interests. K. Hammel stressed the importance of doing this quickly.

P. McCartney provided more details about the training requirements PDE.

The solicitor is recommending a policy review committee. The bylaw committee will do this.

The solicitor recommends keeping Dr. Rau in the loop as the board gets closer to the final draft of the bylaws.

K. Hammel would like any comments emailed to him by next Monday.

C. Graupera thanked K. Hammel for his work on this document.

B. Lancaster County STEM Alliance - Ken Hammel

PR Committee realized that we have not thanked the STEM Alliance for all support they have given to the school. K. Hammel made a motion that the school arranges a thank you for the STEM Alliance. T. Darcus second. The motion passed unanimously.

C. 2018-2019 School Year Fiscal Audit

D. 501c3 - K. Hammel

The cost to initiate is less than \$1000. K. Hammel will fill out the paperwork online. It will be a separate foundation with aboard. K. Hammel making a motion to initiate the process to create a 501c3 for the La Academia Foundation. J. Morales seconded.

T. Darcus asked how separate this will be. You will not want them to mix and match. It should be 2 completely separate entities.

P. McCartney said her boards do mix. It is just a lot of work.

K. Hammel discussed the changes coming to the committees and how that could affect the new board. The new board can be small.

After further discussion, motion passed unanimously.

VII. New Business - no new business

VIII. Public Comment - no public comment

IX. Adjournment - C. Graupera adjourned the meeting at 4:57 pm.