



Board Minutes

August 26, 2020

La Academia Partnership Charter School, Virtual via Zoom

Board Members Present: A. Ceara, K. Hammel, L. Silva, A. Evelyn, C. Wagner, C. Boyd, C. Ted Darcus, V. Ramos, O. Rivera, C. Graupera, A. Evelyn, L. Silva

Board Members Not Present:

Entity Liaison Present: S. Almanzar, T. Henley, P. McCartney, B. Smith, S. Rally. A. Lopez

Minute Recorder: A. Ferg

Guests: K. Linnelli

I. Welcome -

A. A. Ceara called the meeting to order at 4:07 pm. A. Ceara welcomed a new board member, Austin Evelyn, bringing the board to the minimum of 10 members. A. Ceara noted the importance of still getting more board members. A. Ceara also welcomed non-voting board members: parent representative Aidalis Lopez and teacher representatives Steve Rally and Brittany Smith. They are able to bridge communication between different entities and the board.

Judge Jodie Richardson joined the meeting to swear in the board members for the 2020-2021 school year.

II. Consent Agenda - Consent agenda presented. No items added or removed.

III. Reports

A. CEO Dashboard - Tommy Henley

We know that online learning is not right for all our students but we are going to do our best to ensure that all our students are receiving the best education possible.

i. Academic Focus Area - For Weeks 1 - 5, teachers are focusing on writing effective lesson plans. These lesson plans will have measurable objectives, collecting data through exit tickets, and aligning their activities to their objectives.

ii. Personnel - Tommy shared a picture of the team. There are a lot of familiar faces because there are only 6 new faces. Diversity continues to grow in the personnel.

iii. Pass Rate - Attendance is usually tracked here but current circumstances has changed this. The goal is to have a 90% pass rate. There is no current data since we just started.

iv. Financial - 7.3% of revenue has been collected and there is an expected fund balance of 265,092. LAPCS was awarded numerous grants - Title I, Title II, Title III, Title IV, CARES, PCCD, GEER, ESSER - for instructional supplies, arts, ELL, professional development, and many other expenses. Tommy is offering families \$200 every other week per student for groceries for families in need. There is a pending \$25,000 to continue this service. K. Hammel asked for clarification on the financial slide. Tommy is working to make this more concise for the next board meeting. C. Wagner commended Tommy on the number of grants he has received recently. Tommy conveyed the power of these grants and having the ability to give our scholars what they need.

v. Virtual Learning Expectations - Scholars are expected to login to Echo Monday-Thursday to Learn, Practice, and Assess. They also visit at least 3 teachers during office hours. Teachers prepare learning playlists and provide a total of 4 hours of office hours for students. Teachers also contact 2 parents per class daily. Additionally, teachers are grading and creating videos or screencasts for students to view. On Fridays, staff are on site for collaboration, planning, grading, and practice clinics. Scholars are engaging in work to assess learning for the week. A. Lopez, S. Rally, and B. Smith shared what this experience is like from their perspective. A. Ceara thanked the teachers for taking the extra time to reach the parents.

vi. Initiatives

a. Scholar not student - This is a mindset shift. A scholar is above. We are setting the expectation high. They will exceed their own expectations.

b. AP for ALL - All students will have access to AP classes. All high school classes are now AP classes spread over 2 years. Starting in 10th grade, scholars will take AP Biology, AP English, and AP US History. The first 4 units are in 10th grade and the second 4 units are in 11th grade.

c. Praise Bias - Scholars will not be praised for norms (sitting in their seats). Again, we set high expectations!

B. Finance Committee - T. Darcus
No finance committee report

C. Planning/Development Committee - O. Rivera
K. Hammel is working to recruit for the Fund Development plan. The Fund Development position is on hold at this time. Tommy sent out the annual report and thank your notes to EITC and other donors. The next meeting will include discussion of the ExtraGive. K. Hammel noted the Strategic Plan needs to be worked out by the next meeting.

D. Governance Committee - A. Ceara
Strategic Plan - A. Ceara sent the Strategic plan to every board member and asked for them to look through it and provide feedback on how the goals can be reached. How can each committee support the goals of the strategic plan? Each committee needs to discuss each goal and develop a committee level goal to help reach that goal. Committees should look at short term and long term goals. The board can then create a master plan. At the next meeting, the Strategic Plan will be looked at by the whole board. C. Wagner believes each committee should look at the plan and the board should review every 3-6 months.

Recruitment - The Academic Excellence committee has not been populated. It is crucial to continue to recruit more board members to keep the board growing and fresh. By January, it would be ideal to add 2 to 3 more members. Send suggestions to the governance committee. The goal is to have a well-rounded board so there is selection criteria being used.

IV. Action Agenda Items - No Action Agenda Items

V. New Business - No New Business

VI. Public Comment - No public comments

VIII. Adjournment - A. Ceara adjourned the meeting at 4:53pm.