



LA ACADEMIA

PARTNERSHIP CHARTER SCHOOL

LA ACADEMIA BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MONTHLY MEETING
DECEMBER 20, 2023

OUR MISSION

La Academia Partnership Charter School transforms today's learners into tomorrow's leaders by applying Project Based Learning experiences beyond the classroom and into their communities, while utilizing scholar-centered support to meet the social-emotional needs of all scholars.

OUR VISION

Our scholars will GO BEYOND by demonstrating commitment to their communities, and are recognized by their leadership, collaboration, and innovation.

Voting Members Present: Colleen Wagner (officer), *Chris Boyd (officer), Aidalis Lopez (officer), *Jessica Gehman, Brandon Wilt, Gloria Nyutu-Blackman, Christina Williams, Guy Kingree (officer)

*not in attendance for the SIS Coordinator vote, which was completed digitally (see below).

Voting Members Not Present: James Rovito, Angel Rosario, Leonel Silva

Administration and Non-Voting Members Present: Elizabeth Landis, Mark Simms, Gregory McGough, Erik Davis

Guests: Nicole Fay, Jael Zhumi (MS scholar of the month) and family; Cristian Garcia (HS scholar of the month).

Minutes Recorder: Liz Landis; Steve Rally (editor)

AGENDA:

I. Executive Session

C. Wagner

II. Call to Order / Roll Call Time: 4:32 p.m. C. Wagner

C. Wagner

III. Approval of Minutes

C. Wagner

G. Nyutu-Blackman motioned (with corrections); G. Kingree seconded; approved unanimously.

IV. Reports and Action Items

A. Finance Committee

G. Kingree

Comments:

- Above budget in regular and special education.
- Some cost categories above budget but overall in black for the month and expect to continue this trend.
- Discussed audit and status of audit.
- Turned over to E. Davis for an update on the audit. In home stretch and in daily contact with the audit manager. Last two areas to be finalized—federal programs and payroll and retirement. Pressing audit firm, BSFF, to finalize the audit report. Asking for a precise ETA; expecting no later than the second week of January.
- Third year with BSFF. As a matter of procedure, plan for the RFP process next year.
- Did not meet revenue threshold for single audit, so we will not need to spend additional money.
- Current enrollment trending against budget. Asked Omninvest to prepare a trend chart.

B. School Management

E. Landis/Leadership

- Students of the Month - Clarina Rodriguez
 - Jael Zhumi (MS scholar of the month) and family
 - Cristian Garcia (HS scholar of the month)
- Enrollment - Liz landis
- Principal/CEO Report - Mark Simms
- No School 12/25-1/2/24; Students return 1/3/24

Comments:

- CEO Report: Developing a relationship with Dr. Clark of charter school coalition to strengthen all aspects of our program. Will participate in monthly meetings.

- School Spirit Week; Kids are really excited about it and celebrating school spirit week.
- Horace Mann, one of our community partners, hosted an art contest for a new cover design. We have 5 scholars who are finalists. The LAPCS community was encouraged to vote.
- LNP had an article on December 12th featuring our coach/AD Jerry Johnson and his son who is a sophomore here.
- C. Wagner mentioned that it would be nice to share articles.
- We will share The Inside Scoop with all board members. This fulfills a request/need for transparency and increased communication.
- Upcoming games: Thursday (12/21) at 6 p.m. against Quakertown Christian at Thaddeus Stevens.

C. Governance Committee

C. Wagner

Action Items:

Board Approval Required:

- **Old Business**
 - **Policy Approvals**
 - Policy 352: Employee Referral Bonus
 - Policy 916: School Volunteers
 - Policy 819: Suicide Awareness, Prevention, and Response
 - Policy 818: Contracted Services Personnel
- **New Business**
 - Policies for Review
 - Policy 113.1: Discipline of Scholars with Disabilities
 - Policy 227: Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia
 - Policy 233: Suspension and Expulsion

Comments:

- A. Lopez shared that the 11th grade team raised the most funds for ExtraGive.
- The 11th grade winning team of scholars spent the afternoon at Barnstormers on Dec. 7.
- Governance Report: A. Landis will meet with the Governance and Board for a 60 day review.
- Will approve new policies and reviewed policies at January meeting.
- Will look at adding vaping to substance abuse

policy or creating a tobacco and vaping policy.

D. Personnel Committee

C. Boyd

- All votes were postponed until January due to lack of quorum.
- Staff Hires/Resignations/Vacancies
 - LAPCS Leadership asked the Board to approve adding a new unbudgeted position (Student Information System Coordinator) to the LAPCS team:
 - Approved via electronic vote on 1/2/24

Comments:

- New Hire: Robert Urban, LAPCS Math (10th/11th)

VI. New Business (none)

VII. Public Comments (none)

VIII. Adjournment: 5:08 adjournment by C. Wagner

C. Wagner