

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
ARISTOI CLASSICAL ACADEMY, INC.**

March 25, 2024

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of Aristoi Classical Academy, Inc., charter holder for Aristoi Classical Academy (“School”) was held on **Monday, March 25, at 5:30 p.m., at the school**, 5610 Morton Road, Katy, TX 77493-1971 in classroom F1.

1. Call to order and establishment of a quorum. L. Botond called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm. Also present were D. Light, A. Cox, A. Hovis, L. Gillespie, M. Watson, A. Amboree, K. Locheed, M. Pertuso, J. Creech.
2. Hearing of citizens. None
3. Approve Consent Agenda:
 - a. Minutes for February 26, 2024, Regular Board Meeting
 - b. Minutes for March 2, 2024, Special Board Meeting
 - c. Superintendent’s Report
 - d. Financial Update from Business Office
 - e. Report from Budget Finance Committee
 - f. TPIA Calendar Exception Days

Motion to approve consent agenda: L. Gillespie. Second: L. Botond. **APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

4. Discuss, consider, and approve the 990 Report for fiscal year ended August 31, 2023. A. Amboree reported that she compared the revenues and expenses on the Form 990 and they matched with our recent audit. B. Havlik requested that the school ensure that donations in kind be included if the value is known and if such donations reach the threshold for inclusion in the 990. A. Amboree will follow up. Motion to approve 990 Report for FY 2023: L. Botond. Second: L. Gillespie. **APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**
5. Discuss and consider updates to the Aristoi Expansion Plan and Financing. M. Watson reported that he and Mrs. Amboree met with the school’s bond team including Janet Robertson, Brian Kelso from Baird, Ms. Singleton, Masterson Advisors, and Jack Duran to discuss the latest updates on the expansion plans for Cypress and Katy. M. Watson expressed hope that a property purchase for a new Cypress campus would be formalized in a contract this week. He also reported that the pro-formas would be updated soon.
6. Discuss, consider, and approve authorizing administration to prepare solicitation and publish notice for Cypress expansion. More information is needed from the Architect before this can be done. Ms. Gillespie encouraged the administration to check into FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant to see if any funds might be raised by getting a grant to build a gymnasium that could be dedicated as a shelter-in-place structure. **TABLED.**
7. Discuss, consider, and approve teacher salary scale for the 2024-2025 school year. **TABLED.**
8. Discuss and consider update on 2023 HB3 CCMR results. K. Locheed reported that 6 of our students qualified using TSIA testing this year, which is geared toward Community College. That’s been a great option to have. The achievement for the class of 2023 may go down some (to be reported next year), but then will rise again in 2024. When looking at comparable results for state and local ISD’s, Aristoi is 11% higher than state averages and between 5-23% higher than surrounding districts.

9. Discuss and consider update on Spring 2024 STAAR Interim Benchmark Results. K. Lockheed reported that this year, the school used a benchmark from the state. Mr. Pertuso reported that Cypress had 100% passing for the Algebra 1 benchmark. Mrs. Lockheed and Mr. Pertuso have both stated that, with the help of their math interventionists, there is a plan to address any areas of concern in math.
10. Discuss and consider update on Gala fundraising and planning. S. Klugewicz reported that gala fundraising is currently at \$44,156 (goal total for gala is \$175,000). So far, 21 tables have been sold, 28 tickets have been sold, and he has given out 15 free tickets. He's considering handing out more free tickets closer to the gala. He expects that there will be 25 filled tables out of the total 36 tables.
11. Discuss and consider an update on the Cypress Campus, including but not limited to enrollment, facilities, renovations, leadership team and faculty. M. Pertuso reported that the second annual Goblet of Apollo was on March 8. It went very well. They're holding National Tolkien Day and CS Lewis Day. Enrollment is expected to grow next year. Crossover is working with Aristoi on plans to fit grades K-9 on the campus for next year.
12. Discuss and consider an update on the Katy Grammar School, including but not limited to enrollment, facilities, renovations, leadership team and faculty. K. Lockheed reported that the Grammar school is very busy with concerts, and 4th grade Living History Museum is coming up. There's currently only one teaching vacancy open for next year.
13. Discuss and consider an update on the Katy Upper School (Logic and Rhetoric Schools), including but not limited to enrollment, facilities, renovations, leadership team and faculty. K. Lockheed reports that the Goblet of Apollo is coming up this week. Graduation is planned for June 1st and there will be 47 graduates. The commencement speaker is Dr. Davis from Houston Christian University.
14. Discuss, consider, and approve plans for the West Houston Campus, including the option to postpone opening until Fall 2025 and the submission of Amendment to TEA for this purpose. M. Watson and J. Creech reported that it's very unlikely that Aristoi could find a location and have it ready on time. They locations that have been pursued need expensive renovations, traffic studies, and long lead-time permits. Just a traffic study within the City of Houston takes 4-6 months to complete. Seems best to postpone the opening of the campus for a year. Motion to postpone the opening of the West Houston Campus: B. Havlik. Second: A. Cox. **APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**
15. Discuss and consider updates on the capital campaign. **TABLED**
16. Discuss items to be placed on the April Regular Meeting Agenda. Handbooks, Staff Salary Scale
17. Adjournment to closed or executive session pursuant to the following Texas Government Code §551.071, 551.074, 551.082, and 551.084 of the Open Meetings Act, for the following purposes:
 - a. Legal Matters; Consultation with Attorney (Tex. Gov. Code § 551.071)
 - i. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071, private consultation with the Board's attorney, in person or by phone, when the Board seeks the advice of its attorney about: 1) pending or contemplated litigation; 2) a settlement offer; or 3) on a matter in which the duty of the attorney to the governmental body under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of


- Professional Conduct of the State Bar of Texas clearly conflicts with the Texas Open Meeting Laws
- ii. Consultation with legal counsel regarding personnel matters
 - iii. Receive legal advice concerning any item listed on meeting agenda/ notice
- b. Deliberation Regarding Officers and Employees (Tex. Gov. Code § 551.074)
- i. Deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of the Superintendent and other individual administrators, officers, and employees; or to hear a complaint or charge against the Superintendent and other administrators, officers or employees
 - ii. Hear, consider, and deliberate a complaint or a charge against the Superintendent and other individual administrators, officers, or employees
- c. Deliberation regarding complaint (Tex. Gov. Code § 551.082)
- i. Hear and consider complaint against the Superintendent and other administrators, officers, or employees and deliberate the complaint or charge that directly results in a need of a hearing
- d. Deliberation regarding investigation (Tex. Gov. Code § 551.084)
- i. Examination of witness and exclude witnesses during investigation of complaint against the Superintendent and other administrators, officers, or employees

Adjourned to begin closed session at 6:40 pm.

18. Reconvene to open session. Reconvened at 9:59 pm.
19. Take action on matters discussed in closed session. No Action.
20. Adjourn. Motion to adjourn: A. Hovis. Second B. Havlik. **APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.** Adjourned at 10:07 pm.

Prepared by Laura C. Gillespie

This is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on March 25, 2024, as approved by the Board of Directors on April 15, 2024.



Lucina Botond, Board President