

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

November 13, 2023

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of Aristoi Classical Academy, Inc., charter holder for Aristoi Classical Academy ("School") was held on **Monday, November 13, 2023, at 5:30 p.m., at the school, 12332 Perry Road, Houston, TX 77070, in the Performing Arts Center.**

1. Call to order and establishment of a quorum. – L. Botond called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. Also present were A. Cox, B. Havlik, A. Hovis, D. Light, C. Gillespie, M. Watson, A. Amboree, M. Pertuso, K. Locheed, and J. Creech.
2. Hearing of citizens. -
 - A. Ms. Victoria Brockington, an employee at Katy Grammar, spoke regarding her concerns with the piercing policy. She would like to see staff allowed to keep small facial piercings, like her nose ring. She also felt that her job was being threatened if she became noncompliant.
 - B. Mrs. Robin Brockington, the parent of Victoria Brockington and also an Aristoi Substitute Teacher, wanted to see the Handbook Policy regarding piercings changed. She also felt Ms. Brockington's concerns were handled unfairly.
 - C. Mr. Lee Brockington, the parent of Victoria Brockington, wants to see the policy changed regarding piercings. He also feels the dress code is biased against women and feels it is enforced unfairly.
 - D. Jenna Holloway, a parent at the Cypress Campus, wanted to address student attrition. She is concerned that parent's aren't receiving enough information regarding the plan for the 2024-2025 9th grade class. She proposed the board and administration hold a parent information meeting, to answer questions.
 - E. Ms. Amber Shippam, a parent of the Cypress Campus, would like to see the policy on Student Care employees be updated to require more professional credentials. She also proposed that the school seek to hire, a School Resource Medic, from ESD 11.
 - F. Ms. Kim Delorenzo, a parent at the Cypress Campus, requested that half of all Board Meetings be conducted at the Cypress Campus. She also requested a licensed medical professional for the position of Student Care.
3. Approve Consent Agenda: **Motion to Approve Consent Agenda: C. Gillespie, Second: A. Cox, APPROVED: Unanimously**
 - A. Minutes for October 16, Regular Board Meeting
 - B. Superintendent's Report
 - C. Financial Update from Business Office
 - D. Report from Budget Finance Committee
4. Discuss and consider the resignation of Wendy Clark from the Aristoi Classical Academy Board of Directors. – **Motion to Approve the Resignation of Wendy Clark from the**

**Aristoi Board of Directors: L. Botond, Second: B. Havlik, APPROVED:
Unanimously**

5. Discuss and consider updates on capital campaign.- There is an upcoming Meet and Greet to be hosted at Nelson Water Gardens. The contract with Petrus Development will be up for renewal on January 15. Mr. Watson is recommending Petrus to assume a more advisory role going forward, with Dr. Klugewicz taking the lead on the capital campaign. There will be another update at the December meeting.
6. Discuss and consider draft of Governance Policies and discuss delegation of authority to board members to assist in preparing final draft for board consideration. – L. Botond proposed having B. Havlik and C. Gillespie work on a draft of Governance Policies, to be presented to the board in December. -**Motion to Delegate Authority to B. Havlik and C. Gillespie to Assist in Preparing a Draft of Governance Policies for Board Consideration: L. Botond, Second: A. Cox, APPROVED: Unanimously**
7. Discuss, consider, and approve updates to the Aristoi Expansion Plan and Financing. – Administration is working with auditors on the 2022-2023 numbers to try and meet the debt service ratio of 1.2x. Work with the architect, Jack Duran, has been paused for the time being, although the work that has already been completed totals to \$45,000. A portion of the bill from Blueline Architects is safety related and will be covered by federal grant money. Baird is currently working to create an issuance profile using the most up-to-date numbers.
8. Discuss, consider, and approve 2024-2025 Academic Calendar.- **Motion to Approve the 2024-2025 Academic Calendar: A. Hovis, Second: C. Gillespie, APPROVED: Unanimously**
9. Discuss and consider an update on the Cypress Campus, including but not limited to enrollment, facilities, renovations, leadership team and faculty. – Mr. Pertuso reports that he is working with ADT and Comcast to have the elevator completed. The Classical Book Fair and Readathon were both sponsored this month by the PTO. The Volleyball team won 2nd place in Regionals. The Swim team has been invited to participate in their first invitational meet with Cypress Christian. The Cross-Country team won Regionals. Enrollment has continued to increase but there has been some staff turnover due to health issues. Mr. Pertuso is working hard to fill vacancies. Administration has also started exploring other avenues to secure facilities for 9th grade, including working with a brokerage to scout possible locations.
10. Discuss and consider an update on the Katy Grammar School, including but not limited to enrollment, facilities, renovations, leadership team and faculty. –Mrs. Locheed reports that the school just finished hosting their Book Fair and Grandparents Day, which were both a success. Upcoming events include a small group of teachers traveling to Waco to tour Live Oak Academy and Cookies with Santa. Mrs. Locheed also reports that they are fully staffed and fully enrolled.

11. 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. – Mrs. Locheed reports that Homecoming has just concluded. Administration is starting work on the Master Schedule. Upcoming events include the Veteran’s Day Program and the student production of Hamlet, taking place on November 15-16. The Boys and Girls Varsity Volleyball are competing in the semi-finals for state and Boys Flag Football will be competing in State.
12. Discuss and consider an update on planning and progress of the Greater Houston Campus. – Mr. Creech reports that there is some hesitation from New Community Baptist regarding the lease, primarily regarding the use of classrooms surrounding the gym. Administration has begun pursuing secondary plans and has entered discussions with Bear Creek Methodist. There is concern that further delay with New Community Baptist would cause issues in having the space permitted in time for the Fall Semester.
13. Discuss, consider, and approve lease for facilities of the Greater Houston Campus.
TABLED
14. Discuss items to be placed on the December Regular Meeting Agenda.
 - A. Capital Campaign
 - B. FIRST Rating
 - C. Bonds
 - D. Audit
 - E. Financial Update- Pro Formas take off consent
15. Adjournment to closed or executive session: **6:36 pm**
 - A. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074 of the Open Meetings Act, for the following purposes:
 - i. To deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, and discipline of Superintendent and Chief Financial Officer.
 - ii. To hear a complaint or charge against an officer or employee.
 - B. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.076 of the Open Meetings Act, for the following purposes:
 - i. To deliberate the deployment, or specific occasions for implementation, of security personnel or devices.
 - C. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 of the Open Meetings Act, for the following purposes:
 - i. To consult with attorney; Closed Meeting. A governmental body may not conduct a private consultation with its attorney except 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 this chapter.
 - D. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.0821 of the Open Meetings Act:
 - i. Closed Meeting- Personally Identifiable Information About Public School Student

(a) This chapter does not require a school board to conduct an open meeting to deliberate a matter regarding a public-school student if personally identifiable information about the student will necessarily be revealed by the deliberation.

E. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.084 of the Open Meetings Act:

i. Closed Meeting- Investigation; Exclusion of Witness From Hearing

(a) A governmental body that is investigating a matter may exclude a witness from a hearing during the examination of another witness in the investigation.

16. Reconvened at **9:46 pm.**

17. Take action on matters discussed in closed session. –

A. **Motion to respond to parent complaint as discussed in closed session: B. Havlik, Second: A. Hovis, APPROVED: Unanimously.**

B. **Motion to delegate authority to Board President to communicate Board's decision to parent: C. Gillespie, Second: B. Havlik, APPROVED: Unanimously**

18. **Motion to Adjourn: A. Hovis, Second: B. Havlik, APPROVED: Unanimously**
Adjourned at **9:49 pm.**

Prepared by C. Gillespie

This is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on November 13, 2023, as approved by the Board of Directors on December 11, 2023.



Lucina Botond, Board President