

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ARISTOI CLASSICAL ACADEMY, INC.
December 14, 2020**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of Aristoi Classical Academy, Inc., charter holder for Aristoi Classical Academy, was held on **Monday, December 14, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. at the School**, 5610 Morton Road, TX 77493-1971.

1. Call to order and establishment of a quorum. L. Botond called the meeting to order at 5:37 pm.
2. Hearing of citizens. No one commented.
3. Discuss, consider and approve minutes for November 16, 2020 Regular Board Meeting. Motion to approve minutes: A. Hovis. Second: G. Ferguson. Approved unanimously.
4. Discuss, consider and approve plans for school year 2020-2021 in light of COVID-19 guidance from TEA, plans from area school districts, calendar options, surveys and any related information or considerations. Hear report from superintendent on how the online and on-campus teaching and logistics are evolving, and discuss any updates or changes. B. Davidson reported that at Upper School, 3 students and 2 faculty/staff members have tested positive. To date, there have been a total of 7 cases from the school. As to the academic progress of online versus on-campus students, the students attending in-person lessons are doing better academically. Students who receive student services who are currently enrolled in the online option are struggling the most. The school has sent out 51 letters to parents of upper school students and 80 letters to parents of elementary students to urge that those students return to in-person learning on campus for their academic well-being. Currently, approximately 75-80% of students are on campus. This is going to increase even more in the next 9 weeks.
5. Discuss and consider an update on the Cypress Campus, including but not limited to enrollment, facilities, renovations, leadership team and faculty. A. Amboree reported that she and Mrs. Davidson have had meetings with the church team, their attorney and the school's attorney to try to iron out some contract issues. The school agreed to pay for the purchase of the elevator but the elevator won't be operable without an electrical upgrade to provide sufficient power. That work will cost approximately \$35,000. Discussion: the Board asked the administration to encourage the church to pay for the electrical work as this is an upgrade to the church's property and part of completing the ADA requirements which the church told the school it would cover when Mr. Washington attended a board meeting in 2019 and spoke on behalf of the church. Mrs. Amboree reports that she expects this to be worked out soon with the help of the attorneys.
6. Discuss and consider administration's update on HB3 legislative requirements and Aristoi's academic goals. Mr. Boling and Ms. Guel reported on the targets for K-4 grade literacy. They reported that experts have noted a nationwide "COVID Slide" during which students have lost more than 6 months of progress academically. Some students, especially those with special needs, have lost closer to a year of progress. The administration is requesting that the Board


approve academic goals that are more modest than discussed prior to the COVID school shutdowns in light of the limited progress that has occurred in all schools since March 2020. The Board will discuss and approve final HB 3 goals at the January Regular Meeting.

7. Discuss, consider, and approve the Superintendent's salary. In November, the Board approved a 10% salary increase for the Superintendent. Mrs. Davidson was not present for the November meeting, but she requested at this meeting that her salary not be increased. The Board did not revisit the November approval, so the 10% increase will remain in place.
8. Discuss, consider and approve purchase of security cameras and related security equipment. Mrs. Davidson reports that the school has a \$25,000 security grant but additional funds are needed to increase security. Motion to approve any security equipment or program that is needed and covered in the budget and delegate authority to administration to purchase: L. Botond. Second: A. Cox. Approved unanimously.
9. Discuss consider and approve an Expansion Amendment to Increase Enrollment and Add Additional Campuses and the accompanying Board Resolution. Motion to approve and delegate authority to the Superintendent to sign and make any revisions to the wording as required by TEA: L. Botond. Second: A. Hovis. Approved unanimously.
10. Discuss, consider and approve the process for revising the Morton Road campus master plan. G. Ferguson would like to pursue an updated Master Plan for the Morton Road campus, which will involve hiring an architect to review the old plan and then provide an updated plan. Mr. Ferguson has reviewed a number of architects and sought advice from others in the construction industry, especially Tom Forney, to narrow down the firms which have a good reputation and would be most qualified to handle the project for the school. He will arrange a meeting and seek a proposal first from Blueprint Architects in Katy who have been highly recommended.
11. Discuss, consider and approval High School AP Physics II and High School Astronomy courses. K. Locheed recommended adding these two courses to the high school course offerings. With the addition of Astronomy, the complete Quadrivium would be available to students at Aristoi. Textbooks will be approved at a later meeting. Motion to approve the addition of AP Physics II and Astronomy to the high school course offerings: G. Ferguson. Second: A. Hovis. Approved unanimously.
12. Discuss accepting applications for the 21-22 school year effective immediately. B. Davidson would like to begin accepting applications for enrollment immediately. This is allowed by TEA and done widely by other schools. The official lottery period doesn't change, but this allows the school to gauge interest and plan for estimated enrollment earlier. Motion to accept enrollment applications early for the 2021-2022 school year: L. Botond. Second: A. Cox. Approved unanimously.
13. Discuss and consider scheduling a board retreat. L. Botond shared proposals from John Littleford for Board training and a governance workshop. He is a well known school consultant and advises many classical schools. The administration and board want to consider other lower cost options before scheduling.
14. Hear and discuss the report from the Superintendent. BD
 - a. Enrollment. Current number in Katy is 996. Cypress enrollment is 83.

- b. Financial
 - c. Faculty and Staff (report on new hires, resignations)
 - d. Student Testing
 - e. Curriculum
 - f. Professional Development
 - g. Marketing/Communication
 - h. Development/Fundraising/Grants
 - i. Campus Security
 - j. Facilities
 - k. Extra-Curricular
 - l. Title 1/Parent Involvement
 - m. Dress Code
 - n. Compliance
 - o. Miscellaneous. Next Level Urgent Care will use Aristoi's allotment of rapid COVID tests from Abbott Labs to test our students and staff.
15. Discuss and consider taking action from Superintendent's Report. None
16. Hear a report from the Budget Finance Committee. A. Cox reports that there has not been a meeting this month.
17. Discuss items to be placed on the January Regular Meeting Agenda. Hear from Financial Advisors regarding bonds and markets, Board Training scheduling, Audit Approval
18. Adjourn. Motion to adjourn: A. Hovis. Second: G. Ferguson. Approved unanimously. Adjourned at 7:51 pm.

Prepared by Lucina Botond

This is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the meeting held on December 14, 2020, as approved by the Board of Directors on January 20, 2021.



Lucina R. Botond, Board President