MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ARISTOI CLASSICAL ACADEMY, INC. October 17, 2022

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of Aristoi Classical Academy, Inc., charter holder for Aristoi Classical Academy ("School") was held on **Monday, October 17, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. at the School, 5610** Morton Road, Katy, TX 77493-1971.

- 1. Call to order and establishment of a quorum. L. Botond called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm. Also present were W. Clark, A. Hovis, D. Light, A. Cox, B. Davidson, A. Amboree, M. Pertuso, M. Watson, C. Cimpean, and K. Locheed.
- 2. Hearing of citizens. None
- 3. Discuss, consider and approve minutes for August 22, 2022, Regular Board Meeting. Motion to approve minutes: A. Hovis. Second: A. Cox. Approved unanimously.
- 4. Discuss, consider and approve minutes for September 19, 2022 Regular Board Meeting. Motion to approve minutes: A. Cox. Second: W. Clark. Approved unanimously.
- 5. Hear a report from the Budget Finance Committee. D. Light reported that Andrew Robison from Petrus attended the committee meeting to preview the Executive Summary from the Feasibility Study.
- 6. Hear a report from the Development Committee, including Feasibility Study Report to be described by Andrew Robison from Petrus Development. Take action on next steps for Capital Campaign. Main items reported were: 1) Community attitude toward institution (Aristoi), 2) Scope of the project to be undertaken after raising the funds, 3) Financial feasibility of the project. 94% of interviewees saw the education offered by Aristoi as excellent or good. Andrew recommended moving forward with the capital campaign in 2023. He believes that Aristoi can raise \$3-4.5 million over the course of a 12-24 month campaign. He also recommended a task force for developing a master plan for Cypress. Next steps: review the whole report, continue to investigate bond refinance, determine value of 11th Street Campus in case of future sale. D. Light asked about the advisability of developing a foundation for raising money in the future. Andrew wasn't convinced that this would lead to additional giving.
- 7. Discuss and consider Lone Star Governance update and hear from Kara Belew from Tenet Leadership regarding HB 3 Board Report on 3rd Grade Reading. K. Belew wasn't able to attend. Discussion began at 6:11 pm and ended at 6:32 pm. K. Locheed reported on 3rd grade reading results. Board's goal for 2022 3rd grade STAAR was 52% and the students scored 64%. At Aristoi Katy Elementary, 66% met or mastered in reading. Aristoi Katy has a dedicated reading specialist. Consensus is that teachers want and need more time for planning. M. Pertuso reported on Aristoi Cypress 3rd grade reading results. The students scored 55% meets or masters, up from 36%. The students struggling the most are the ones new to classical education. The team is working on helping students learn how to interpret STAAR questions. The board goal for 2023 is 56% meets or masters. M. Pertuso believes this will be achieved.
- 8. Discuss and consider an update on the Cypress Campus, including but not limited to enrollment, facilities, renovations, leadership team and faculty. M. Pertuso reported on the progress of preparing the Lawson Center at the Cypress campus for students to move into classrooms. Rooms have new paint, exterior doors, wiring, and IT. Certificate of Occupancy should be approved soon. Enrollment is 285.
- 9. Discuss and consider an update on the Katy Elementary Campus, including but not limited to enrollment, facilities, renovations, leadership team and faculty. K. Locheed reports that portables are repaired and in operation. 2nd grade teacher vacancy has been filled.
- 10. Discuss the Intruder Detection Audit Report Findings and take any necessary action. B. Davidson reported that a Region 4 auditor was sent out to check the security of exterior doors. Dr. Cimpean has assigned door captains to check exterior doors throughout the day. Doors can also be checked with cameras and closure of doors can be logged for administrators. TEA will send another auditor and Aristoi will prepare a corrective action plan based on findings. The Katy police department sent an

- officer to help by doing drive arounds and checking on campuses in off hours. The safety committee will continue to meet and will bring recommendations to the board.
- 11. Discuss, consider and approve school based law enforcement and TEA guidance. B. Davidson reported that the State of Texas allows a marshal program in schools. Charter schools are also allowed to develop their own district police departments. The board requested that administration poll our faculty and staff to see if anyone is interested in pursuing the certifications to become armed marshals. If there is interest, the board can consider whether to approve a marshal program for Aristoi.
- 12. Discuss, consider and approve Audit Engagement Letter. A. Amboree presented the audit engagement letter from Whitley Penn. Motion to engage Whitley Penn for the 2022 Fiscal Year audit: L. Botond. Second: A.Cox. Approved unanimously.
- 13. Discuss, consider and approve Strategic Plan update, including discussion and adoption of "Why" Aristoi should grow to additional campuses. Board members should send edits to B. Davidson of draft plan.
- 14. Discuss, consider and approve updated plan for growth of Aristoi campuses and hear from Administration on contingencies and considerations. Administration (Watson, Amboree and Davidson) prepared a document called "Affirming Our Vision, Living Our Mission." This document recommends growth plan for the next 10 years (2022-2023). Some of the items recommended: add 4 additional campuses in the Houston area within next 10 years, and then eventually provide Aristoi campuses within 30 minutes of all Houston locales; in next 5 years, found the Aristoi Institute for American Classical Education to provide excellent faculty development; in next 3 years, develop long term partnerships with mission aligned private foundations, in the next 9 months, hire a Director of Human Resources to facilitate faculty and staff growth. Administration recommends that the following items will not be acceptable: seeking or accepting grants (federal, state or private) that aren't mission aligned; bending to the agenda of the modern age; and accepting mediocrity. A timeline was recommended for opening additional campuses. These recommendations will be discussed further in future meetings.
- 15. Hear and discuss the report from the Superintendent. BD
 - a. Enrollment
 - b. Financial
 - c. Faculty and Staff (report on new hires and resignations)
 - d. Curriculum/Professional Development
 - e. Student Testing
 - f. Extra-Curricular
 - g. Marketing/Communication
 - h. Development/Fundraising/Grants
 - i. Campus Security
 - j. Facilities
 - k. Compliance
 - 1. Title 1/Parent Involvement
 - m. Dress Code
 - n. Miscellaneous
- 16. Discuss and consider taking action from Superintendent's Report.
- 17. Adjournment to closed or executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074 of the Open Meetings Act, for the following purposes:
 - a. Discuss assignment and duties of public officers

Adjourned to closed session at 7:55 pm.

- 18. Reconvene to open session. Reconvened at 8:46 pm.
- 19. Take action on matters discussed in closed session. Motion to elect Catie Gillespie to the Aristoi board of directors: D. Light. Second: A. Hovis. Approved unanimously. Catie to finish the term vacated by Richard Williams.

- 20. Discuss items to be placed on the November Regular Meeting Agenda. Strategic Plan, Safety Audit, HB 3 math report for 3rd Grade, FIRST rating, Informal Superintendent Review.
- 21. Adjourn. Motion to adjourn: A. Hovis. Second: A. Cox. Approved unanimously. Adjourned at 8:47 pm.

Prepared by Lucina Botond

Lucina R. Botond, Board President

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF ARISTOI CLASSICAL ACADEMY, INC. October 29, 2022

A Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of Aristoi Classical Academy, Inc., charter holder for Aristoi Classical Academy ("School") was held on Saturday October 29, 2022, at 9:00 a.m., at the school, 5610 Morton Road, Katy, Texas 77493.

- 1. Call to order and establishment of a quorum. L. Botond called the meeting to order at 9:07 am. Also present were W. Clark, A. Cox, A. Hovis, D. Light, C. Gillespie, B. Davidson, A. Amboree, J. Bravo, C. Cimpean, M. Pertuso, M. Watson, K. Locheed, T. Polvogt and attorneys from Shulman, Lopez, Hoffer and Adelstein: Janet Robertson, Lisa Schott, Allysa Sanderson, Denise Pierce.
- 2. Hearing of citizens. None
- 3. Board Training to be conducted by attorneys from Shulman, Lopez, Hoffer & Adelstein, LLP covering topics such as general information on board service, Facilities Financing and Construction, Special Education, Texas Public Information Act, Texas Open Meetings Act, and School Safety. Training on all areas was conducted.

David Light left the meeting at 3:00 pm. A. Cox left at approximately 3:45 pm.

4. Adjourn. Motion to adjourn: A. Hovis. Second: W. Clark. Approved unanimously. Adjourned at 5:03 pm.

Prepared by Lucina Botond

Lucina Botond

Board President

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF ARISTOI CLASSICAL ACADEMY, INC. November 5, 2022

A Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of Aristoi Classical Academy, Inc., charter holder for Aristoi Classical Academy ("School") was held on **Saturday November 5, 2022, at 9:00 a.m., at** 605 Woods Lane, Katy, Texas 77494.

- 1. Call to order and establishment of a quorum. L. Botond called the meeting to order at 9:19 am. Also present were A. Hovis, C. Gillespie, W. Clark, A. Cox, D. Light, B. Davidson, M. Watson and A. Amboree.
- 2. Hearing of citizens. None.
- 3. Discuss, consider and approve Strategic Plan foundational goals, priorities, objectives, and related considerations. Board requested that administration fill in specific information they have access to on the strategic plan before the next meeting on this topic.
 - Under the Priority/Objectives heading and subheading "ACADEMICS," the administration will draft either "portrait of an Aristoi Scholar" or a description of the capstone projects that would be required at the end of elementary and middle school years. These capstone projects would be measurable indicators of academic success outside of standardized testing measurements.
 - Under the subheading of "FUNDING," the Capital Campaign will raise \$12 million by 2027 and have Aristoi well positioned to generate annual giving of more than \$1 million by 2027.
 - Under the subheading "FACILITIES," The Katy campus will be completed by 2025. The Cypress campus will be completed by 2027 and additional facilities will be secured in 2 additional Houston area locales.
 - Under the subheading "MARKETING," the indicators of improvement in marketing will include a specific % or number of increase in waitlist and possibly analytics that will show an increase in searches for "classical" school leading to the Aristoi site. The website needs complete overhaul.
 - Specific indicators such as "improvement of student retention" will need measurable outcomes.
- 4. Discuss, consider and approve plans for campus growth and related considerations. The board wants to see the development of campus focus groups led by headmasters to include one board member and 3-4 parents and/or community members who are invested in the school's success. These focus groups would discuss the needs for expansion, how far families would be willing to drive to reach additional campus locations, etc. The main idea is to include families in Aristoi's growth and maturation as a school for the long term. These meetings can be done remotely if necessary to fit the schedules of those involved. Administration should determine the full scope of the discussions. Motion to form Headmaster-led Campus focus groups for Katy and Cypress: A. Hovis. Second: W. Clark. Approved unanimously.
- 5. Discuss and consider next steps in bond refunding and other financing plans. D. Light to follow up on Petrus' pricing of the capital campaign. Turner Agassi foundation will be receiving our proformas showing expected 5 year growth on all campuses and the district along with other financial documents such as the 2016 bond information. A. Hovis to seek a ballpark valuation of the school's properties. Turner Agassi has done many build to suit campuses for charter schools and Aristoi will

vet the possibility of working with them to develop additional facilities as bond market interest rates are not ideal at this time. No action taken at this time.

- 6. Adjournment to closed or executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074 of the Open Meetings Act, for the following purposes:
 - a. For the purpose of considering the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline of administrators, including the Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent, Headmaster, Heads of School, and other administrative employees.

Adjourned to closed session at 11:56 am.

- 7. Reconvene in open session. Reconvened at 12:53 pm.
- 8. Take action on items discussed in closed session. Motion to take action on items as discussed in closed session: A. Hovis. Second: D. Light. Approved unanimously.
- 9. Adjourn. Motion to adjourn: A. Cox. Second: W. Clark. Approved unanimously. Adjourned at 12:53 pm.

Prepared by Lucina Botond

This is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on November 5, 2022 as approved by the Board of Directors on __________.

Lucina/Botond

Board President