

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ARISTOI CLASSICAL ACADEMY, INC.
August 23, 2021**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of Aristoi Classical Academy, Inc., charter holder for Aristoi Classical Academy ("School") was held on **Monday, August 23, 2021 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 5:31 pm. Also present were R. Williams, A. Hovis, A. Cox, S. Dollahon, D. Light, D. Thompson, N. DeJong, K. Lockheed, C. Cimpean, J. Malone, B. Davidson and A. Amboree.
2. Hearing of citizens. Heard from Mollie Ulrich, a parent, who spoke against a mandatory mask policy. Heard from Donna Wells, a parent, who spoke in favor of mandatory masks. Heard from Lisa Ekeroth, a parent, who spoke in favor of mandatory masks.
3. Discuss, consider and approve minutes for July 19, 2021 Regular Board Meeting. Motion to approve minutes: A. Cox. Second: D. Light. Approved unanimously.
4. Discuss, consider and approve minutes for the July 31, 2021 Special Board Meeting. Motion to approve minutes: A. Hovis. Second: R. Williams. Approved unanimously.
5. Discuss, consider and approve COVID Response Plan as required by TEA. Mr. Williams asked whether all teachers who wished to be vaccinated have had time to do so. Mrs. Davidson said that they have had the opportunity. A. Hovis provided information on a large, recent CDC study entitled *Mask Use and Ventilation Improvements to Reduce COVID-19 Incidence in Elementary Schools* that found no statistically significant benefit from masking students. L. Botond pointed out that the Governor's Executive Order GA-38 prohibiting schools from requiring masks is the current law and the Attorney General is actively suing public schools that violate the executive order. The board and administration reiterated that all students and staff who wish to wear a mask have the freedom to do so. Prior to the start of school, the administration released to Aristoi families the COVID Response Plan based on TEA guidance. Those guidelines are still the ones recommended by TEA. Motion to approve the Superintendent's COVID Response Plan as written and to reconfirm that mask wearing will remain optional: A. Hovis. Second: S. Dollahon. Approved Unanimously.
6. Discuss, consider and approve extending the 10 days of paid leave for employees who are documented COVID-19 positive and require mandatory quarantining for the 2021-2022 school year. B. Davidson related that although the governmental reimbursement for additional COVID sick or quarantine days will expire on September 30, 2021, the administration feels it's very important to continue to provide the extra paid days off because of the financial hardship that our employees would suffer if they need the additional days for quarantine or recovery. Motion to approve 10 days of paid leave for employees who are documented COVID-19 positive and require mandatory quarantining for the 2021-2022 school year: A. Cox. Second: D. Light. Approved unanimously.
7. Discuss and consider an update on the Cypress Campus, including but not limited to enrollment, facilities, renovations, leadership team and faculty. D. Guel reported that they have hired a kindergarten teacher and are still trying to hire a 4th grade teacher. Enrollment is at 213. Mrs. Amboree reported that the elevator is still not operational.
8. Discuss, consider and approve resignation of Gary Ferguson Aristoi Classical Academy Board of Directors. L. Botond expressed how sad the board and administrators are to lose Mr. Ferguson as a board member but that he will remain a friend to the school. His time on the

board has been a huge blessing to the school and he will be greatly missed. Motion to accept the resignation: L. Botond. Second: A. Hovis. Approved unanimously.

9. Discuss, consider and approve AP Calculus through John Hopkins University. Mrs. Locheed explained that this year the school has a very advanced math student who wishes to move to the next level of Calculus, which the school doesn't currently offer. She asked that the school add AP Calculus II through Johns Hopkins University. The fee is \$1787. Motion to approve the addition of this course: A. Hovis. Second: R. Williams. Approved unanimously.
10. Update on Upper School Master Plan. Mr. Ferguson started the process of working with BlueLine Architects to update the School Master Plan. As he won't be available, we need to reform the team to meet with the architect to get the work moving. Motion to have A. Hovis, L. Botond, A. Amboree and B. Davidson work with the architects to draft an updated Master Plan to bring to the board for review and approval: L. Botond. Second: S. Dollahon. Approved unanimously.
11. Discuss, consider and approve the Budget Amendment for school year 2020-2021. A. Amboree presented the budget amendment. Notably, revenues for attendance and child nutrition were higher than budgeted. Motion to approve the budget amendment for year ended 08-31-2021: L. Botond. Second: R. Williams. Approved unanimously. Mrs. Amboree also presented the Final Federal Grant Summary for period ended 08-31-2021. Motion to approve: A. Hovis. Second: A. Cox. Approved unanimously.
12. Discuss, consider and approve the Budget for school year 2021-2022. The board discussed the increases in salaries, the addition of new administrators and the fact that the budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year will be extremely tight. In addition, due to COVID, last year's fundraisers were not done. But there is hope that fundraising will be back on track this year. Motion to approve the 2021-2022 Budget: A. Hovis. Second: D. Light. Approved unanimously. Motion to approve the Federal Grants for 2021-2022: D. Light. Second: A. Cox. Approved unanimously.
13. Hear and discuss the report from the Superintendent. BD
 - a. Enrollment. Superintendent reported that some charter schools are seeing large drops in enrollment. Aristoi is seeing a strong opening enrollment. Current enrollment for Cypress is 213 and for Katy is 989..
 - b. Financial
 - c. Faculty and Staff (report on new hires and 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 I/Parent Involvement
 - m. Dress Code
 - n. Compliance
 - o. Miscellaneous
14. Discuss and consider taking action from Superintendent's Report. None
15. Hear a report from the Budget Finance Committee. S. Dollahon reported that the committee has met and will do so each month prior to board meetings.
16. Adjournment to closed or executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074 AND 551.071 of the Open Meetings Act, for the following purposes:

- a. Personnel Matters: Hear and Discuss complaint regarding athletic department employees.
 - i. To deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline, or dismissal of a public officer or employee: or
 - ii. To hear a complaint or a charge against an officer or employee
- b. Consultations with Attorney 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.

The board adjourned to closed session at 7:39 pm.

17. Reconvene in open session. Reconvened at 9:02 pm.

18. Take action on items in closed session. No action taken.

19. Discuss items to be placed on the August Regular Meeting Agenda. Master Plan Update and Information on COVID days.

20. Adjourn. Motion to adjourn: A. Cox. Second: S. Dollahon. Approved unanimously. Adjourned at 9:03 pm.

Prepared by Lucina Botond (A. Cox was ill)

This is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on August 23, 2021 as approved by the Board of Directors on September 20, 2021.



Lucina R. Botond, Board President