

Advantage Academy of Broward, Inc.  
d/b/a  
West Broward Academy  
Governing Board Meeting Minutes  
October 11, 2017 @ 5 p.m.

Present at Meeting

Bassema Iskandarani - Board Chair  
Nathaniel Grasch – Board Member  
Donna Baggs – Principal, West Broward Academy  
Derrick Hugue – Dean of Students  
Michael Strader – Charter School Associates  
Jennifer McKenna – Advantage Academy of Miami, Inc.  
Jill Balthazar – Charter School Associates

Parents:

Jacqui Luscombe  
Angela Ford  
Joelle Smith

Meeting called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Bassema Iskandarani.

**A. Opening Exercises**

Mr. Strader noted there is an additional item added under consent items for board approval of the School Improvement Plan.

Bassema Iskandarani, Board Chair, asked if there were any changes or revisions to the prior meeting minutes. Ms. Iskandarani requested a motion to approve the Governing Board meeting minutes. Nathaniel Grasch seconded the motion and all were in favor. Motion passed.

**B. Public Comments**

Ms. Ford asked if the Wilson reading system that was described in the school's original charter application is in use at WBA. Mr. Strader responded by saying that many items have changed since the original application was written in 2010 including changes to curriculum to address the changing requirements to the curriculum standards determined by the State of Florida. Ms. Baggs responded by stating that Wilson is not used but provided a summary of the curriculum for advanced, standard and intensive students.

Ms. Luscombe addressed the board and Principal about ESE programs and wanted to ensure all student services are met with fidelity. She expressed her desire to have a full time support facilitator. Ms. Baggs agreed if the school needs extra support staff then they will support that recommendation. She said there are currently (34) IEP, (9) EP and (9) 504 students.

**C. Principal Reports**

Ms. Baggs reported enrollment is at 534 up by 200. There are 32 full time staff. Ms. Baggs reported on upcoming events to include skate night, open house and the Fall Festival. Ms. Baggs has been working on the School Improvement Plan and is committed to working hard with her administrative team and faculty to improve student achievement and the school grade. Ms. Baggs said she is currently working to resolve car line issues. In addition, Ms. Baggs is working with new staff to orient them to school policies and culture. The School Improvement Plan is

scheduled to be reviewed by District staff on Friday. Ms. Iskandarani commended the school on their progress.

**D. Information Items**

1. Mr. Strader informed the board that monthly financial reports are sent to board members and any questions regarding monthly financial reports may be directed to Ms. Merced. Each board member receives a comprehensive monthly financial report.
2. Mr. Strader discussed the FY 18 budget and informed board members that an amendment will be presented at an upcoming board meeting to address changes in the rent structure resulting from a proposed lease amendment and as a result of the completion of the October FTE survey.
3. Mr. Strader presented the audit report prepared by King & Walker, CPAs, PAs. The audit firm was chosen by the board through a statutorily prescribed RFP process.
4. Mr. Strader reported the majority of the money for Title 1 is going to teacher salaries and instruction materials. Ms. Baggs signed the report and it has been submitted.
5. There are no pending compliance items noted for the school.
6. Mr. Strader noted the school doesn't take early release days and therefore there were no changes made to the 2017-2018 calendar due to the hurricane.
7. Mr. Strader presented comments regarding the second amendment to the lease agreement with the landlord. The amendment addresses rent reduction and further build-out of Phase 3.

**E. Consent Agenda Items**

All matters listed under the consent agenda are considered by the Board to be routine and will be approved/enacted by the Board in one motion. Unless specifically requested by a Board Member for further discussion or removed from the consent agenda, there will be no discussion on these items prior to the vote taken by the Board. *The following items were unanimously approved under a motion by Bassema Iskandarani, second by Nathan Grasch.*

1. Approval of Purchase Orders and Agreements
2. Approval of Personnel Board Liaison – Claudia Barbarino
3. Approval of Certification Waivers, Exhibit A
4. Approval of 2017-2018 School Calendar
5. Approval of 2017-2018 Handbooks
6. Approval of School Improvement Plan and subsequent iterations

**F. Items Scheduled for Action & Discussion**

Mr. Grasch motioned to approve items 1-4 along with the current board schedule. The motion was seconded by Ms. Iskandarani seconded and all were in favor.

1. Approve FY 18 Budget with Title 1 additions
2. Accept and Approve FY 17 Independent Audit
3. Approve 2017-2018 Board Meeting Schedule
4. Authorize Board Chair to execute Second Amendment to Lease following agreement of Landlord to changes.

**G. Board Meeting Reports**

None

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.