

APPROVED



## Las Américas ASPIRA Academy

### Minutes

#### Board Meeting with Executive Session

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#### Date and Time

Thursday September 22, 2022 at 5:00 PM

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#### Location

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89048894826?  
pwd=VVRLbndrRGFHYSdqRFE1WTJRRGVzdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89048894826?pwd=VVRLbndrRGFHYSdqRFE1WTJRRGVzdz09)

Meeting ID: 890 4889 4826

Passcode: 174372

One tap mobile

+16469313860,,89048894826# US

+19292056099,,89048894826# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 646 931 3860 US

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 669 444 9171 US

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

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#### Directors Present

A. Ben Addi (remote), A. Chávez (remote), A. Viscarra Gikas (remote), E. Diaz (remote), K. Fana-Ruiz (remote), L. Santiago (remote), M. Brown (remote), M. Rivera (remote), M. Terranova-Fissel (remote), P. Viera, Jr. (remote), R. Penix-Tadsen (remote), R. Rhem (remote)

### **Directors Absent**

C. Dipress, G. Gonzalez, J. Lawrence

### **Guests Present**

Eli Oriol, G. Panchisin (remote), Jorge Camacho (remote), José Avilés (remote), M. Lopez-Waite (remote)

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## **I. Opening Items**

### **A. Record Attendance**

### **B. Call the Meeting to Order**

L. Santiago called a meeting of the board of directors of Las Américas ASPIRA Academy to order on Thursday Sep 22, 2022 at 5:02 PM.

### **C. Vote to enter Executive Session**

M. Terranova-Fissel made a motion to enter Executive Session.  
A. Ben Addi seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

## **II. Executive Session**

### **A. Strategic Planning**

The Board discussed strategic planning

### **B. Vote to Return to Public Session**

M. Brown made a motion to return to Public Session.  
R. Rhem seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

## **III. Vote on Actions Discussed in Executive Session**

### **A. Vote on Actions Discussed in Executive Session**

M. Terranova-Fissel made a motion to approve items discussed in Executive Session.  
P. Viera, Jr. seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

## **IV. Approval of Meeting Agenda and Meeting Minutes**

### **A. Approve September meeting agenda and August meeting minutes**

R. Rhem made a motion to approve the minutes from Board Meeting with Executive Session on 08-25-22.  
M. Rivera seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

## **V. LAAA Team Member Spotlight**

### **A.**

**Jorge Camacho**

J. Camacho discussed his background and his role at the School.

**VI. Finance**

**A. Financial Report**

G. Panchisin discussed the August financial report.

**B. Approval of Financial Report**

M. Terranova-Fissel made a motion to approve the August financial report.

M. Rivera seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**VII. Operations**

**A. Operations Update**

G. Panchisin presented the operations update.

Construction of the high school is progressing. We are moving forward with Amtrak and New Castle County on the application to develop the fields we lease from Amtrak for sports.

**VIII. Development**

**A. Development Update**

M. Terranova Fissel presented the development report.

A parent created a presentation for parents, which the parent presented to the development committee this week. The presentation was made to LAAA team members in August. Grants have been requested, similar to previous years.

Meetings with strategic partners are being set up. Board members are being asked to reach out to potential donor contacts.

DelShakes is touring their bilingual *Twelfth Night* musical. The opening night is going to be Thursday, September 29 at 6pm at ASPIRA Academy.

**IX. DEIB**

**A. DEIB Report**

R. Penix-Tadsen gave the DEIB report.

Committee is in the process of reorganizing and working on the charter. The committee had to reschedule today's meeting and will reconvene next week.

LAAA DEIB Groups and leaders were presented. The groups have roundtables that a DEIB committee member will attend and report to the Board regarding what is happening at LAAA.

**X. PTO**

**A.**

### **PTO Update**

A. Viscarra Gikas presented PTO report.

PTO board met twice and a general meeting in September. Meeting dates being changed to first Wednesday every month. PTO would ask that the school include the PTO meetings in the school calendar, that reminders be sent out the week before, and that the website be updated for PTO access/documents.

## **XI. CEO**

### **A. CEO Report**

J. Avilés gave the CEO report.

Enrollment to date: 1,339 registered, 5 pending, 1,344 total (99.7%). The enrollment at the high school is lower than what we would like because the high school cannot yet provide the athletics that other high schools can.

In the culture and climate, we are incorporating restorative justice practices to help reduce the number of incidents at the school.

East Campus is focused this year on academic improvement, incorporating restorative practices and developing stronger relationships.

The areas of strength and growth were presented for the community as well as future projects.

## **XII. Closing Items**

### **A. Adjourn Meeting**

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:37 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
A. Chávez