

APPROVED

Assurance Learning Academy

Minutes

Regular Board Meeting Operated by Antelope Valley
Learning Academy, Inc.

A California Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation

Date and Time

Monday July 26, 2021 at 11:20 AM

Location

Conference Line: (661) 249-6805 Code:447502

MEETING LOGISTICS

On March 17, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20 related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Executive Order allows state bodies covered by the Brown Act to hold public meetings via teleconferencing. The public is encouraged to participate in the meeting telephonically by dialing the conference line listed above and may submit written comments for prior consideration to the board members. Comments can be submitted to publiccomments@assurancelearning.org. Public comment on the day of the meeting can also be given during the "Public Comment" section of the meeting agenda.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION WILL BE PROVIDED FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY

Please see the "Accommodations" notice below.

Directors Present

Claudette Beck (remote), Michael Molloy (remote), Michael R Adams (remote), Victoria Hancock (remote)

Directors Absent

None

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

Board President Beck read aloud the notices regarding meeting logistics and accommodations.

Claudette Beck called a meeting of the board of directors of Assurance Learning Academy to order on Monday Jul 26, 2021 at 11:20 AM.

B.

Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum

C. Pledge of Allegiance

Board Member Hancock led the pledge of allegiance.

D. Staff Introductions

Jeff Brown, CEO
Jeri Vincent, Corporate Secretary
Michelle Berry, Area Superintendent
Taera Childers, Area Superintendent
Julie Parra, Area Superintendent
Jeff Martineau, V.P. of Charter Relations
Bill Thompson, Legal Counsel
Michelle Lopez, Legal Counsel, LLAC

E. Approve Agenda for the July 26, 2021, Regular Public Meeting of the Board of Directors

Michael Molloy made a motion to approve Agenda for the July 26, 2021, Regular Public Meeting of the Board of Directors.
Victoria Hancock seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

Victoria Hancock Aye
Claudette Beck Aye
Michael Molloy Aye
Michael R Adams Aye

II. Public Comment

A. Public Comment

Board President Beck read the following announcement for members of the public:

At this time, members of the public may address the Board on any item within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board, whether or not the item is on the agenda. If you would like to participate in public comment, you must have signed in before the commencement of the meeting. Also, our teleconference line is open to members of the public who wish to participate in public comment. The time allotted per presentation will not exceed three (3) minutes, except in the case where a member of the public utilizes a translator, in which case the time allotted will not exceed six (6) minutes. The total time allotted for public comments will not exceed eighteen (18) minutes per agenda item, or ten (10) minutes for non-agenda items. In accordance with the Brown Act, no action may occur at this time but it is the Board's prerogative to hold a brief discussion, provide information to the public, provide direction to staff, or schedule the matter for a future meeting.

Board President Beck asked if there were any members of the public who wished to offer public comment. There were no members of the public who offered public comment or submitted written comment.

III. Public Hearing

A.

Open Public Hearing

Michael R Adams made a motion to open the public hearing.
Victoria Hancock seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

Michael R Adams Aye
Victoria Hancock Aye
Claudette Beck Aye
Michael Molloy Aye

Board President Beck announced the public hearing opened at 11:25 a.m.

B. The Board will hold a public hearing to solicit the recommendations and comments of members of the public regarding the Revised Personalized Learning Policy

Michelle Berry welcomed the board and explained on July 9th, Governor Newsom signed into law Assembly Bill 130 which added a variety of new rules for independent study programs. AB 130 requires updates to our board-approved Personalized Learning Policy and student master agreements.

The Personalized Learning Policy has been updated to include language about procedures for tiered re-engagement in response to student absenteeism, a defined level of “satisfactory educational progress” for students, a provision that every student will have access to connectivity and devices, added documentation requirements, how often parents will be contacted regarding their student’s progress, and a mandated level of live interaction and synchronous instruction for certain grade spans.

The live interaction and synchronous instruction requirements for each of the school’s grade spans are:

- Grade 8: opportunities for both daily live interaction and at least weekly synchronous instruction for all students throughout the school year.
- Grades 9 to 12: opportunities for at least weekly synchronous instruction for all students throughout the school year.

As defined in the new law, “synchronous instruction” means classroom-style instruction or designated small group or one-on-one instruction delivered in person, or in the form of internet or telephonic communications, and involving live two-way communication between the teacher and student. Synchronous instruction must be provided by the teacher of record for each student.

“Live interaction” means interaction between the student and charter school classified or certificated staff, and may include peers, provided for the purpose of maintaining school connectedness, including, but not limited to, wellness checks, progress monitoring, provision of services, and instruction. This interaction may take place in person, or in the form of internet or telephonic communication.

The Master Agreement and Addendum have been updated to include the following:

- The manner, time, frequency, and place for submitting a pupil's assignments, for reporting the pupil's academic progress, and for

communicating with a pupil's parent or guardian regarding a pupil's academic progress.

- The specific resources, including materials and personnel that will be made available to the pupil. These resources shall include confirming or providing access to all pupils to the connectivity and devices adequate to participate in the educational program and complete assigned work.
- A statement of the policies adopted herein regarding the maximum length of time allowed between the assignment and the completion of a pupil's assigned work, the level of satisfactory educational progress, and the number of missed assignments allowed prior to an evaluation of whether or not the pupil should be allowed to continue in independent study.
- A statement detailing the academic and other supports that will be provided to address the needs of pupils who are not performing at grade level, or need support in other areas, such as English learners, individuals with exceptional needs in order to be consistent with the pupil's individualized education program or plan pursuant to Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Sec. 794), pupils in foster care or experiencing homelessness, and pupils requiring mental health supports.

Students typically sign the Master Agreement for the new school year on or before the first day of instruction, which is July 1st in our program. Since AB 130 was adopted on July 9th, 8 days after most students had already signed a Master Agreement for the new school year, this required the school team to reach out to students to obtain a new Master Agreement Addendum acknowledging the changes to the Master Agreement for the 2021-22 school year. AB 130 defined a 30-day grace period from the start of instruction to obtain the updated Master Agreement Addendum. As of today, the school has 91% of Master Agreement Addendums signed and collected. Michelle Berry praised the school team for this accomplishment considering the new Addendum was not available for distribution until July 14th.

Michelle Berry concluded her presentation and asked if there were any questions or comments from the board and members of the public.

Board President Beck thanked Ms. Berry and praised her team for their success in obtaining the signed Agreements.

C. Close Public Hearing

Michael R Adams made a motion to close the public hearing.

Michael Molloy seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

Michael Molloy Aye

Michael R Adams Aye

Victoria Hancock Aye

Claudette Beck Aye

Hearing no comments from the public, Board President Beck closed the public hearing at 11:31 a.m.

IV. Action Items

A. The Board will be asked to review and approve the Revised Personalized Learning Policy

Michelle Berry recommended the board approve revised Personalized Learning Policy that was shared during the Public Hearing.

Victoria Hancock made a motion to approve the Revised Personalized Learning Policy.

Michael Molloy seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

Victoria Hancock Aye

Michael Molloy Aye

Michael R Adams Aye

Claudette Beck Aye

V. Additional Corporate Officers and Board Members' Observations and Comments.

A. Observations and Comments

Mr. Brown thanked Ms. Berry for all of her hard work.

VI. Closing Items

A. Next Board Meeting Date: August 23, 2021, 2:15pm

B. Adjourn Meeting

Michael R Adams made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Michael Molloy seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

Claudette Beck Aye

Michael R Adams Aye

Michael Molloy Aye

Victoria Hancock Aye

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 11:33 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael R Adams

Accommodations. Requests for disability-related modifications or accommodations, or translation services, in order to enable all individuals to participate in the Charter School's open and public meetings shall be made by contacting Soliman Villapando at (661) 272-1225 at least twenty four (24) hours before the scheduled meeting.

Non-Discrimination. The Charter School prohibits discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying based on the actual or perceived characteristics of disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, national origin, ancestry, race or ethnicity, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, immigration status, potential or actual parental, family or marital status, age, or association with an individual who has any of the aforementioned characteristics, or any other basis protected by federal, state or local law.

Public Documents. To request documents provided to a majority of the governing board regarding an open session item on this agenda, please send an email request to publiccomments@assurancelearning.org.