



## Meeting of the Board of Directors

### Minutes

February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020

1. **Call to order**

Dr. Charles Keffer, Board Chair, called the regular meeting of the Academia Cesar Chavez Board of Directors to order at 5:09 p.m. February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020 held at 1801 Lacrosse Avenue, Saint Paul, MN.

2. **Welcome**

The following Board Members were present for the meeting: Dr. Charles Keffer (Board Chair); Dr. Jessica Lopez Lyman (Secretary); Mark Ahrens (Treasurer); Elizabeth Rodriguez (Teacher); Dustin Lee (Teacher); Carlota Perez (Teacher); Commander John Lozoya (Community); David G. Stanton (Community); Malicia Villegas (Parent); Christian Guerrero (Parent)

The following Board Members were absent: Juan Vazquez (Community);

The following staff and guests were present for the meeting: Bondo Nyembwe (Executive Director); Marita Moran-Wildenauer (Head of Primary School); Jessica Perry (Head of Middle School); Mardi Dominguez (Family & Community Director); Lisa Taube (Operations Manager); Diana Morales (Sr. Executive Admin. Assistant)

3. **Recite Mission Statement**

Academia Cesar Chavez is dedicated to providing a quality dual-language education that prepares critically thinking, socially competent, values driven, and culturally aware bilingual and bi-literate learners by advocating Latino cultural values in an environment of familia and community.

4. **Board Team Building**

**Action Items (for Board Approval):**

5. **Approval of Agenda for February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Board Meeting (Dr. Charles Keffer)**

The first motion to approve the agenda was made by Elizabeth Rodriguez and the second motion was made by Dr. Jessica Lopez-Lyman. The Agenda for the meeting held on February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020 was approved by the Board of Directors.

6. **Approval of Minutes for January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 Board Meeting (Dr. Charles Keffer)**

The first motion to approve the minutes was made by Mark Ahrens and the second motion was made by Dustin Lee. The minutes for the meeting held on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 were approved by the Board of Directors.

7. **Revised 2019-20 Budget**

The first motion to approve the revised 2019-20 budget was made by Mark Ahrens and the second motion was made by David Stanton. The revised 2019-20 budget was approved by the Board of Directors.

8. **Meal Pay Policy**

The board did not vote on the meal pay policy. There are some minor changes that will be made to the meal pay policy. It will come to the board for approval at a later date.

## Discussion Items and Committee Updates:

### **9. Strategic Plan Discussion**

The board members continued to discuss the Dual Language program during the February 26, 2020 board meeting. A thorough presentation about ACC and other dual language program data was presented to see trends based on standardized test scores. In addition, the board members discussed the benefits of bilingual education and understand the reason why 3rd through 8th grade test scores are impacted at ACC. Consequently, ACC's Spanish reading proficiency and growth data from Kindergarten and first grade show that scholars are growing but they plateau in second grade. ACC's Dual Language program is described as an early exit model because in 2nd grade scholars receive 90% of the instruction in English and 10% in Spanish. This is a change from PreK through 1st grade 60/40 model where instruction is heavy in Spanish. The Academic committee of the board is working with the school leadership team to bring recommendations to the board for improving our program model.

### **10. Board Sub-Committee Reports**

#### **a. Resource Development Committee (Christian Guerrero)**

ACC received the Teacher of Color Grant in collaboration with New Century School and Friendship Academy. This grant will provide mentors to five teachers at our school. The Sewell Family Foundation visited our school. They have asked us to apply for a grant that would fund ACC's Summer Music Academy. ACC will also be purchasing a scoreboard and several flutes and clarinets.

#### **b. Executive Committee (Dr. Charles Keffer)**

The Executive Committee reviewed the meal pay policy and discussed the technology policy, both of which will come to the board for approval at a future board meeting. We are awaiting follow-up from UST in regards to the School Improvement Plan we submitted. We also had the Standard and Poor's phone call a few weeks ago. They will maintain our board rating as stable.

#### **c. Academic Program Committee (Head of School)**

The Academic Program Committee reviewed STAR Math and XTRA Math data. An area of concern was the low testing scores in middle school as only a handful are meeting grade level. This could be attributed to the loss of the middle school math teacher and/or the inconsistencies of how math standards are being taught. A member of the committee will gather and create a longitudinal view of the data while another member will work on creating progress graphs for every grade level teacher.

#### **d. Facilities Committee (Lisa Taube)**

The Facilities Committee has requested bids for the replacement of windows in the Prekindergarten classrooms. A new air conditioning unit will also be purchased for room 108.

#### **e. Finance Committee (Mark Ahrens)**

The Finance Committee has nothing to report on. The board approved the revised budget for 2019-20.

### **11. Staff and Other reports**

#### **a. Executive Director Report (Bondo Nyembwe)**

##### **i. High School Fair**

The high school fair was well attended by 12 schools.

**Breakthrough Twin Cities**

*The Breakthrough Twin Cities Program prepares scholars for college. ACC scholars have been participating in the program for a two years. We are waiting for 2019-20 selection.*

**Vision 2020 Quarter 2 Outcomes**

*The academic committee will be reviewing the Vision 2020 Quarter 2 outcomes more closely and will dig deeper to measure progress.*

**Enrollment**

*The enrollment is currently 555. We had 2 new scholars start this week. Our waitlist is growing and we are working on marketing.*

**12. Announcements/Public Comment:**

***Latino Day at the Capitol***

*The ACC mariachi will not be participating at this event like years past. This is a non-school day. We are encouraging families to attend and show support.*

**13. Upcoming Events:**

*Charter School Day at the Capitol – March 4th*

*PD and Conference Prep Day for Teachers – No scholars – March 9th*

*ELL Night – March 12th*

*Conference Prep Day – No scholars – March 20th*

*Quarter 4 Begins – March 23rd*

*Evening Conferences – March 24th*

**14. Next Board Meeting: March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**15. Meeting Adjournment**

*Dr. Charles Keffer called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The first motion was made by Dr. Jessica Lyman-Lopez and the second motion was made by Carlota Perez. The motion to adjourn was approved by the Board of Directors and the meeting was adjourned at 7:02 PM.*

*This meeting was conducted in accordance with MN Statues 13D.01, Open Meeting Law.*

*Approved by Board and Signed by Board Secretary*

  
*Dr. Jessica Lopez Lyman*

*Date 3/25/2020*