



# VALIENTE

COLLEGE PREPARATORY CHARTER SCHOOL

## Meeting of the Board of Directors

January 26, 2016

7:00pm

8691 California Avenue, South Gate CA

and

Via Teleconference at 11858 La Grange Ave #2, Los Angeles, CA

Dial-in Number: (641) 715-3580      Access Code: 141-190

### **Board Members in Attendance**

Jennifer Bunn Hayden

Jessica Boro

Mark Racunas

Deena Williams

Rudi Bonaparte

### **Not Present**

Benjamin Sadun

Carmen Avalos

Naeem Aratsu

### **Open Session**

1. Call the Meeting to Order

*D. Williams*

D. Williams called meeting to order at 7:10pm. Attendance Taken.

2. Approve minutes of December Meeting

*B. Sadun*

Minutes reviewed. J. Boro motioned to approve minutes. Second by J. B. Hayden. Minutes passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment

*B. Sadun*

No Public Comment at this time.

4. Welcome New Executive Director

*D. Williams*

Welcomed New ED

5. Executive Director's Report

*E. Perez*

Report given by Executive Director. Summary of school demographics given. Current focal points for the new ED: ASES grants, community relations (visits from South Gate city council members), community events, Project Based Learning. Strengths of the school from Dr. Perez's professional viewpoint: student population is eager to do well, parents reaching out to support has been strong too, LACOE oversight is positive and appreciated. Areas for growth include developing instructional strategies, staff morale, recruitment and locations (waiting for Prop 39). Board Member D. Williams recommended principal mentor and reaching out to Building Excellent Schools for resources.

6. Instructional Minutes: Allowance of Attendance for Emergency School Closure Day on 12-15-15

*ExED, Inc. Representative+*

Samira Estilai gave summary of school closure for emergency closure for all LAUSD schools and charter schools due to a potential terrorist threat. School must count this as a no school day, but Valiente can declare ADA for it by completing the allowance of attendance for emergency school closure day. Requires the majority of the board to sign in order to complete the form. D. Williams makes motion to declare December 15th a school closed day (in hindsight) due to an emergency proposed by LAUSD; therefore the motion is to complete the form to declare this an ADA day. Second by J. Boro. Motion carries unanimously.

7. Financial Report

*ExED, Inc. Representative*

82.6 ADA P-1 (Thru Dec. 31st)

72 ADA projection with 64 students

70 ADA with 60 students.

Projecting a deficit, but enrollment will impact much of the severity of said deficit. Report given out (no vote needed)

8. Board Approval of 2014 Tax Returns

*ExED, Inc. Representative*

Samira Estilai reviewed 2014 tax returns. Explained key details. D. Williams motion to approve 2014 tax returns. J. Boro second. Motion carries unanimously.

9. Certification of Signatures

*ExED, Inc. Representative*

Samira Estilai explained certification of signatures form noting new executive director. Board members signed forms so that all signatures were on file.

10. Audit Committee

*R. Bonaparte*

Based on conversation from December meeting, Valiente board needs to set up an audit committee of the 2015-2016 financial operations. Appointment of committee should occur today in order to find an auditor

company by March. Audit committee responsibilities including finding and approving an auditor and then working with auditor to reconcile any inconsistencies and ensuring fiscal policies are followed. Three board members need to be selected for an auditor to be selected. Jennifer Bunn Hayden volunteered to work on committee; Naeem Arastu will be asked to be on audit committee; Mark Racunas will be third member of audit committee if needed. Preferable to find auditors with experience in charter schools. If Naeem Arastu cannot do it, Jessica Boro may be final member if needed. Motion to approve plan for audit committee with Jennifer Bunn Hayden, Mark Racunas, and Naeem Arastu (who will be asked to be on the team, if not, Jessica Boro will take the 3rd spot). Seconded by Jessica Boro. Motion approved unanimously.

11. Board Member Communications

*B. Sadun (Led by D. Williams)*

Board member D. Williams recommends a film called “The Bad Kids” about an alternative education HS in the Mojave Desert. Poignant piece of movie is that principal was so passionate about the work and empathetic that personalized experience created along with teachers ultimately helped students become successful, graduate, and focus on what futures would be. Possibly host a screening of this movie ([Thebadkidsmovie.com](http://Thebadkidsmovie.com)).

12. Board Meeting Dates/Calendar

*D. Williams*

D. Williams reviewed meeting dates and calendar. Motion to move board meetings to 4th Monday of each month. Seconded by R. Bonaparte. Motion carries unanimously.

**Closed Session**

13. Potential Litigation - Categorical Programs, Williams Complaint, Special Education

*D. Williams*

Notes from Closed Session:

Nothing to report out from closed session.

**Open Session**

14. Adjourn Meeting

*D. Williams*

D. Williams moved to adjourn meeting at 9:21. Second by Mark Racunas. Motion approved to close unanimously.