

Brillante Academy Network

Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes

April 28, 2023

Agenda	Discussion	Action
Welcome and Call to Order	Dan West	Present via Zoom
	John Escamilla	Present
	Maggie Barreiro	Present
	Victor Saenz	Present
	Alfredo Villalobos	Present
	Aaron Brenner	Present
	Ana Karen Salinas	Present via Zoom
	Dulce Salinas	Present
	Katie Hernandez Akers	Absent
	Janis De Luna	Present
Stephanie Saroki Roberta Yildiz (public visitor/guest)	Present via Zoom Present via Zoom	
Quorum Met	Yes	Meeting called to order by Dan West- Brillante Board Chair at 1:11 pm.

Review & Approval of Minutes	Minutes reviewed by board members. Minutes from February 24, 2023 were revisited and approved.	Alfredo Villalobos motioned to approve minutes and Victor Saenz seconded. All were in favor.
Reading of Brillante Mission	<p>Our Mission: <i>Brillante Academy, a dual language school in the classical tradition, helps students to grow intellectually, socially and physically into young men and women of good character and spirit, and to be prepared for excellence in high school, college and beyond.</i></p> <p>Our Root Beliefs: Every child possesses inherent dignity & infinite potential. Parents are the first educators. Learning and excelling in two languages (English and Spanish) builds bridges, opens doors, and strengthens minds. Truth, Goodness and Beauty cultivate the mind, body, and spirit of every child.</p> <p>Our Core Virtues: At Brillante Academy we know that good character equals happiness that lasts across our school community; we commit to teaching and living the following virtues: Wisdom, Courage, Self-Control, and Justice.</p> <p>Our Goals: Our goal is for Brillante students to lead lives of excellence, virtue, purpose and impact. We will accomplish this through the best instructional practices we have tested across the country: A longer school day and year, technology-based blended learning to deliver individualized instruction, a dual language immersion program, with intensive support and coaching of teachers and combining this with a robust character education program, centered around four core virtues. By setting high expectations for our students, they will grow in character and virtues every day.</p>	Read by Mr. Victor Saenz
Ms. Katie Akers (represented by Aaron Brenner)	Mr. Brenner shared that we are at 61% higher, excluding Pre-K 3. He has placed a hold on additional offers, although Brillante is close to 200 applicants. He would like to wait until we catch up with enrollment and would also like to wait until Pre-K 3 is formally approved. We have hired the following:	Board Input: Mr. West asked if we would meet state regulations by out-sourcing a diagnostician, and Mr. Brenner shared that we have a partner called AIM that could provide those services. He shared that we could get by with a part-time

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dean of Instruction • PEIMS Data Manager • Special Education Coordinator • 2 of our Pre-Kindergarten 4 teachers • Teacher-in-Residence • Hired all Kindergarten teachers • Hired 2 out of 2 first grade teachers, but will be hiring one more teacher • Placed School Psychology position on hold • Thinking about hiring a part-time diagnostician for the first year, and hiring a full-time diagnostician the next year. • Working on hiring an Ops Associate. 	<p>partner providing those services the first year, while the plan is to have a full-time provider of services the following year.</p>
<p>Ms. Dulce Salinas (Parent Engagement Manager/Student Recruiter)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lottery was conducted and went really well. • Pre-kindergarten 4 seat acceptance is strong-34 students have enrolled. • Pre-kindergarten 4: we are at 68 students that have already accepted their seats (more than 50%). • Kindergarten: 35 students have accepted their seats-21 students have enrolled. • 1st grade: 25 students have accepted their seats-15 students have enrolled. • Expecting Pre-Kindergarten 3 to become active at Brillante. <p>Biggest question from the community: Will the school be ready? To get in front of this, Aaron has been making videos to show the community how we are coming along that are being shared via social media.</p> <p>Ideas to help with recruitment: Ms. Martha Oliver will be helping with recruitment. Teachers have been helping to distribute signs to the community. Brillante will be going back on the radio because it really helped. Recruitment in Pentas will take place because Aaron has a partnership with Sister Fatima.</p>	<p>Guest Input: Stephanie suggested that maybe Brillante could add another kindergarten classroom.</p> <p>Board Input: Dan asked: a) Do we need to get permission from the State to make this change? b) How late do we have to make this change?</p>

<p>Janis De Luna (Director of Operations)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Janis shared the Gantt chart for the 602 and 604 properties, stating that we are ahead of schedule in both projects. • Pictures were shared to show the progress on the walls, flooring, bathrooms, and ceilings for 604. • Pictures and videos were provided to share the progress in the main office, both exterior and interior. • The Children’s Internet Protection Act was reviewed, and the Brillante Internet Policy was shared. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prevent user access over its computer network to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications 2. Prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity 3. Prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors 4. Comply with the Children’s Internet Protection Act 5. Provide training to students on appropriate behavior while online, educate students on cyberbullying and safety with regard to the internet • Victor Saenz suggested that we use the teaching of proper internet use and embed the virtue of self-control. 	<p>Mrs. Maggie motioned to approve the CIPA goals/requirements and have them implemented in the Brillante Internet Use Policy. Mr. Victor Saenz seconded. All were in agreement.</p>
<p>Welcome Guests</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book Report presented the Balance Sheet to the Board for the month of March. • We have a member that is now being paid under the Brillante account as opposed to the Seton account. • Book Report walked the Board through possible expenses that can be taken care of with the CSP funds. • Overall there was not too much activity on the balance sheet, but it is expected to pick up in July. • Most of the items are in the green. The only thing that is in the red is the Admin Cost Ratio. This is high because most of our costs are 	

	<p>payroll and admin costs. Much of the curriculum has not been purchased yet and will be purchased in the next few months.</p>	
<p>Legal Committee Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Dan West shared that he and Mr. John Escamilla conferred with Tommy Fuller. There were only a few changes that were made, which were shared with Seton. Dan West suggested that if there are any points to discuss, best practice would be to have the attorneys work on the issues. 	
<p>Academic Updates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State pre-approved waiver letter. There are 2 additional needed waivers: 19TAC100.1033B9A IV and VI We have not been in existence for 4 years, so these waivers will help Brillante in regards to the campus's rating in previous years. In order for the expansion amendment of Pre-K 3 to be formally approved, these additional waivers are required. <p>Curriculum needs to be addressed and approved by the Board. The three curriculum types being implemented at Brillante are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Great Minds (Eureka Math, both English and Spanish) PhD Science (Spanish) Wit and Wisdom (English) Core Knowledge (History, Social Studies, and Geography) Estrellita (Spanish literacy) Chromebooks (KN-1st) and IPADs (Pre-K) to be used for Blended Learning Software that Brillante is looking to use are Amplify and Amira 	<p>Alfredo Villalobos motioned to approve the waivers.</p> <p>Victor Saenz seconded. All were in agreement.</p>
<p>Board Updates</p>	<p>Next Board meeting is scheduled for June 17, 2023.</p>	
<p>Meeting Adjourned</p>	<p>Meeting was adjourned at 2:34 pm.</p>	<p>Dan called to adjourn the meeting.</p> <p>Board Member Maggie Barreiro motioned to adjourn meeting.</p>

Mr. John Escamilla seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:34 pm.

All Board members agreed to adjourn.