

Brillante Academy Network

Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes for the date of October 12, 2023

Agenda	Discussion	Action
Welcome and Call to Order	<p>Board Members: Alfredo Villalobos, Dan West, and Maggie Barreiro were physically present.</p> <p>Matt Salvatierra , Trevor Sorensen , and Reyes Claudio were also present.</p> <p>Victor Saenz, Attorney Tom Fuller, Derek Lutz was present via Zoom.</p> <p>Brillante representatives: Aaron Brenner, Janis De Luna- Director of Operations</p>	Meeting called to order by Dan West-Brillante Board Chair at 7:42 AM.
Attendance and Quorum	Quorum was met.	
Review & Approval of October 12, 2023 minutes	Minutes added that: Brillante Handbook should be revisited to ensure that the uniform description was corrected.	Maggie Barreiro moved to approve the minutes; Alfredo Villalobos seconded.
Reading of Brillante Mission	<p><i>Our Mission: 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><i>Our Root Beliefs:</i> 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><i>Our Core Virtues:</i> At Brillante Academy we know that good character equals happiness that lasts across our school community. We commit</p>	<p>All board members reviewed our Mission for Brillante, keeping in mind that our purpose is to make Brillante Academy a success.</p> <p>The Mission, Root Beliefs, Core Virtues, and Goals were read aloud by Board Member Alfredo Villalobos.</p>

	<p>to teaching and living the following virtues: Wisdom, Courage, Self-Control, Justice, and Love.</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. We plan on having:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * 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... * combining this with a robust character education program, centered around five core virtues. <p>By setting high expectations for our students, they will grow in character and virtues every day.</p>	
Review of Facilities	<p>Aaron spoke about facilities: He spoke about the leftover work that Aries is tending to and discussed that there will be new locks installed in the doors to provide greater security for all staff and students. The fish pond was discussed, and Aaron stated that he expected the pond to have water by the end of October. The chicken coop was also a work in progress. Aaron shared that he expected 80% of the landscaping to be done by the end of December.</p>	<p>Ms. Maggie Barreiro suggested that building a walkway to the forest area may help in cases where there is a lot of rain.</p> <p>Alfredo Villalobos brought up two leaks that were being taken care of.</p>
Finances	<p>Derek Lutz spoke about CSP funds and discussed that after September, due to the purchasing of the busses, the money was wrapped up. In terms of food and nutrition, a claim had not been submitted as of yet. Brillante was still waiting for all income surveys to be completed and submitted.</p>	<p>Motion to approve the budget: Alfredo Villalobos</p> <p>Seconded by: Maggie Barreiro</p>

	<p>In the area of school operations, costs were being student-driven. There was a consultant that was added and the money was taken out of contracted services. This consultant would be helping the Special Education Department.</p> <p>There were also non-cash expenses to help support maintenance.</p> <p>Trevor Sorensen spoke about the budget and highlighted the amount of students expected to enroll at Brillante versus the actual number of students that were currently enrolled. The total number of students enrolled on October 12, 2023 was 196. He mentioned 3 important determinants to build/sustain the Brillante budget:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) enrollment is the key driver 2) early-stage fundraising would be extremely beneficial 3) savings on facility project(s) to date <p>Aaron spoke about the importance of fundraising and shared upcoming possibilities, such as hiring a director to lead fundraising. There were interviews lined up for this position.</p> <p>A financial manual was underway, and it was proposed that the fiscal year begin on July 1st. Fuller and Trevor agreed that it was more of a preference issue than a substantive issue.</p>	<p>Ms. Maggie Barreiro moved to approve the completion of a financial policy manual and Alfredo Villalobos seconded.</p>
Board Updates	<p>There were sections that needed to be reviewed in the handbook. These sections were those that described the uniform and discussed the health care provider. Does the nurse report to the Texas Health Care Department? Editing may be needed in the transformation portion of the handbook as well. Further review was needed. Mr. Dan West brought up that the terminology in the handbook needed to be revisited, such as in the case where homework was called Brightwork. He asked if there could be a legend added to the handbook for parents to implement.</p>	<p>Ms. Maggie Barreiro brought up sections of the handbook that needed revisiting. Janis De Luna agreed that she would revisit and modify as needed for further Board approval.</p>
Executive Session	None needed	
Public Comments	<p>Mrs. Martha Luna was the first parent to speak. She requested to have the ability to observe the first grade classrooms. She also asked</p>	<p>Ms. Maggie Barreiro suggested that if any event</p>

	<p>that communication between teachers and parents be strengthened. She voiced that there was an incident with her own child where she was not communicated with in a timely manner. In addition, she stated that she would want to come in at her own discretion and not have to have a set time to do so.</p> <p>Dan West assured her that they would look into the issue and get back to her with feedback and next steps.</p> <p>Aaron Brenner shared that there was a solid plan in place in which a second teacher would be brought into the first grade level so that the needs of all students would be met.</p> <p>Second parent to speak was Elias Luna. He asked if the Board believed Brillante to be up to par with the 1st grade education. Aaron shared that by creating 2 teams, Beillante would be able to execute the curriculum the way the team had been hoping to do from the beginning. He also stated the changes would begin on Monday.</p>	<p>were to take place, it may be best to communicate the event 2 weeks in advance so that parents have a chance to prepare.</p>
Meeting Adjourned	Meeting was adjourned at 8:55 am.	<p>Board Member Maggie Barreiro motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 am.</p> <p>Alfredo seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 am.</p> <p>All Board members agreed to adjourn.</p>