



MINUTES



GOVERNING BOARD MEETING ARARAT CHARTER SCHOOL

September 19, 2024

6:30 pm

Regular Meeting Location:
Ararat Charter School – Campus 1
6555 Sylmar Avenue
Van Nuys, CA 91401

Teleconferencing is available at:
Ararat Charter School – Campus 2
13400 Erwin Street
Van Nuys, CA 91401

Instructions for Presentations to The Board by Parents and Citizens

The Ararat Charter School (“School”) welcomes your participation at the School’s Board meetings. The purpose of a public meeting of the Governing Board (“Board”) is to conduct the affairs of the School in public. We are pleased that you are in attendance and hope that you will visit these meetings often. Your participation assures us of continuing community interest in our School. To assist you in the ease of speaking/participating in our meetings, the following guidelines are provided.

1. Agendas are available to all audience members at the door to the meeting.
2. “Oral Communications” is set aside for members of the audience to raise issues that are not specifically on the agenda. However, due to public meeting laws, the Board can only listen to your issue, not respond, or take action. Members of the public who wish to comment during the Board meeting may use the "Request to Address the Governing Board" form" available on the School’s website. Individual comments will be limited to three (3) minutes. If an interpreter is needed for comments, they will be translated to English and the time limit shall be six (6) minutes. The Governing Board may limit the total time for public comment to a reasonable time.
3. When addressing the Board, speakers are requested to state their name and address from the podium and adhere to the time limits set forth.
4. Citizens may request that a topic related to school business be placed on a future agenda. Once such an item is properly agendized and publicly noticed, the Board can respond, interact, and act upon the item.
5. The Board reserves the right to mute or remove a member of the public if comments or actions disrupts the Board meeting.
6. Access to Board Materials: A copy of the written materials which will be submitted to the School's Governing Board may be reviewed by any interested persons on Ararat Charter School's website along with this agenda following the posting of the agenda at least 72 hours in advance of this meeting.
7. Disability Access: Requests for disability-related modifications or accommodations to participate in this public meeting should be made 24 hours prior to the meeting by calling (818) 994-2904 or cmenjivar@araratcharterschool.com. All efforts will be made for reasonable accommodations. The agenda and public documents can be modified upon request as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

I. OPEN SESSION

a. Call to Order

This meeting was called to order by Board Chairperson, Ms. Avakian at 6:33 pm.

b. Roll Call

	Present	Absent
Ms. Avakian	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ms. Shamieh	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dr. Velarde	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ms. Horvat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Merzian	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Shirvanian	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING(S)

- a. August 22, 2024, Meeting Minutes
- b. September 5, 2024, Meeting Minutes

Recommend approval

Motion by: Mr. Shirvanian
Seconded by: Dr. Velarde
Vote: Approved Unanimously

III. APPROVAL OF CHECK AND CREDIT CARD REGISTERS

- August 2024

Recommend approval

Motion by: Mr. Shirvanian
Seconded by: Mr. Merzian
Vote: Approved Unanimously

IV. COMMUNICATIONS

a. PUBLIC HEARING/ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Non-agenda items: no individual presentation shall be for more than three (3) minutes, and the total time for this purpose shall not exceed fifteen (15) minutes. Ordinarily, Board members will not respond to presentations, and no action can be taken. However, the Board may give directions to staff following a presentation.

b. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

This is a presentation of information that has occurred since the previous Board meeting.

- **Assessments**
 - NWEA MAP assessments in progress in grades K-5.
- **English Learner Instruction**
 - Initial ELPAC assessments in progress for all new students enrolled recently.
- **Special Education**
 - Search and serve efforts have commenced. Approximate special education percentage is now at 10-11%.
- **General Education**
 - Planning for Responsive Acceleration In Students' Education (RAISE)
 - Offering After School Choir Club for grades 4 and 5 once a week starting September 23, 2024
 - LACOE is working with Ararat Charter School on the following initiatives:
 - Universal Pre-Kindergarten Program - trainings, observations, coaching sessions, etc.
 - California Community Schools Partnership Grant - 14 required sessions; 9 in-person and 5 via Zoom.
 - Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports - we are in our 3rd year of this partnership with the goal of streamlining our PBIS systems and structures.
 - Teacher Induction Programs - Principal supporting 5 candidates; Title I Coach/Coordinator supporting 1 candidate; and Learning Acceleration Teacher supporting 1 candidate.
- **Donation of Artifacts**
 - Mr. Nikol Aghababyan and Mr. Gegham Khekoyan donated artifacts to the school, the artifacts were presented to the board.
- **School Fiscal Plans**
 - Please refer to financial report

c. **OPERATIONS AND/OR COMPLIANCE MANAGERS' REPORTS**

This is a presentation of information since the previous Board meeting. (Per attached report)

1. **Enrollment**

- Latest student enrollment report by grade level

2024-2025 ENROLLMENT

Grade	Current Cohort	Pending Applications
TK	10	0
K	44	6
1st	56	0
2nd	56	1
3rd	56	0
4th	56	0
5th	54	0
Total	332	339

2. **Attendance**

- Report on the percentage of the Monthly Attendance

Attendance Percentage	
Grade	Month 1 08/12/2024 to 09/08/2023
TK	92.31%
K	92.88%
1 st	97.39%
2 nd	95.89%
3 rd	96.50%
4 th	96.31%
5 th	95.53%
K-5th	95.76%

3. **Prop 39 Related Information**
 - No Report Available
4. **State and Local Mandated Reports**
 - No Update
5. **Update on Legislation**
 - No Update

d. FINANCIAL REPORT

This is an update on what has transpired since the last board meeting.

1. July vs. Budget Financials

- Net income 38K, decrease vs. due to FY24 actuals and ADA %
- Projected ending cash 5.3 M, 176 days cash on hand

2. State Updates

- Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELOP)
 - Two years to spend one year' allocation starting with FY24 funds
 - Funds not spent by June 30 to be returned
 - Starting in FY26: new declaration requirement to run ELOP, allowed to use funds to support attendance recovery
 - Returned and available funds from schools not running ELOP to increase rate for LEAs with <75% UPP

V. DISCUSSION, INFORMATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

After the presentations, the Board will consider which items will be removed from the list of "consent" items which will be adopted with a single vote without discussion. This is followed by the Board discussing and voting on the items removed from the list by the Board or where individuals have signed up to address the Board on the item.

a. 2024-2025 Comprehensive Safe School Plan

California public schools are required to comply with the California Education Code (CEC), Section 32281, in dealing with the preparation of "safe school plans" and with the Child Nutrition and Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Reauthorization Act of 2004, Section 204 of Public Law 108-265. The plan is comprehensive and addresses violence prevention, emergency preparedness, traffic safety, crisis intervention, and Coordinated School Health. Ararat Charter School has created the Policy on Wellness and Blueprint on Wellness as a guide in creating and maintaining a safe and healthy school environment. This policy is also in compliance with LAUSD's Reference Guide 1242.6

The plan is comprised of two volumes:

- Volume I - Prevention Programs - Volume I includes issues related to mandated reporting, campus safety, cleanliness, traffic and pedestrian safety, crime prevention, violence prevention, school discipline, attendance, and Coordinated School Health.
- Volume II - Emergency Procedures - Volume II covers emergency preparedness and response and the California Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS).

b. California Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports

We have secured silver designation for the implementation of our PBIS systems.

c. USA Armenia

A current Kindergarten parent, who is a broadcast manager, has shared an exciting opportunity for us to go live and promote our school. This could serve as an effective outreach strategy to engage the community and showcase the school's programs. The school is also considering advertising in La Opinion and Panorama Mall.

d. Updated Conflict of Interest Code

The conflict of interest code has been revised to reflect changes in positions and submitted to LA County for approval by the Board of Supervisors.

e. Updated LACOE Certification of Signatures

LACOE is Requesting verified signatures of the members of the governing board in Column 1. Column 2 are the verified signatures of the person or persons authorized to sign notices of employment, contracts and orders drawn on the funds of the district.

f. 2024-2025 Finance Committee Meeting Calendar Dates

The 2024-2025 Finance Committee Meeting Calendar Dates have been reviewed and approved.

g. Appointment of Governing Board Members

The two new board members were presented and appointed.

VI. CLOSED SESSION

Adjourned to Closed Session to consider and/or take action upon any of the following items:

Public Employee Employment (G.C. 54957)

Title:

- **Exposure to litigation** pursuant to paragraph (2) or (3) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9
- **Pupil Discipline**
- **Appointment, Employment, Evaluation, and Discipline of Personnel**
- **Real Estate Negotiations**
- **Public Security**

VII. PUBLIC SESSION – REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

The Governing Board will report out any action taken in the Closed Session if any

VIII. ACTION ITEMS/CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

After the presentations, the Board considered which items to be removed from the list of "consent" items that will be adopted with a single vote without discussion. This is followed by the Board discussing and voting on the items removed from the list by the Board or where individuals have signed up to address the Board on the item.

- a. Approval is Requested for the 2024-2025 Comprehensive Safe School Plan**
- b. Approval is Requested for the Updated Conflict of Interest Code**
- c. Approval is Requested for the Updated LACOE Certification of Signatures**
- d. Approval is Requested for the 2024-2025 Finance Committee Meeting Calendar Dates**
- e. Approval is Requested for the Appointment of Governing Board Members**

Recommend approval

Motion by: Dr. Velarde

Seconded by: Mr. Shirvanian

Vote: Approved Unanimously

IX. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Board will discuss items for future Board meeting agendas

X. NEXT BOARD MEETING DATE

October 17, 2024, at 6:30 pm

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 pm.