

MINUTES



GOVERNING BOARD MEETING ARARAT CHARTER SCHOOL

September 18, 2025

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 6:38 pm.

b. Roll Call

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

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

a. August 21, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Recommend approval

Motion by: Ms. Izakowitz
Seconded by: Ms. Shamieh
Vote: Approved Unanimously

III. APPROVAL OF CHECK AND CREDIT CARD REGISTERS

a. July 2025

b. August 2025

Recommend approval

Motion by: Mr. Merzian
Seconded by: Dr. Velarde
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. FINANCIAL REPORT

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

1. FY26 July financials and facilities update

- Net income 118k, increase of 25k vs. previous forecast
- Increase of 25k mostly due to shifted one time revenue from FY25
- Projected ending cash 5.71M, 240 days cash on hand

c. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

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

- **English Learner Instruction**
 - No update
- **Special Education**
 - Introducing - Special Education Administrator – the individual introduced themselves and gave background information on experiences and met the board members.
 - Search and serve efforts have commenced – assessments are in progress.
- **General Education**
 - September 19 all day teacher and staff professional development
 - Seneca: Deliver PBIS Classroom Management Professional Development
 - Attendance and Chronic Absenteeism
 - Safe School Plan Training
 - Interpretation During IEPs
 - Threat Level Assessment/Risk Assessment Training
 - Supporting Students with Disabilities
 - LACOE is working with Ararat Charter School on the following initiatives:
 - \$7,000 grant for UPK
 - California PBIS silver recognition

d. OPERATIONS AND COMPLIANCE REPORTS

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

1. Enrollment

- Latest student enrollment report by grade level

2025-2026 Enrollment

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Current Cohort</i>	<i>Pending Application</i>
TK	18	2
K	42	0
1st	57	0
2nd	55	2
3rd	56	1
4th	52	0
5th	55	0
Total	335	5

2. Attendance

- Report on the percentage of the Monthly Attendance

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Attendance Percentage</i> <i>Month 1</i> <i>08/11/2025</i> <i>to</i> <i>09/05/2025</i>
TK	95.05%
K	97.06%
1st	94.08%
2nd	96.24%
3rd	94.65%
4th	96.12%
5th	94.98%
<i>K-5th</i>	96.02%

3. State and Local Mandated Reports

- No Update

4. Update on Legislation

- No Update

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. Facilities and all Related Matters

A \$15,000 after-school program facilities invoice was received. The invoice was reviewed, revised, and submitted to the district for final review prior to issuing the final invoice. The invoice was adjusted to a little over \$14,000 based on the room usage.

b. 2025 California PBIS Silver Recognition Notification

The school received the 2025 California PBIS Silver Recognition for implementing Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports with fidelity and promoting a positive school climate.

c. Realignment of Special Education District Validation Review (DVR)

The District Validation Review for Special Education will not be conducted this school year.

d. 2025-2026 Policy Updates

The Suspension and Expulsion Policy was sent to counsel for updates.

e. Compensation Committee to Meet Regarding Salary Scales

The Compensation Committee has not yet met. A meeting will be scheduled to review and discuss employee salary scales.

f. 2025-2026 Comprehensive Safe School Plan

The board reviewed and approved the 2025–2026 Comprehensive Safe School Plan.

g. ERC Information and Power of Attorney

The board authorized the ERC individual to have power of attorney to follow-up on the ERC claim.

h. HR/Compliance Manager Training and Transition Plan

The board reviewed the HR/Compliance Manager training and transition plan, discussing timelines and key responsibilities for a smooth transition.

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:

- **Pupil Discipline**
- **Appointment, Employment, Evaluation, and Discipline of Personnel**
- **Real Estate Negotiations**

VII. PUBLIC SESSION – REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

The Governing Board will report out any action taken in the Closed Session if any
No report

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 Facilities and all Related Matters
- b. Approval is Requested for 2025-2026 Safe School Plan
- c. Approval is Requested for ERC Information and Power of Attorney

Recommend approval

Motion by: Ms. Shamieh

Seconded by: Mr. Shirvastian

Vote: Approved Unanimously

IX. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Board will discuss items for future Board meeting agendas

X. NEXT BOARD MEETING DATE

October 16, 2025 at 6:30 pm

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:18 pm.