MINUTES

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
ARARAT CHARTER SCHOOL

January 22, 2026
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

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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 at 6:30 pm.

b. Roll Call

Ms. Avakian	☒	☐
Ms. Shamieh	☒	☐
Dr. Velarde	☒	☐
Mr. Merzian	☐	☒
Mr. Shirvanian	☒	☐
Ms. Izakowitz	☒	☐
Mr. Asatryan	☒	☐

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

a. December 18, 2025 Meeting Minutes

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

III. APPROVAL OF CHECK AND CREDIT CARD REGISTERS

a. Check and Credit Card Registers November and December 2025

Recommend approval
Motion by: Mr. Shirvanian
Seconded by: Ms. Izakowitz
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.

- **Recognition of outgoing board member**
  - The Board recognized and expressed appreciation to the outgoing board member for their service and contributions to the organization.

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b. FINANCIAL REPORT

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

1. 2025 November Financials
    a. Net income 664K, increase of 593K vs. previous forecast
    b. Projected ending cash 6.2M, 325 days cash on hand

c. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

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

- **Special Education**
    - No update

- **General Education**
    - Charter School Division (CSD) visit scheduled on Thursday, January 29, 2026
        - The school provided an update regarding the upcoming Charter School Division (CSD) visit scheduled for January 29, 2026, at 9:00 am, including preparation efforts. This item was presented for informational purposes only.
    - Instructional plans for ELA and Math, and strategies to address the chronic absenteeism rate
        - The Board received an update on schoolwide efforts to address chronic absenteeism and improve ELA and Math outcomes, including instructional coaching restructuring, implementation of i-Ready, expanded student supports, and targeted attendance strategies. Data trends were reviewed. No action was taken.

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

Grade	*Current Cohort*
TK	*19*
K	*41*
1st	56
2nd	56
3rd	54
4th	52
5th	53
Total	**331**

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2. Attendance

- Report on the percentage of the Monthly Attendance

Grade	Attendance Percentage Month 1 08/11/2025 to 09/05/2025	Attendance Percentage Month 2 09/08/2025 to 10/03/2025	Attendance Percentage Month 3 10/06/2025 to 10/31/2025	Attendance Percentage Month 4 11/03/2025 t0 11/28/2025	Attendance Percentage Month 5 12/01/2025 t0 01/09/2026
TK	95.05%	90.65%	84.69%	95.18%	90.12%
K	97.06%	96.30%	93.13%	94.11%	94.31%
1st	94.08%	94.53%	93.75%	93.37%	93.14%
2nd	96.24%	96.46%	97.45%	95.61%	95.33%
3rd	94.65%	96.24%	94.72%	93.36%	94.44%
4th	96.12%	94.61%	93.94%	93.70%	95.06%
5th	94.98%	93.34%	95.09%	94.75%	92.22%
K-5th	***96.02%***	***95.41%***	***94.16%***	***93.87%***	***93.62%***

3. State and Local Mandated Reports

- School Accountability Report Card (SARC) – submitted
- Quarterly Report on Uniform Complaints procedures (Instructional materials, facilities, teacher vacancy and misassignments)
    - The Board reviewed the Quarterly Report on Uniform Complaint Procedures (UCP), including instructional materials, facilities, and teacher vacancies and misassignments, and approved the report for submission to LACOE.

4. Update on Legislation

- No Update

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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
No update

b. Technology Update

i. Apple Devices and Chrome Books
The IT Facilitator presented an overview of the school's technology needs, including Apple devices and Chromebooks. Following discussion, the Board requested that additional bids be obtained from other companies for cost comparison purposes. This will be revisited either during the February or March board meeting.

c. School Procurement Policy
The Board reviewed and approved the School Procurement Policy.

d. School Accountability Report Card (SARC)
The Board reviewed and approved the School Accountability Report Card (SARC) for posting and submission as required.

e. Quarterly Report on Uniform Complaints Procedures (Instructional materials, facilities, teacher vacancy and misassignments)
The Board reviewed the Quarterly Report on Uniform Complaint Procedures (UCP), including instructional materials, facilities, and teacher vacancies and misassignments, and approved the report for submission to LACOE.

f. New Health and Welfare Benefits Commenced January 1, 2026
The Board received an update regarding the new Health and Welfare Benefits plan effective January 1, 2026.

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

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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 the Purchase of Chromebooks**
   This item will be tabled for a future board meeting.
c. **Approval is Requested for the School's Procurement Policy**
d. **Approval is Requested for the School Accountability Report Card (SARC)**
e. **Approval is Requested for the Quarterly Report on Uniform Complaints Procedures (Instructional materials, facilities, teacher vacancy and misassignments)**

Recommend approval
Motion by: Ms. Izakowitz
Seconded by: Dr. Velarde
Vote: Approved Unanimously

IX. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Board will discuss items for future Board meeting agendas

- **Yearly review of Personnel Handbook**

X. NEXT BOARD MEETING DATE

February 19, 2026

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:01 pm.

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