APPROVED

Escuela Avancemos! Academy

Minutes

Escuela Avancemos Special Board Meeting

Date and Time
Wednesday September 2, 2026 at 6:30 PM

Location
Escuela Avancemos Academy
2635 Howard St
Detroit, MI 48216
Room 105

MISSION STATEMENT: Prepare, educate, and inspire every child, every day to be lifelong leaders and learners in our 21st-century world.

Directors Present
A. Bordeianu, C. Stamatin, L. Chittum, M. Barbour, M. Gonzalez

Directors Absent
None

Guests Present
A. Ulloa, Ahmed Bitar, Aimee Gibbs, Alana Hubbell, Aleida Zepeda, Alina Lawson, Alina Lawson, Arianna Carrillo, Ayatt Faraj, Beatriz Hill, Dawn Carrillo, Elizabeth Rodriguez, Elsy Cruz, Fatima Gomez, Greg Meihn, J. Joubert, Julis Redden, Kaela Boyd, L. Coggins, Lydia Botsoe, Rebecca Romaine, S. Johnson, Sanjuanita Alvarez, Shannon Barnes

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance and Guests

B. Call the Meeting to Order

C. Stamatin called a meeting of the board of directors of Escuela Avancemos! Academy to order on Wednesday Sep 2, 2026 at 6:37 PM.

II. Approval of Agenda

A. Approval of Agenda

A. Bordeianu made a motion to Motion to approve the agenda as presented, with the modification to move Public Comment before New Business.
M. Barbour seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

M. Gonzalez	Aye
M. Barbour	Aye
L. Chittum	Aye
A. Bordeianu	Aye
C. Stamatin	Aye

III. Consent Agenda Item

A. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

M. Gonzalez made a motion to approve the minutes from Escuela Avancemos Regular Board Meeting on 08-25-26.
L. Chittum seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

L. Chittum	Aye
C. Stamatin	Aye
M. Barbour	Aye
M. Gonzalez	Aye
A. Bordeianu	Aye

B. Public Comment

Board President Cristina Stamatin reviewed the Board's meeting procedures and public comment policies in accordance with the Michigan Open Meetings Act, including the established guidelines and time limits for individuals addressing the Board of Directors.

Sharon Barnes, School Social Worker, shared her perspective regarding her experience working within the Escuela Avancemos Academy school community. Ms. Barnes emphasized that serving the school community should not be centered on personal egos, but rather on a commitment to service and the best interests of the community. She requested the opportunity to perform her duties and to have her concerns and perspective heard by the appropriate parties.

Ayatt Faraj declined the opportunity to address the Board. Ms. Faraj indicated that she may or may not provide support for a formal letter to the Board Liaison.

Julius Redden spoke on behalf of a community member and encouraged the Board to conduct a thorough review of applicable Board and management policies, particularly those addressing discrimination, harassment and retaliation.

IV. New Business

A. Motion to Enter Closed Session

M. Gonzalez made a motion to enter closed session pursuant to the Michigan Open Meetings Act, MCL 15.268, for the following permissible purpose: Board's written response to Authorizer regarding school operations and to discuss written legal opinion under MCL 15.268(h).
A. Bordeianu seconded the motion.
Close Session Began: 6:55 pm.

No Board action was taken during the closed session.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

M. Barbour	Aye
L. Chittum	Aye
A. Bordeianu	Aye
M. Gonzalez	Aye
C. Stamatin	Aye

B. Motion to Return to Open Session

M. Barbour made a motion to return to open session.
M. Gonzalez seconded the motion.
Time Returned to Open Session: 7:28 pm.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

L. Chittum	Aye
A. Bordeianu	Aye
C. Stamatin	Aye
M. Gonzalez	Aye
M. Barbour	Aye

C. Board Action, if any, arising from Closed Session

A. Bordeianu made a motion to authorize Board President Cristina Stamatin and Board Secretary Monica Barbour to work collaboratively with Sanga Consulting, the Educational Service Provider for Escuela Avancemos Academy, and the Board's legal counsel to prepare and submit a written response to the Academy's authorizer, Central Michigan University (CMU).
L. Chittum seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

L. Chittum	Aye
C. Stamatin	Aye
A. Bordeianu	Aye
M. Barbour	Aye
M. Gonzalez	Aye

V. Board Comments

A. Authorizer Comments

None at this time.

B. Escuela Avancemos! Academy Board of Directors Updates

None at this time.

VI. Closing Items

A. Reconfirmation of Next Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 22, 2026, at 6:30 pm at Escuela Avancemos Academy.

B. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
S. Johnson

Approved by the Board of Trustees on Tuesday, September 22, 2026