

Blue Oak Charter School
450 W. East Avenue, Chico, CA 95926
CHARTER COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING

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Meeting ID: 997 1548 8751

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Tuesday, January 19th 2021 - 6:00 PM

Vision: To be a model for successful education of the whole child.

Mission: To nurture and deepen each child's academic and creative capacities using methods inspired by Waldorf education in a public school setting.

Notice: Any person with a disability may request the agenda be made available in an appropriate alternative format. A request for a disability-related modification or accommodation may be made by a person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in the public meeting at, 450 W. East Ave., Chico, CA or by calling (530) 879-7483 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday (at least 48 hours before the meeting). All efforts will be made for reasonable accommodations.

All times noted on the agenda are approximate and listed solely for convenience. The Board may hear items earlier or later than is noted and may move the order of agenda items.

Update: In Compliance with the Governor of California's "Safer-at-Home Order" due to COVID-19, the Blue Oak Charter Council will be conducting meetings virtually until further notice. This means there will be no specific physical meeting place; the meeting will be held remotely. Public participation continues to be welcomed and encouraged to those who join via Zoom and raise their hand. The chat bar will not be available to the public during the Zoom meetings to support the sanctity of the meeting. The chat will only go to the host for technical issues.

Blue Oak Charter Council (BOCC) may tape, film, stream, or broadcast any open BOCC Meeting. The BOCC president may announce that a recording or broadcasting is being made at the direction of BOCC members and that the recording or broadcast may capture images and sounds of those attending the meeting. Any BOCC recording may be erased or destroyed 30 days after the meeting.

The Blue Oak Charter Council reserves the right to take action on any item on the agenda.

AGENDA

OPEN SESSION - 6:00 PM

1. OPENING - 5 Minutes

1.1. Call Meeting to Order

- Monica McDaniel called the meeting to order at 6:04PM.

1.2. Roll Call of Council Members and Establish Quorum

- Present: Trisha Atehortua, Laurel Hill-Ward, Chelsea Parker, Vicki Wonacott, and Monica McDaniel
- Absent: Heather Bonea and Laura Swanson

1.3. Invocation - School Verse Read

"This is our school, May peace dwell here, May the rooms be full of contentment. May love abide here, Love of one another, Love of our school, Love of life itself. Let us remember that as many hands build a house, So many hearts build a school."

- Monica McDaniel read the school verse.

- Monica McDaniel asked for the Charter Council and audience members to take a moment of silence to acknowledge the passing of Caleb Casey, a beloved Blue Oak parent, volunteer, and community member.

1.4. Agenda Modifications

- No agenda modifications were made.

1.5. Meeting Norms

1.5.1. Review Meeting Norms

- Charter Council members reviewed BOCC meeting norms. They reminded the audience that there should be no side conversations happening in the chat bar as this reduces meeting efficiency. Additionally, Council members can only address topics that are listed on the agenda. If a topic is brought up during the meeting that is not listed on the agenda, Council members will not be able to address that item unless it is added to a future agenda. Agenda items may be requested by emailing the Executive Assistant, Alexandra Archer. Audience members are only given three minutes to speak when it is time for public comment and that there should be no discussion between audience members and Council members during the meeting; Council members discussion and public comment should serve as two separate functions.
- Susan was requested to add a process for speaking to the board and handling school complaints. A further detailed, written list of meeting norms and an informal complaint process will be presented at the next meeting.

1.5.2. Uniform Complaint Form

- Additionally, Council members shared with the audience that there is a formal Uniform Complaint Form on the website, both on the Parent Resources page and the BOCC page.

1.5.2.1. Website link

- <https://blueoakcharterschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/UNIFORM-COMPLAINT-FORM.docx-1.pdf>

1.6. Audience to Address the Council

This is an opportunity for members of the community to address the committee concerning items not on the agenda. Persons addressing the Committee will be allowed a maximum of three (3) minutes for their presentation. The chair may establish a maximum speaking time for any item.

Persons may not yield their time to another speaker (Gov. Code § 54954.3)

- Alicia Trider, a parent of 1st Grader at Blue Oak, who helped to create an Anti-Racism policy with the BOCC during the summer, wanted to thank Council members for their commitment to Blue Oak. Alicia wanted to check in because parts of this Anti-Racism policy called for action items, for example section 9 and 11, and she just wanted to check in about what action items Blue Oak has accomplished. She would like to propose an agenda item be added to monthly BOCC meetings to update the community about this Anti-Racism policy.
- Chelsea Parker apologized for presenting a clip of the CUSD Board Meeting at the last BOCC meeting without giving anyone context about the video content. She understood that was a real trigger point for some people, it was not her intention to catch people off guard, and will be more cautious and thoughtful about actions moving forward.

2. CONSENT AGENDA - 10 Minutes

2.1. Approve Minutes from December 15th, 2020.

2.2. Charter Impact Monthly Report

Jim Weber, Charter Impact

2.2.1. Attendance and Enrollment

2.2.2. Cash Flow

2.2.3. Balance Sheet Detail

2.2.4. Warrants/Aged Payable

- 2.2.5. **Actual to Budget Summary**
- 2.3. **Accept Offers of Employment**
 - 2.3.1. **Darlasia Miller**
 - 2.3.2. **Lillian Golde**
- 2.4. **Accept Donations**

- Chelsea Parker made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Vicki Wonacott seconded the motion.
- No further discussion.
- Vote.

| Name | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|------------------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Monica McDaniel | X | | | |
| Heather Bonea | | | | X |
| Vicki Wonacott | X | | | |
| Laurel Hill-Ward | X | | | |
| Laura Swanson | | | | X |
| Trisha Atehortua | X | | | |
| Chelsea Parker | X | | | |

- Vote passes.

3. GOVERNANCE - 15 Minutes

3.1. Charter Council Member Resignation

Heather Bonea

- Heather Bonea who has been a parent and member of the Blue Oak community for around 20 years, and has been an employee and BOCC member during that time, has recently submitted her resignation to the Charter Council. She made a decision for her family which no longer qualifies her to remain a member of the BOCC. Although she was not in attendance, Charter Council members thanked Heather for all her hard work and dedication to Blue Oak. Charter Council members are sad to see her go.
- For those who are interested in applying to fill the vacant Council seat, the Blue OAK Executive Assistant will be sending out more information via ParentSquare.
- Chelsea Parker made a motion to accept Heather's resignation from the Charter Council. Trisha Atehortua seconded the motion.
- No further discussion.
- Vote.

| Name | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|------------------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Monica McDaniel | X | | | |
| Vicki Wonacott | X | | | |
| Laurel Hill-Ward | X | | | |
| Laura Swanson | | | | X |

| | | | | |
|------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Trisha Atehortua | X | | | |
| Chelsea Parker | X | | | |

➤ Vote passes.

3.2. Finance Committee

Chelsea Parker

➤ The last BOFC meeting was a quick one. Committee members reviewed the financial report submitted by Charter Impact as well as the new budget proposal released from the state. This proposal includes additional COVID funding for schools but there is talk that this funding includes a lot of red tape that may make the total cost to the school greater than the funds that would be received. Susan is preparing to apply to receive the funds so the school is prepared in the case that we want to move forward with the application.

3.3. Policy Review

Susan Domenighini

3.3.1. Homeless Policy (2nd Reading)

- Charter Council members reviewed the Homeless Policy that was presented at the last BOCC meeting. This is the second reading of this policy and adjustments have been made to include person-first language as suggested during the first reading. It is now ready for review and approval.
- Laurel Hill-Ward made a motion to approve the policy. Chelsea Parker seconded the motion.
- No further discussion.
- Vote.

| Name | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|------------------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Monica McDaniel | X | | | |
| Vicki Wonacott | X | | | |
| Laurel Hill-Ward | X | | | |
| Laura Swanson | | | | X |
| Trisha Atehortua | X | | | |
| Chelsea Parker | X | | | |

➤ Vote passes.

3.4. Marketing Meeting Volunteer

- Last meeting the BOCC approved the budget to consult with a marketing firm, MC2 Designs. Susan now has a meeting set up with the firm to decide on a Blue Oak message which should include voices from all areas of Blue Oak. Susan would love to have a board member join if anyone is interested.
- Monica McDaniel volunteered to attend the meeting.

3.5. School Calendar

- The school calendar presented has been approved by members of faculty and the leadership team. This year, the calendar includes Indigenous Peoples Day as a holiday.
- Chelsea Parker proposed that we list which holidays are being honored on the bottom of the calendar so our community is aware.
- Other Council members requested that teachers take a look at the events and activities that are offered in our community during Indigenous Peoples Day to help inform students and staff about the holiday.

- Alica Trider wanted the BOCC to be mindful of being inclusive of language and suggested using Fall, Winter or Spring Break instead of Thanksgiving, Christmas, or Easter break. Monica McDaniel seconded this idea and asked that this language be used when the holidays are being listed at the bottom of the calendar.
- Trisha Atehortua made a motion to accept the school calendar including a list of the holiday break dates. Monica McDaniel seconded the motion to also use inclusive language when we add the holiday break dates.
- No further discussion.
- Vote.

| Name | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|------------------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Monica McDaniel | X | | | |
| Vicki Wonacott | X | | | |
| Laurel Hill-Ward | X | | | |
| Laura Swanson | | | | X |
| Trisha Atehortua | X | | | |
| Chelsea Parker | X | | | |

- Vote passes.
- Laurel Hill-Ward reminded Council members to use a visual when you vote for those who may not be able to hear who is voting.

3.6. School Accountability Report Card

- This document provides information to the community to allow public comparison of schools for student achievement, environment, resources & demographics; it must be posted on our website and forwarded to the CDE for posting every year.
- Chelsea Parker pointed out some incorrect data on page 10. Susan will see if she can correct this mistake since the mistake is a part of the pre-written template Susan used to create this document.
- Alicia Trider used this document to look into our schools curriculum and had a few questions regarding the sources. She was curious if it was possible to have a committee, such as the Anti-Racism taskforce or Parent Council, vet the schools curriculum. Susan Domenighini assured Alicia that there is already a vetting process for the schools curriculum materials and explained that if she had any further questions or would like to review our curriculum she should reach out to the Executive Assistant, Alexandra Archer.
- Trisha Atehortua made a motion to accept the SARC including the edits, if it is possible to make those changes. Chelsea Parker seconded the motion.
- No further discussion.
- Vote.

| Name | Yes | No | Abstain | Absent |
|------------------|-----|----|---------|--------|
| Monica McDaniel | X | | | |
| Vicki Wonacott | X | | | |
| Laurel Hill-Ward | X | | | |

| | | | | |
|------------------|---|--|--|---|
| Laura Swanson | | | | X |
| Trisha Atehortua | X | | | |
| Chelsea Parker | X | | | |

➤ Vote passes.

4. FACULTY

4.1. Grade Level Report

Riley Murray & Brianna Lee

- Riley Murray gave a faculty presentation via Powerpoint; this time, giving a more detailed description of the ongoings of one particular classroom. Riley shared what Ms. Sheila and her 3rd grade class has been up to lately, including working on their yearly calendars, appreciating the seasons, learning about time and measurement, reading stories such as Farmer Boy, and sharing poetry written by Ms. Sheila's grandmother.
- Alicia Trider had a question regarding the story Farmer Boy. She pointed out that the book and author is known to be highly racist towards Native Americans. She was concerned about this because, after a survey from the summer, the school recognized that many of our Blue Oak families reported that they identify as Native American. Susan Domenighini explained that the Anti-Racism taskforce and our Pedagogical team are continuously working to ensure that our materials are inclusive. This example, of using the story Farmer Boy, has already been brought to the Pedagogical team for review by Ms. Sheila who asked if she can use this material as an example of why the language used in this story is no longer okay to use.
- Monica McDaniel added that we are starting to see the world through a whole new lens, so she appreciates Alicia's additional input and the hard work of the Pedagogical team.

5. ADMINISTRATION - 30 Minutes

5.1. Executive Director's Report

Susan Domenighini

- Covid Funding
 - Referring to what Chelsea Parker mentioned early during the Finance Committee update, we are still waiting to hear from Mary Sukuma to get some more information about the governor's newest funding proposal.
- Online Concert
 - Our holiday concert over winter break, which included a full hour of live music sung by the Brandi family, raised close to \$1,200. Thank you to Chloe and Her Crew for the wonderful performance.
- Full Day Kinder/Preschool
 - Susan has been meeting with experts in the education field to learn more about starting a Kindergarten and Preschool program at Blue Oak. Additionally, there is a possibility of new funding that could help get these programs started.
- Facility
 - Susan is still in talks with John Roth regarding future real estate options.
- Pedagogical Team
 - The Pedagogical team is continuing work to review our schools curriculum; they are talking a lot about representation in our materials. The team is composed of teachers dear to our hearts: Kari Madera, Sheila Moss, and Cheryl Grant.
- Chico Unified Board
 - Charters leaders are asking CUSD if charter schools can have more time and representation during the CUSD Board meetings. The proposal is that each leader

will take turns giving updates during the CUSD Board meetings so we can build a stronger bond with our authorizers.

5.1.1. COVID Response

- In order to keep up with the changing environment and still adhere to COVID regulations, Blue Oak has been trying out a few new ideas. A number of new aides have been hired to help support teachers because, starting on Monday, we will have about 67% of our students onsite who desire to be onsite. This school is still working to bring a few more students on to campus at a later date as well. Susan will be reaching out soon to get a pulse on the distance learning families to see if they are still interested in staying on distance learning for the rest of the year. There will be more information to come.
- There will be two classes that will be split into two rooms in order to accommodate the 6 foot distance while still allowing more students to come on to campus. This is all experimental and will be monitored by Admin regularly. The teacher and aide will go between both rooms to help support all students, and students will still be allowed to mix between the rooms as they are considered one big cohort.
- Blue Oak staff was able to get their first round of Moderna vaccines over the holiday weekend and the second will become available in February.
- There are a number of families who are advocating for our students to be onsite full time. The school is still working to keep a balance for both distance and onsite learners, and also to keep staff and faculty safe as well.
- Trisha Atehortua spoke about the last Parent Council meeting she attended, explaining that there were questions about Blue Oak opening homeschool again. Parents were wondering if this would be an option when Blue Oak chooses to go back full time; thinking, now that many families have had a taste of distance learning, they might be more interested in a homeschooling option now than they have in the past. Susan explained that while we are doing a Hybrid model, homeschooling is not an option but when campus reopens to a full, onsite program that may be a possibility to consider.

6. NEXT MEETING - Tuesday, February 16th 2021 at 6:00PM

ADJOURNMENT

- Monica adjourned the meeting at 7:09PM

Minutes Taken By: Alexandra Archer

Approved by: Trisha Atehortua Trisha Atehortua (Mar 31, 2021 16:21 PDT) Date: 03/31/21