

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, November 16th, 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.

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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.

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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

1.1. Call Meeting to Order

- Chelsea Parker called the meeting to order at 6:07PM.

1.2. Roll Call of Council Members and Establish Quorum

- Present: Leanna Glander, Laurel Hill-Ward, Vicki Wonacott, and Chelsea Parker
- Absent: Trisha Atehortua, and Amber Brown

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, and Love of life itself. Let us remember that as many hands build a house, So many hearts build a school."

- Laurel Hill-Ward read the school invocation.

1.4. Agenda Modifications

- No modifications were made.

1.5. 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)

- No audience members addressed the council.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

2.1. Approve Minutes from October 19th, 2021

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. Point of Sale Transactions/Check Register

2.4. Teleconferencing During State of Emergency

State of Emergency (§ 8625)

2.5. Accept Donations

- Leanna Glander made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Vicki Wonacott seconded the motion.
- No further discussion.
- Vote.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Chelsea Parker	X			
Vicki Wonacott	X			
Laurel Hill-Ward	X			
Amber Brown				X
Leanna Glander	X			
Trisha Atehortua				X

- Vote passes.

3. GOVERNANCE

3.1. Finance Committee Report

Amber Brown

- Items from the last BOFC meeting are covered later in this agenda.

3.2. Parent Council Report

Trisha Atehortua

- Trisha Atehortua is not here tonight to report out about the last Parent Council meeting.

3.3. Equity & Inclusion Task Force Report

Susan Domenighini

- There was no Equity meeting this month. Last month, we had a great school assembly for Indigenous Peoples Day and this month we will have a Thanksgiving/Gratitude assembly. At all school events/assembly we will continue to open with our school verse and a land acknowledgement. We will continue to bring equity updates in the future.

3.4. Policy Review

3.4.1. Employee Assignment (2nd Reading)

- This item requires action. Nothing has changed since the last reading.
- Chelsea Parker made a motion to approve the employee assignment policy. Leanna Glander seconded the motion.
- Vote.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Chelsea Parker	X			
Vicki Wonacott	X			
Laurel Hill-Ward	X			
Amber Brown				X
Leanna Glander	X			
Trisha Atehortua				X

- Vote passes.

3.4.2. Leaves (2nd Reading)

- This item requires action. Nothing has changed since the last reading.
- Chelsea Parker wondered if there is a cap on sick time for credentialed employees that carries over year to year since there is a cap on sick time for classified employees. Susan Domenighini would like to remove the maximum for the credential employees.
- Chelsea Parker made a motion to accept the leaves policy with the removal of the cap for the amount of days carried over for regular, salaried and exempt employees. Laurel Hill-Ward seconded the motion.
- No further discussion.
- Vote.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Chelsea Parker	X			
Vicki Wonacott	X			
Laurel Hill-Ward	X			
Amber Brown				X
Leanna Glander	X			
Trisha Atehortua				X

- Vote passes.

3.4.3. Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting (2nd Reading)

- This item requires action. Nothing has changed since the last reading.
- Leanna Glander made a motion to approve the child abuse policy as stated. Vicki Wonacott seconded the motion.
- No further discussion.
- Vote.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Chelsea Parker	X			
Vicki Wonacott	X			
Laurel Hill-Ward	X			
Amber Brown				X
Leanna Glander	X			
Trisha Atehortua				X

- Vote passes.

3.4.4. Grading (1st Reading)

- This is the first reading so it will return to the board once more before a vote is taken. We have not had a grading policy before; it has gone through the Pedagogical Team to go over the year-end narrative information.
- Chelsea Parker wondered if this applies to specialty teachers as well. Since this is a board policy it is pretty broad overall but, yes, it applies to classroom and specialty teachers. Administration and faculty have been working to improve the current grading system overall; this policy will help. Parents will see these changes at the upcoming parent-teacher conferences. The school is also working on ensuring all parents with students in 3rd grade or up have access to the Aeries portal and can be kept up-to-date on their students' grades. There has been a lot of work done with electives and specialty teachers so admin is happy to see the improvements in this area overall.
- The policy is pretty straightforward but the biggest thing to note, as a Waldorf school, is the year end report. The grading system is really secondary and more for the public school side of our charter school. This policy will help to keep us focused on the teacher's understanding of the child overall, not just their grades.

3.5. COVID-19 Response Update

- Since the last COVID update, Blue Oak has had 2 cases that have caused exposures in the school. One was a staff member and one was a student. Additionally, the vaccination mandate has been of continuing concern to our families and parents. Admin is still waiting to hear the final version of the mandate from the state to be able to better answer our families questions. Otherwise, the good news is that our numbers in Butte County are going down and continue to go down so that is a positive.

- Steve, a Blue Oak parent, was curious why we didn't get an email about the exposure until Monday after the exposure happened. Steve felt his family could have taken additional precautions if they had known ahead of time.
- Although this isn't the place for individual requests, the general protocol for this type of situation is that Administration needs to do an investigation before the school can announce anything. Once we have all of the details, we can notify the community. This is why it may have seemed like there was a delay in the relay of this information.

3.6. MC2 Marketing Update

- At the last meeting, the board asked about how productive the MC2 marketing efforts have been so far. The document attached describes how it has helped.
- Overall, enrollment has dropped not just for Blue Oak but for many schools in our community. However, our number of enrollments since the beginning of the school year has been impressive. It is great to see that the school's marketing efforts are working overall. Blue Oak and MC2 have also been working on additional outreach for additional Kindergarten students.

3.7. MTSS Charter Collaborative

- The state has a new grant that will allocate Blue Oak \$50,000 with the requirement that all instructional staff attend basic training over the next 5 years. The intent is to work with BCOE to help keep our school and the other charter schools in our area on track. BCOE is the representative for this grant so they know the process well.
- Leanna Glander made a motion to approve this collaboration. Vicki Wonacott seconded the motion.
- No further discussion.
- Vote.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Chelsea Parker	X			
Vicki Wonacott	X			
Laurel Hill-Ward	X			
Amber Brown				X
Leanna Glander	X			
Trisha Atehortua				X

- Vote passes.

3.8. Educator Effectiveness Block Grant

- This is a public hearing. This is the first reading so it will return to the board once more before a vote is taken. This is a 5 year plan funded by the state that focuses on building the professional development needs of our staff. Admin used the language from LCAP to craft a plan for these funds. The BOFC recommended that BOCC approve this grant opportunity. Finally, the preschool piece mentioned in this grant will be discussed at the December meeting
- No further discussion.

3.9. Employee Benefit Renewal Proposal

- This is the annual review of employee benefits. The changeover for insurance now takes place in January and lasts for the full calendar year. There are currently two renewal options for medical insurance. The difference between the two options is that one option is slightly lower in costs with slightly lower in-network options.
- The BOFC reviewed this proposal but did not make a recommendation to the BOCC because staff did not have time to review it last week. At this time, staff have had no objections so it would make sense to go with the lower priced option. Approving this now gives staff the opportunity to select which option fits them best before the turnover in January.
- Chelsea Parker made a motion that we move forward with the insurance renewal with the select network. Leanna Glander seconded the motion.
- Nick Meier, a teacher at Blue Oak, states that of these two options I think the one being chosen is the best option, but he wanted to state that the options being presented in general are not great. It is at no fault of the schools what the current insurance state is right now but he would like to see the school contribute more to staff insurance in the future. He has noted that other schools in the district pay more than Blue Oak does and would like to see that changed in the future.
- The BOCC will bring this topic back up when it is time to review the schools budget for the next school year.
- Vote.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Chelsea Parker	X			
Vicki Wonacott	X			
Laurel Hill-Ward	X			
Amber Brown				X
Leanna Glander	X			
Trisha Atehortua				X

- Vote passes.

3.10. Approve Audit Draft

- The audit draft is ready to go. The only changes made to the budget were due to the PPP loan. The school counted it as an asset received in the 20/21 year but since we didn't receive the letter until July 10th, it needed to be moved into the 21/22 year. The school has made the necessary adjustments for this item since then.
- Vicki Wonacott made a motion to approve the audit draft as presented. Laurel Hill-Ward seconded the motion.
- No further discussion.
- Vote.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
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Chelsea Parker	X			
Vicki Wonacott	X			
Laurel Hill-Ward	X			
Amber Brown				X
Leanna Glander	X			
Trisha Atehortua				X

➤ Vote passes.

3.11. 1st Interim Report

- This report is the check-in of our school financial outlook for our authorizer and the state. This is essentially the October financial update year-to-date and forecast for the year, presented in the standard format. If we didn't meet as a finance committee every month, this would be the required update. The BOFC recommended that the BOCC approve this document.
- Leanna Glander made a motion to pass the interim report. Vicki Wonacott seconded the motion.
- Vote.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Chelsea Parker	X			
Vicki Wonacott	X			
Laurel Hill-Ward	X			
Amber Brown				X
Leanna Glander	X			
Trisha Atehortua				X

➤ Vote passes.

3.12. CPR/AED/First Aid Training

- Administration is proposing that the board consider allowing funding to support CPR training for all school employees. This is an item we require from all school employees and struggle on a regular basis to have everyone complete. The recommendation from the finance committee is that we pay up to 80% of the training costs. We would offer a certain \$ amount stipend towards either an online course or an in-person course. The intent is to ensure that our employees are able to get certified and utilize the ease of an online training option. The school nurse has also reviewed and approved both options as well.
- Sarah, a parent at Blue Oak, has been certified many times over the years and feels that the online option that is being presented was a worthwhile and easy investment. She is happy we are choosing this resource for staff.
- Board members ask if this is required by all staff, why wouldn't Blue Oak cover all of it. Administration feels only a portion needs to be covered because it is a

personal certification that staff take with them when they leave Blue Oak.

However, the board can decide to pay the whole sum of the training if that is what they choose. The financial impact will not be too great either way.

- Leanna Glander feels like it is fair to cover up to 80% compared to other jobs that require these types of training to keep licensure and do not pay for them at all. She also notes the importance of having this certification required for all staff.
- Leanna Glander made a motion with 80%. Vicki Wonacott seconded the motion.
- No further discussion.
- Vote.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Chelsea Parker	X			
Vicki Wonacott	X			
Laurel Hill-Ward	X			
Amber Brown				X
Leanna Glander	X			
Trisha Atehortua				X

- Vote passes.

3.13. Stipend for Supporting Teachers

3.13.1. Emergency Leave

- One of our teachers is currently on emergency leave. In lieu of a second teacher who has stepped up to help cover the main lesson for that class, the school would like to propose a stipend for the teacher who is helping. The BOFC approved this proposal but also were concerned that, for the workload this teacher is taking on, the amount offered is not enough. Susan talked with the teacher again and would like BOCC to consider changing the amount suggested from \$200 to \$600; basically \$40/hour for 3 hours of additional work.
- Members of the BOCC would like to understand the budget better and wanted to know where in the budget would this stipend come from. It would come from the sub line item which has not been expanded yet, however, we don't know if we will expend it by the end of the year. There are additional funds in the sub budget that goes along with COVID related issues so this could be considered one of those issues. In this sort of flux situation it is hard to say if this would put us over budget or not by the end of the year.
- This is a unique situation so it would be alright if this was passed for a one time request and the board can revisit on the off-chance that this situation were to arise again.
- Leanna Glander made a motion to raise the proposal to \$600 per week and would like to approve the proposal for this individual case. Vicki Wonacott seconded the motion.
- No further discussion.
- Vote.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Chelsea Parker	X			
Vicki Wonacott	X			
Laurel Hill-Ward	X			
Amber Brown				X
Leanna Glander	X			
Trisha Atehortua				X

➤ Vote passes.

3.13.2. Specialty Prep

- Currently, Blue Oak is using specialty teachers to cover as subs since we don't have a large enough sub pool at the moment. Due to the nature of specialty classes, there is no way to recover their prep time without them losing more class time. The change that the BOFC recommended was that we don't wait until they lose 6 hours to get paid, they get paid for each hour that they lose in that pay period and not until it is accrued. Additionally, Admin is proposing that this be retroactive to any work the specialty teachers have put in this school year starting at the beginning of the year.
- Teachers receive a stipend for each prep period lost that would be paid each pay period and would be retroactive to the beginning of the school year.
- Vicki Wonacott made a motion to pay the specialties sub pay for their lost prep time when they sub and have this pay be retroactive to the beginning of the school year. Chelsea Parker seconded the motion.
- No further discussion.
- Vote.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Chelsea Parker	X			
Vicki Wonacott	X			
Laurel Hill-Ward	X			
Amber Brown				X
Leanna Glander	X			
Trisha Atehortua				X

➤ Vote passes.

4. FACULTY

4.1. Grade Level Report

Riley Murray & Nick Meier

- The Grade Level Report can be found on the Parent Resources page of Blue Oak's website. Thank you, Riley, for the presentation!

5. ADMINISTRATION

5.1. Executive Director's Report

Susan Domenighini

- Staffing
 - Blue Oak office staff are still working on getting substitute teachers and more aides on board.
- Marketing
 - Marketing updates were discussed earlier in the meeting today.
- In Service Day
 - After Veterans day Blue Oak held a teachers in-service day. This gave faculty time to prepare for the conferences this week and also had discussions on the topic of sustainable school. It was very impressive to see our staff sit through 3 hours of meetings in which they are engaged while also being creative and making a work of art.
- Fall Break
 - Before Fall Break, we will be focusing this week on gratitude and gratefulness.

6. CLOSED SESSION

6.1. Real Estate

Conference with Real Property Negotiations (§ 54956.8)

- No action to report.

7. NEXT MEETING - Tuesday, December 15th, 2021

8. ADJOURNMENT

- Chelsea Parker adjourned the meeting at 8:15PM.

Minutes Taken By: Alexandra Archer

Approved by:



Date:

2/15/22