

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

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/99715488751?pwd=dHlwahY2eW9pbmZsWkIMRFFrWEh0QT09>

**Meeting ID:** 997 1548 8751

**Passcode:** c91ziZ

**Tuesday, January 18th, 2022 - 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.

Blue Oak Charter Council (BOCC) may tape, film, stream, or broadcast any open BOCC Meeting. The BOCC Chair 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**

**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: Vicki Wonacott, Amber Brown, Trisha Atehortua, Chelsea Parker, Leanna Glander

➤ Absent: Laurel Hill-Ward

**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."*

- Chelsea Parker read the school verse.

**1.4. Agenda Modifications**

- No agenda 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 to address the council.

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

**2.1. Approve Regular and Special Meeting Minutes from December 15th, 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 Employee Resignations**

**2.5.1. Emma Todd, School Counselor**

**2.6. Accept Offers of Employment**

**2.6.1. Diana Orejel, Instructional Aide**

**2.6.2. Michelle Mattern, Substitute Teacher**

**2.7. Accept Donations**

- Amber Brown made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Trisha Atehortua 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**

- Amber Brown explained that the biggest thing the BOFC discussed was Blue Oak’s ADA being down. The school is currently operating at around 244 even though we are budgeted for a much higher number which is causing a \$371,000 loss. Due to other funding, this is more of a concern for the 2022-2023 school year but the BOFC has started having those conversations about how to help the situation. The committee members talked about a sustainable school model and also talked about the preschool program which is on this agenda later in the meeting. Susan Domenighini also shared about a CCSA bill as well as upcoming state funding for schools which will focus more on specific programs.
- There is a movement with the current state legislature to give really specific pots of money called categorical grants to schools soon. This does mean, yes, more money but it also means more paperwork. For example, there were 7 reports due this month that Admin never had to do last year. The Executive Director’s report included in this month's packet includes a more detailed list of what funding will be headed towards schools in the 2022-23 school year.
- Additionally, CCSA is pushing a bill to help charter schools with funding. There is a real interest in moving away from ADA and towards enrollment-based funding for charter schools which would be nice in this current climate and be beneficial for all schools. Districts currently have this option at the moment so CCSA is working to advocate for charter schools to have the same.

**3.2. Parent Council Report**

**Trisha Atehortua**

- Trisha Atehortua reported that the PC met earlier this month to discuss the success of the Holiday Pop Up which went well but was last minute. They also discussed being able to do events inside such as schools dances, etc. The PC began talks about the May Faire, picked the date for and organized a sub-committee for planning. There was also a lot of talk about how the PC can use its funds to directly give back to classrooms for supplies that are pricey but would really help students. There were many questions about which classes needed this help the most. Overall, the PC is trying to help bridge the equity gap.
- The PC is also working up a budget to help provide things that teachers need every year that they usually ask parents to donate in order to help alleviate pressure on both parents and teachers.

**3.3. Policy Review**

**Susan Domenighini**

- Each of the following policies were drafted by our attorneys at Young, Minney & Corr to help us bring current our compliant policies that require separate policies for different scenarios. These policies include required language. This is the 2nd reading for all and will require a vote.

**3.3.1. General Complaint Policy**

- Trisha Atehortua made a motion to pass the General Complaint Policy. 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.

**3.3.2. Title IX, Harassment, Discrimination, Intimidation, & Bullying Policy**

- Leanna Glander made a motion to approve the Title IX, Harassment, Discrimination, Intimidation, & Bullying Policy. 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.

**3.3.3. Uniform Complaint Policy & Procedures**

- Amber Brown made a motion to approve the Uniform Complaint Policy and Procedures. Trisha Atehortua 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. Equity & Inclusion Task Force Report**

- The Equity Task Force met on Monday. Susan Domenighini explained that the school has Lyndsey Klipfel coming back on the 27th to do the next phase of professional development with the teachers. They will be working on identity icebergs for students and staff. The Task Force talked about Black History Month, how we want to honor that, and what sort of assemblies we want to have. We also had a Community Conversation event in December which went well but was not highly attended. We talked about what we need to do to increase our attendance; we have a lot of people interested but not attending.

**3.5. COVID-19 Response**

- The school received new direction last week on the amount of time that teachers and students need to isolate; it is now down to 5 days if they are asymptomatic. On Friday, the school received rapid tests for teachers, staff and students to ensure those who are on modified quarantine can test twice a week. We have had an increase in occurrences on campus at least 4 staff members and 3 classes have been put into modified quarantine. Modified quarantine is now the recommended process and works best for our school. It is still very much an evolving situation; we are told that the expectation is that the spike should be over at the end of January. Nothing is being cancelled at this point.
- You can now get free home COVID tests online, delivered through USPS. When you sign up you automatically get 4 tests per family. The Executive Assistant will let families know about this option.
- Jackie, a Blue Oak parent, asked for clarification about modified quarantine. Susan Domenighini will reach out to Jackie to discuss her family's individual COVID situation.
- Nick, a Blue Oak teacher, clarified that there is no longer COVID leave pay available for staff and teachers. Susan Domenighini explained that, yes, COVID leave pay ended in November with the State making that change. Now, when a teacher is out, they will have to use their personal sick leave.

**3.6. ESSER III Approval Letter**

- This is just BCOE confirming that they received and approved our plan. There is no vote required, the board is just required to be notified.

**3.7. Corrective Action Plan**

- This item will require a vote. Back in 2018-2019 we utilized state funds to have our building cleaned after the Camp Fire; in the rush of paperwork we did not obtain a signed contract with the cleaning provider which is a requirement. CalOES is working with Blue Oak to ensure this does not happen again in the future. The document presented is what CalOES requires to resolve the issue. The only edit the school needs to add to this document is a date. Otherwise, CalOES said it looks good and is awaiting approval.
- Leanna Glander made a motion to approve the CAP. Amber Brown seconded the motion.
- Susan Domenighini requested an amendment to the motion: to add “as of January 18th, 2022” into the document's description. Leanna Glander and Amber Brown accepted the amendment.
- 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. Sustainable School Preschool Program

- As mentioned earlier, the BOFC has been discussing the general conversation for a sustainable school as well as a preschool program. This document was created to outline a draft budget for a possible preschool program. Susan Domenighini used our current operations costs to create this plan, and then compared it to current preschool programs in this area. Since the last Finance meeting, Susan connected with the regional representative for state preschool programs to collect information. State preschool programs are different based on where you are so they didn't have exact numbers for us but it is a competitive grant. The rep suggested that if we did a full day program, which would be 7:30AM to 5:30PM we would be more likely to get a grant. We are continuing to receive feedback from our preschool survey that was sent out to families.
- Administration cannot wait until we get accurate reimbursements rates from the state because they will not be available until the summer so at the moment Susan is looking for guidance from the board to continue planning. The board members were interested in supporting this program.
- Some of the ideas that the board proposed were things such as where the preschool students would be on campus; who to advertise our program to such as Chico State and Enloe employees; how to be a sustainable school for all types of families; what subsidies Blue Oak can provide for our families; what age students we want to allow in our program such as potty trained age (3-4 year olds); and what sized classes and type of staff credentialing we should start with.
- Board members suggested that it would probably be easier to fill a full-day program. Another idea was suggested that starting with a cap of 10 students for the first class then making a waitlist for enough students to support the staffing to grow the program with a 1:10 ratio might be a good start. Also, considering how we can staff multiple people in the classroom throughout the day is important. Finally, the board suggested things to consider such as what months of the year this program will operate and whether or not the school would need to add more office staff in order to support the administration and billing that comes along with running a preschool program. Overall, there will be a lot of value behind this program for our schools and our families.

### 3.9. Lease Extension

- Susan Domenighini received approval of a lease extension request about 7 months after the original request but is happy to have it at all. There was a 5.3% increase

in rent, but this will give us enough time to move into our new school site in 2022-2023.

- No further discussion.
- Trisha Athortua made a motion to approve the lease extension. 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.

### 3.10. SARC

- This document is required to be completed by Feb 1st. There is a lot of missing information in this report which is because the CDE provides this information but they have not provided them for us yet. The CDE sent out a notice about this missing information and has instructed Administration to continue to pass the document as is. Susan Domeighini will need approval on this but the BOCC will also be receiving an updated document soon.
- No further discussion.
- Leanna Glander made a motion to approve the SARC. Amber Brown 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

Riley Murray & Nick Meier

### 4.1. Grade Level Report

- Riley Murray presented the grade level report via powerpoint presentation. This report can be found on the Blue Oak website under the Parent Resources page.

## 5. ADMINISTRATION

### 5.1. Executive Director's Report

Susan Domenighini

- Attendance
  - The whole state of CA is dealing with attendance issues but Blue Oak, historically, has a very high chronically absent attendance report. Blue Oak has been engaging our interns to find out if there is anything we can do for our families. We have been able to significantly help some of our families who have been having issues with housing, etc. Yes, attendance affects our finances but more importantly affects our ability to teach the children. One option we do have as a charter school that we have not used yet is that we can ask families who are not attending, to return to the district with the hopes that the district would have more support for them. As a charter school, we don't have a legal option to prosecute families with low attendance, so instead we are supposed to return them to the district. The work we have done with the interns was a very important piece to add to our process before we discuss the option of returning a family to the district. Susan wants to know what the board thinks about this option because this is a big change for the school. It is the struggle between the desire to find out how to help students but also the need to have students return to school.
  - Board suggested having multi steps before reaching that stage, maybe including a signed agreement. The board could start with intern data collection, see if we can fill the need, then maybe a contract before moving on to the district. The school does send out SARB letters with required meetings as a part of our process already as well. Sending students back to the district would be more for our 50% attendance students who we are really concerned about. This not only affects that individual child but also the class as a whole.
  - If we put this into place today, Susan has 3 families in mind that have gone through as many steps of support that Susan can provide at the time to help them but the problem remains. Not having funding for transportation is unfortunately not an option Blue Oak can offer which is something the district might be able to offer. The district also has the legal aspect which may be the push certain families need and which charter schools can't provide. Susan would make the policy/process with some leeway so we can support families that can improve their attendance overtime but there would be guidelines for when it is more than we can help with.
  - Thank you, front office staff! You are amazing at making the IS process so easy to help with students' attendance and education.
- Looping
  - For the past 5 years we have been talking about changing the way we loop our students. We currently loop 1-8 grade; now, a number of charter Waldorf schools are looking at changing that because of the expectation for teachers. The need for a deeper curriculum for upper grades makes the 8 year looping difficult. 100% of our teachers said they think this idea



would be a good fit for our school. We haven't brought this idea to parents yet and are first looking for feedback from the board. Blue Oak would either do a 4 or 5 year loop. Classes would still stay together, just the teacher looping would change. This was brought up pre-COVID but now we are back in a place to reconsider.

- This idea helps enhance the knowledge our teachers have of the curriculum. This would help with teachers who feel they really excel in a certain grade range. Jennifer Bryan and Brianna Lee made the agreement to test this arrangement and so far they feel like it was a good choice for them. Administration will consider sending out a survey to parents to get more feedback but it may require more of a community discussion/town hall. Charter Council members are on board with this idea.
- Standardized Testing
  - Last year the testing wasn't required so our testing averages aren't presented on the state dashboard but we are continuing to trend in a positive direction. A report will be going out to our community soon about what our trends look like from last year and presented to CUSD. Also good info to present when looking for TK families that even during fires and pandemics our test averages improved.

**6. NEXT MEETING - Tuesday, February 15th, 2022 at 6:00PM**

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

- Chelsea Parker adjourned the meeting at 7:58PM.

Minutes Taken By: Alexandra Archer

Approved by:  Date: 3/22/22

