

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

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Meeting ID: 912 5936 1276

Passcode: 48657Y

Tuesday, October 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.

Update: On September 16, 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom signed Assembly Bill 361 (AB 361) into law which allows public agencies to continue to conduct meetings remotely during the COVID-19 pandemic and other proclaimed emergencies. 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. 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.

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 6:05PM.

1.2. Roll Call of Council Members and Establish Quorum

- Present: Chelsea Parker, Kristen Woods, Amber Brown, Leanna Glander, Laurel Hill-Ward, and Vicki Wonacott
- Absent: None

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 invocation.

1.4. Agenda Modifications

- Susan Domenighini would like to table item 4.7; she is not ready for this item at this time.

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)

- Kristina Miller, a Blue Oak parent, wanted to thank the Charter Council for their willingness to complete site testing. Moving forward, she would like this process to be more transparent. Perhaps, even with good intentions in mind, the Closed Sessions were not posted properly which has created a lot of feelings that the parents aren't being listened to. She is kindly requesting that the school has a more open process moving forward in finding a new school site. Also, the Closed Session for tonight was not agendaized properly so you cannot hold the Closed Session.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

2.1. Approve Minutes from September 20th and 30th, 2022

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 Offers of Employment

2.5.1. Hannah Madera, Paraprofessional

- Amber Brown made a motion to approve the consent agenda. 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			
Kristen Woods	X			

- Vote passes.

3. FACULTY

3.1. Grade Level Report

Sarah Lee & Nick Meier

- Soon, faculty will be starting progress reports and Parent-Teacher Conferences. We had a really great Harvest Festival with a lot of participation; overall, teachers felt it went really well. There have been a lot of field trips to pumpkin patches and all sorts of things going on throughout the grades.

4. GOVERNANCE

4.1. Finance Committee Report

Amber Brown

- Amber Brown reported that we had to reduce ADA by 14 students. Blue Oak is currently budgeted at 265 so we are dropping down to 249. That brings our revenue down about \$38K and our overall expenses forecast is approaching \$4 million. Cash is ending the month well but it will be lean in November and December. Susan noted that a lot of the student enrollments that we are missing are in Kindergarten. In recent years, we have had higher enrollment in 1st grade rather than Kindergarten, which is abnormal. We will be working with marketing more to push our Kindergarten program.
- We talked about how our Hold Harmless timing makes cash flow a little more tough. We will probably have to do some financing for cash since the grants aren't funded until January. The BOFC will talk about loan options soon. Blue Oak normally funds with about \$15K per student but, with extra grant funding, we are currently at about \$16-\$18K per student. This is great news now but we will need to adjust spending in the coming years once those grant funds drop off.
- The BOFC approved a new parent member, Ryan Sanders who is treasurer of the Parent Council. We kicked around the idea to see if a later BOFC meeting time would be helpful to recruit more parents. Additionally, the BOFC began talks about our Amazon line of credit. This line of credit is great for our school but they are ending that program soon. We will be looking at options soon to bring to the board cause we need something better for ordering, etc. Susan will be looking into a government credit card which has low interest rates as well as a number of checks and balances.
- Also, we approved to send to the board a Waldorf Professional Development training option or faculty in regards to behavior. We also talked about extended days or morning drop off hours to help with parents making the choice to come to Blue Oak which is an ongoing discussion regarding the sustainability of our school. Finally, we had the idea to invite prospective parents to the Harvest Festival next year to learn what Blue Oak is all about. The timing would be good since the district hosts their Kindergarten fair around that time, too.
- Ashley Bazer, a Blue Oak parent, requested to speak to the board. She brought up concerns regarding an incident that occurred during the 6th Grade Shady Creek field trip. The school, as well as the parent, had recently learned about this incident. School Administrators have been conducting investigations, however, Ashley was frustrated with how the situation was being handled. Chelsea Parker reminded Ashley that this could not be addressed at the current Charter Council meeting, but assured Ashley that our Administrators were doing what they could to resolve the issue.

4.2. Parent Council Report

Trisha Atehortua

- Trisha Atehortua reported that the Parent Council (PC) talked a lot about the Harvest Festival and about planning a parent night about appropriate use of social media. The PC also talked about raising funds to bridge the gap for the cost of field trips and about the clothing swap. Claire is going to host the clothing swap once a month on the 3rd Thursday of every month. The PC also discussed the Walk into Winter event; they chose Dec. 10th as the date of the event which is a Saturday. A sub committee was established to start planning that as well. They also talked about doing a closed Facebook group as a school; having conversation on if that is something that can be done and how to facilitate it. They talked about the music room beautification project.
- Kristen Woods, who was part of Harvest Festival, said it was a really great collaboration of people and the PC is off to a really good start this year.

4.3. Equity & Inclusion Task Force Report

Susan Domenighini

- At this time, there is nothing to report. Our next meeting is next Monday. There is still a need for parent seats to be filled.

4.4. COVID-19 Response

- Today's report is that one of the grades had an exposure; we are pretty much down to 2 exposures a month now. According to the news this morning, the governor is planning to relieve the emergency situation in February.

4.5. Appoint BOCC Secretary

- For those who weren't able to be at the last meeting, we filled all of the BOCC positions except the Secretary position. We do need to nominate and appoint someone to do that. Leanna Glander is interested in being the BOCC Secretary.
- Chelsea Parker would like to nominate Leanna Glander to be the BOCC Secretary. Vicki Wonacott seconded the nomination.
- 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			
Kristen Woods	X			

- Vote passes.

4.6. Establish PC Liaison

- Kristen Woods is interested in being the Parent Council Liaison.
- Trisha Atehortua made a motion to nominate Kristen Woods to be the PC Liaison. Leanna Glander 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			
Kristen Woods	X			

➤ Vote passes.

4.7. ~~Pay Scale Updates~~

~~4.7.1. Certificated~~

~~4.7.2. Administration~~

4.8. Approve Additional BOFC Member

- Ryan Sanders will be joining the BOFC as mentioned in the Finance Committee report. This approval is at the recommendation of the BOFC. Please change the document to say “Parent Representative” and not “Parent Council Representative.”
- Kristen Woods made a motion to approve the addition of the new parent member to the BOFC. 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			
Kristen Woods	X			

➤ Vote passes.

4.9. Amazon Line of Credit

- This item is informational only. Currently, the school does a lot of purchasing for general supplies through Amazon. Previously, Amazon had included a line of credit with our account; we had a 30 days notice to pay things off which was extremely helpful to our school. The BOFC discussed a few options for a new

line of credit now that the Amazon program is ending such as opening a Cal Card, a regular credit card, or a different line of credit. CAM, who we have borrowed from in the past to help with cash flow shortages, has a line of credit that may work for us. The only thing Blue Oak has at the moment is a debit card so having a credit card or line of credit would help us with cash flow issues. The BOFC asked staff to look into these possibilities and report back soon.

4.10. Waldorf Professional Development Contract

- After discussing with the Faculty Co-Chairs, Susan learned that the gentleman who does this program is a pretty well known author in the Waldorf world. His work focuses on children’s behavior and parenting. The cost of his program is slightly over Susan’s approved spending cap. Since the Faculty is focusing on behavior this year, this would be a great program for them. He is available to work with our Thursday professional development schedules. In addition to the program for teachers, he also offers a video library and podcasts for parents. Our faculty are excited at the prospect to work directly with him and there is money in our PD budget for it this year. Chairun looked him up, did a background check on google, he feels comfortable moving forward with this option and the teachers on BOFC are familiar with his work. The BOFC recommends approval of this training.
- Leanna Glander made a motion to accept the contract for integrative student support. 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			
Kristen Woods	X			

- Vote passes.

5. ADMINISTRATION

5.1. Executive Director’s Report

Susan Domenighini

- Susan would first like to compliment the community and the parents on the beautiful Harvest Festival. The energy and positivity were really exciting to behold and is very much appreciated.
- Riley Murray and Susan Domenighini attended an event in Oroville to learn more about a possible additional Blue Oak location in Oroville. Riley and Susan are continuing to go down that path to see what is possible there.

- Susan has started her annual classroom observations. She has done a few in the lower grades in the last month. These observations are reminding Susan how beautiful the Waldorf program is and how integrated math, ELA, and storytime are; they are so integrated, in fact, students often don't even know they're learning in the process.
- Maggie Buckley and Susan met with our school's health care benefits brokers. There is going to be about a 7% increase in medical benefit costs. There are some changes to the offerings as well; the package will be available for the staff to look at soon. The BOFC will review it next month.
- Blue Oak is looking into more marketing opportunities. On Nov. 8th CUSD is hosting a Kindergarten Faire. We are working to put together our own Kindergarten interest day and are looking into if we can use some funds with LoneFir (formerly MC2) to reproduce the mailers that we used last year to promote our Kindergarten. This is the time when families are looking into what schools they are wanting to choose for next year so it would be beneficial for us to do our own event.
- The BOFC wants to continue to push for 3 additional parents hopefully representing some of our sub-groups at our school. One of the things to note is that our October meeting is really where the budget comes together. Our census data comes together at the beginning of Oct plus we've had a good solid month of expenses so we have a better understanding of where we are financially at this time. We are looking to see if adjusting the time the BOFC meetings are held might help increase parent interest.
- Finally, in looking at our budget, Susan is feeling good about moving forward about hiring a second Administrator at this point. Also, Susan and Jim Weber are making some adjustments to the budget regarding things the school doesn't need anymore, such as SPED contracts since we have hired SPED employees in house this year.

6. CLOSED SESSION

6.1. Uniform Complaint Submission Complaint Procedures (§ 4620)

- Kristina pointed out in her public comment at the beginning of the meeting that this Closed Session was cited incorrectly. We will be tabling item 6.1 for another meeting.

7. NEXT MEETING - Tuesday, November 15th, 2022 at 6:00PM

8. ADJOURNMENT

- Chelsea Parker adjourned the meeting at 7:00PM.

Minutes Taken By: Alexandra Archer

Approved by:  _____ Date: _____
Leanna R Glander (Jan 27, 2023 14:45 PST)