

Blue Oak Charter School
450 W. East Avenue, Chico, CA 95926
Room 24
CHARTER COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING APPROVED MINUTES

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Meeting ID: 848 9167 6395

Passcode: g9K9Bh

Monday, March 26, 2024, at 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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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 6:02 pm
- 1.2. Roll Call of Council Members to establish a quorum

Name	Present	Absent
Vicki Wonacott	X	
Kristen Woods	X	
Laurel Hill-Ward	X	
Leanna Glander		X
Ryan Sanders	X	

Donna Kreskey	X	
Trisha Atehortua	X	

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.”

1.4. Agenda Modifications - No agenda modifications at this time.

1.5. Audience to Address the Council

This is an opportunity for community members to address the council concerning items not on the agenda. Council Members will not respond to comments due to Brown Act expectations concerning agendas. 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)

Laurel Hill-Ward has two questions. Question 1 - Do Charter’s ever join up to protect their viability? That is to say Charter’s with similar philosophies? Question 2 - During covid Vicki and I were very concerned about the teachers and how stressful it was for them. We did some things for them - coffee cards, lunch, etc. Teacher appreciation is coming up and I wonder if we can put it out there that the Board is willing to pitch in and participate in doing something great for the Teachers and Staff for appreciation and support? Discussion. Revisit Teacher/Staff appreciation on the next meeting agenda.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

- 2.1.** Approve Special Meeting Minutes from February 20, 2024
- 2.2.** Cash Flow
- 2.3.** Balance Sheet Detail
- 2.4.** Warrants/Aged Payable
- 2.5.** Actual to Budget Summary
- 2.6.** Point of Sale Transactions/Check Register (Feb. 2024)
- 2.7.** Credit Card Statement (Feb. 2024)

Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda by Kristen Woods. Laurel Hill-Ward Second motion. Vote.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vicki Wonacott	X			
Kristen Woods	X			
Laurel Hill-Ward	X			
Leanna Glander				X

Ryan Sanders	X			
Donna Kreskey	X			
Trisha Atehortua	X			

Approved.

3. FACULTY

3.1. Faculty Report

Nick Meier/Sarah Lee

Nick Meier - Sarah will report for me online tonight as my dog is going crazy barking in the background! A slide show is shared by Sarah Lee. The Blue Oak March report - Maple Rose Kindergarten with creative play and fine stitching! 1st grade with Brittany Jones, 2nd grade Nick Meier, 5th grade with Katie Machek, 6th grade with Sarah Lee, 7th grade with Kari Madera, and a Handwork Report from Ms. Sarah Eblin is shared. Also, State Testing will be in full swing before the BOCC next meeting!

4. BUSINESS -

4.1. IRS Moratorium - new employee retention credit

Information only

We have been notified that this funding has been put on pause due to fraud in the process (not from us) and now the funding for everyone is on hold until further investigation has been completed. We are to receive in the neighborhood of 520k which we had plans for but now we will need to wait for this.

4.2. 2nd Interim Budget Approval

Trisha reports that this was reviewed in the Finance Committee Meeting and the report was shared in the packet. Motion to approve by Trisha Atehortua. Ryan Sanders seconds. Vote.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vicki Wonacott	X			
Kristen Woods	X			
Laurel Hill-Ward	X			
Leanna Glander				X
Ryan Sanders	X			
Donna Kreskey	X			
Trisha Atehortua	X			

Approved.

- 4.3.** Audit Contract - This should say Audit Contact! Apologies for the typo. We must review the pre approved list of auditors periodically and we plan to have this on next year's agenda to review other providers. This year's audit 2024-25 will continue to be conducted by CLA, Clifton, Larson, Allen LLC. Motion to approve by Kristen Woods. Second by Trisha Atehortua. Vote.

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vicki Wonacott	X			
Kristen Woods	X			
Laurel Hill-Ward	X			
Leanna Glander				X
Ryan Sanders	X			
Donna Kreskey	X			
Trisha Atehortua	X			

Approved.

5. GOVERNANCE

5.1. Parent Council Report

Ryan

Sanders

Discussed Oaken Lands Music Festival to fund the 7th grade field trips. Also planning the May Faire. Someone inquired about coffee in the parking lot this morning but this is not connected to the Parent Council. This is a weekly event arranged by Amanda Hurd and Hosted by Pumped Up Coffee. Every Tuesdays from 7:30am to 8:30am the coffee is on at Blue Oak School.

5.2. Finance Committee

Trisha Atehortua

Trisha reports to the Finance Committee. We are in the process of looking at budget planning for next year. Cash flow. Expenses, attendance and how they impact the budget. We discussed the pre-school option and the annual audit.

5.3. Facilities Report

Kristen Woods

Kristen reports on Facilities. Caren and I went out front to get in touch with community members for the survey. Lots of new information on what our families want for the new site. This work is to start the community talking about the school needs. The PSA has been finalized but not signed yet. We will be looking at financing options soon.

5.4. Retreat

Susan Domenighini

We are looking for times that we can hold a retreat for May. Discussion. Board would like to schedule for June when this can be during the week like a regular work day. This will be a 4 hour block of time. Maggie will come up with some dates in June and send them to the board before the next meeting.

5.5. Preschool Plan

Susan Domenighini

Reconsider Preschool Plan

We wanted to do a preschool as the government was expanding the traditional kindergarten program. We have intentions to serve 4 year olds in our preschool. Per the legislature, in 2025-26 all 4 year olds will be eligible for transitional kindergarten attendance. Susan consulted an expert in Child Protective Services who just returned from a State Preschool Planning meeting in Sacramento. Her recommendation for the school's sustainability is to not pursue a preschool program as the additional funding that we will receive from the State will not cover the staffing expenses the program will require. Due to the new credentialing requirements that are being put in place. Preschool teachers will now need to hold the same credential as classroom teachers but be paid less for the preschool position. We may want to reconsider the choice to start this new program. We can still utilize the funding to support the pre-k planning i.e. transitional kindergarten and professional development for the staff. Discussion.

6. ADMINISTRATION

6.1. Executive Director's Report

Susan Domenighini

Susan shares updates. The Scholastic Book Fair was a success. The excitement this year was fun to see. We had a whole school participation. Lots of door decorating. There was a coin drive which helped fund students that wanted a book but could not afford a book. We are also continuing our Waldorf Mentor and Professional Development. Kari has been working with an expert in cyber security so we can bring this information to the community soon and keep our kids safe on the internet. We are having a middle school night tomorrow night. It is when we invite the 5th graders and their families to come in and hear about what middle school is like at Blue Oak. The invitation has gone out to everyone so new middle school parents for next year so they can also attend. Susan is meeting with Annie Gilbert at Charter Impact once a week right now. We are budget planning for our future and so we can present a good budget to you in June. The Differentiated Assistance Team will start meeting with us next week. Teachers will be involved in this work. I think we will be learning a lot about addressing the diverse population.

6.2. Teacher Assignments 2024-25

Susan Domenighini

We will be needing to make some budget cuts for next year. There will be three new potential funding resources that will be coming in the future. I don't have information that I can share on these potentials yet but that information will come to you soon. Teacher assignments 2nd grade through 8th grade have been confirmed for next school year. All of these current teachers will be returning. So this is good news. We discussed the 4th 5th grade split and these conversations are still happening. This will continue on. The remainder of the teachers have not been offered their full assignment for next year because we do not have a budget set for next year and cannot assure them their current full positions.

Notices are sent out every year on March 15 as is tradition for most schools though Charters are not required to do this, we do because it is the fair thing to do for the teacher's sake. It is important for us to give them a chance to seek other opportunities and at least have the time to do this. Having these conversations is difficult. I will be discussing more of this with you next meeting and this board will be voting on where these cuts in the budget will occur. The board may be fielding questions regarding budget cuts and also enrollment, as enrollment closes on April 1.

6.3. Behavior Update Amanda Hurd
Susan shares Amanda's report and behavior updates.

6.4. Attendance Update Amanda Hurd
Susan shares updates and attendance

6.5. Enrollment Update
Susan shares enrollment updates.

6.6. Community Partnership

Review of Diversity Goals

Susan shares a report from Caren Lehe and the work she is doing on diversity. She has joined the Nor Cal Anti-Racial Coalition here in Chico. She has arranged for Stonewall to visit our staff during our Inservice something that we have been trying to arrange for over a year and it is happening now because of Caren. We working with BCOE & some PhD's from Chico State University on an Emotional Liberation Program that they have. She is working to connect BCOE to support this throughout the whole county. Caren is also working Alicia Trider regularly to discuss the Good Ancestors Project. The Community Engagement Partnership which is focused on student engagement. The work is amazing and it is transforming our community.

7. NEXT MEETING - Tuesday, April 16, 2024 at 6:00 PM

8. ADJOURNMENT - 7:35pm

Minutes Taken By: Maggie Buckley

Approved by: _____ Date: _____

Name	Present	Absent
Vicki Wonacott		
Kristen Woods		
Laurel Hill-Ward		
Leanna Glander		
Ryan Sanders		
Donna Kreskey		
Trisha Atehortua		

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vicki Wonacott				
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