

**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: 876 8517 8331**

**Passcode: 6JY2rz**

**Tuesday, September 17, 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.*

***Virtues:** Hold Reverence - Have Courage - Build Friendships - Seek Wisdom - Show Compassion*

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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 6:03pm
- 1.2. Roll Call of Council Members to establish a quorum

Name	Present	Absent
Vicki Wonacott	X	
Trisha Atehortua	X	

Laurel Hill-Ward	X	
Donna Kreskey	X	
Ryan Sanders	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 were made.

**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)*

No one addressed the council.

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

- 2.1. Approve Regular Meeting Minutes from 8-27-24
- 2.2. Charter Impact Monthly Report Annie Gilbert
  - 2.2.1 Cash Flow
  - 2.2.2 Balance Sheet Detail
  - 2.2.3 Warrants/Aged Payable
  - 2.2.5 Actual to Budget Summary
- 2.3. Point of Sale Transactions/Check Register (August 2024)
- 2.4. Credit Card Statement (August 2024)
- 2.5. Accept Employee New Hires
- 2.6. Accept BOCS Donations

Motion to approve the consent agenda - Trisha Atehortua and Laurel second motion.

➤ Vote

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

➤ Vote passes

**3. FACULTY**

**3.1. Faculty Report**

Cheryl Grant/Sarah Lee

Beautiful Slideshow presented by Cheryl.

**4. BUSINESS**

**4.1. School Enrollment**

Susan Domenighini

Report shared by Susan. Enrollment is currently 219. We continue to count students until Census Day in October. Board asks for enrollment numbers from last year in September and also data on why families leave. Can we look at students that left at the end of last year? Moving forward, the board would like to have reports on enrollment and exits. Interested in reviewing reasons for leaving. Not sure if looking at why families leave monthly is helpful as there are simply not large numbers of people exiting. A report per semester would be sufficient. Then any trends that exist can be reviewed. Can data from all of last year be provided? Discussion of appropriateness of when and what can be reported publicly when discussing student data. Remember the rule of 11, data Less than 11 instances is not public data. No student data is not appropriate for a closed session discussion unless it relates to the Brown Act approved closed sessions, such as discipline. Caren Lehe to collect data and present a report that will include the end of 23-24 school year exit data at the next meeting.

**4.2.** Measure K Request - We need a new freezer and we will be addressing this at the next meeting when a full report is available. Table this item for the next meeting.

4.2.1. Freezer

**5. GOVERNANCE**

**5.1. Finance Committee Report**

Ryan Sanders

Ryan first committee meeting - there were many topics - enrollment was at 215 today it is at 219 today. There was an extra 89K over in teacher salaries and we have not hired a new teacher so that was unusual. Annie and SD went through the budget. When the budget is created our team shows an expected expense amount for each month. Because we are on 10 month contracts, May and June should be significantly lower in costs than the other months in the year. However, it was determined that certificated salary expenses were listed at the same amount in May and June as July which throws the budget off. Now we are 20k under budget for salaries for last year. Materials and supplies were high and this was because of the food program. We are feeding more kids this year. This is in the detail budget. So enrollment leaves us 300k under budget, says Ryan.

Now we are negative 200k instead of 300k based on the change in enrollment There are higher costs per student.

Ryan questions year to year is there an enrollment trend? It seems like yes this is the trend. So we probably need to take action now. We have a looming deficit now. In other news, Michelle Greene was elected to the finance committee!

We would like -Trisha request- would it be appropriate to look at areas where cuts can happen. Susan says that enrollment has gone down annually but during the year she is not sure. Trisha wants to know if Annie can come to the BOCC meeting to report on the budget. Ryan wants to know if it's Annie's job or the school's job to fix this. Don't make photocopy cuts, says Trisha! We would like to see a budget for a certain amount of students? Generally October is the month when we start budgeting and looking at that. We need to discuss budget and enrollment under business for the next meeting.

**5.2. Parent Council Report**

Susan Domenighini

First official meeting on 9-10-24 now they are looking for a Co-Chair - and a Treasurer. They have 22K, mostly an organizational meeting. They talked about the festivals - looking for Harvest Festival planning volunteers - looking toward planning the Walk into Winter event. They need a rep for two classes.

**5.3. Facilities Committee Report**

Trisha Atehortua

Vicki joined us last night and Trisha reported. The committee is meeting twice a month right now because there is a lot to do. They have started out with 7 architects that they originally reached out to. We narrowed it down to three. We shared Jennifer's presentation with BOCC members. Now it's narrowed down to two architects. 450 architects and HMC is a well put together firm that is well run and 100% employee owned. We would like to schedule a special meeting in the next couple of weeks for both Facilities Committee and BOCC members to meet together to hear two 30 minute presentations. If we can look for a meeting date tonight. October 3 or 4th? Combined special meeting on the 3rd BOCC and Facilities meeting. Will we still do a Land blessing? No one has worked on that yet. More about this at the next board meeting. Donna has been reaching out to the local tribal office to inquire about a ceremony.

**5.4. Community School Partnership**

Caren Lehe

Caren item one - we had our first regional committee meeting coordinator huddle. Implementation grants have been happening for other schools. We are in our second year of implementation. Other schools have not yet hired coordinators as they are just getting started. Lots of new faces.

We had our first parent learning night with Katherine Lehman. It was super fun and there was a lot of engaging feedback. It was wonderful there were about 15 people here which was a good turnout.

Sunday, was KZFR's Touch of Chico? We had a booth from 10am to 4pm. Susan Domenighini attended. Two parent volunteers and two staff members showing up. All of the vendors started the day with a somatic movement. We go to engage with lots of former students and families of our school. It was a super positive experience. We are excited to announce the first Empowering Our Community Resource Fair Event. There will be about 20 nonprofit resource vendors coming to showcase the family resources that are available to those in need in the community. This is coming up on September 25, and is a community resource fair. Free Woodstock's pizza will be served at this event. Flyers have gone out. Parent

Square, Facebook, Instagram, website, ads have gone out. Everyone's talking about it.

We are looking for CEI members for this year's team. If you are interested in joining please reach out to Caren. The committee is going to Anaheim this year. We are showcasing and highlighting student voices. We are implementing healthy play. Our teachers are utilizing it which is wonderful. Classroom observations show that our teachers and students are enjoying healthy play a lot. I attended a meeting of the NorCal Anti-Racism Coalition and will be bringing more information on that coalition in future meetings. They are making big strides in Butte county. We are doing a costume exchange so that will be for our community. Not just children but for families and students. Event, open closet times to be held 10-18 through 10-23.

Food drive is happening for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Amanda is going on maternity leave. The giving tree is happening this year.

More to come on that.

#### **5.5. Attendance/Behavior**

Susan Domenighini

Discussion on Differentiated Assistance from BCOE. We had an overall improvement with chronic absenteeism and an increase in suspension rates. Susan shares charts and data of progress attached to these minutes.

Suspensions are not the answer and understanding this is key to moving forward with continued improvement.

SEL has been challenging.

We need to be more specific with students.

Strengthening the community and healthy play have helped build the community.

Laurel - There are parents that are defensive these days with regard to discipline and attendance.

Caren - RTAC discussed chronic absenteeism and what they are doing. Caren comments, we are seeing parents not pushing students to attend; they are not making them go unless it affects their benefits. We see families that lost their homes in Campfire and recent Parkfire have had a drastic shift in their perspectives. Ryan - Why the change from last year? We have a significantly high population of students that have been traumatized. School has become a "not safe place" in general. Susan- I think we have a population of highly traumatized kids here. This is a community that people come to because of our practices. I think the trauma built up in classes last year for instance, if you have four kids in one class that are struggling it's really hard not to end up suspending them. Do we know how this data compares to other schools? That data will be reported in the California Dashboard in November.

Behavior report data shared from August also attached to the meeting minutes.

### **6. ADMINISTRATION**

#### **6.1. Executive Director's Report**

Susan Domenighini

Big thing for Susan has been attending parent meetings this month - teachers starting their field trips. Flax farm and Railroad museum are two that are coming up. ELOP before and after school - clubs have been very popular. Do we know if there are any families that are impacted by CARD not being on campus? Only one family is impacted by CARD. We are fully staffed.

Williams Act Legislation inspection happened a few weeks ago. Because of our test scores we will have these inspections for three consecutive years.

Katherine Leeman part of the first public Waldorf school in Sacramento. She shared ideas and dance moves during her visit. Movement was a hot topic.

Math and movement go together in Waldorf education. In Waldorf we focus on visual arts for ELA and for Math the focus is on movement.

The Harvest Festival date is October 18, and there is no date yet for the Walk into Winter event. Trisha asked if the Spring Concert is the day before the Pentathlon? We have not yet received the date from the teacher. Trisha says she will share this information with us.

We are piloting a new math curriculum as Bridges is not a good program plan for the looping that occurs here. The new curriculum that has been chosen blends with iReady well. We are in the final weeks of our annual audit data collection period.

Classroom observations happen now on Tuesdays. I go into classrooms once a week on Tuesdays to observe. Other things on my agendas, regular IEP's, check in's, tours, staffing meetings, the budget stuff, planning for Amanda's leave. The Selpa from Sacramento visited. CEI, DEI and TK have been a challenge. TK has been a challenge. We are taking care of students that are 4 years old which means a different level of care and this age will go down to 3 in the next year. We are going to see what we can do to support our teachers. Our kindergarten is play based so this does make this feasible.

Updating the website has been a focus, Kelley Sexton is helping with this.

**7. CLOSED Session**

**7.1. §54956.9 (b): Potential Litigation**

No action was taken.

**NEXT MEETING - Tuesday October 15, 2024 at 6:00 PM**

**8. ADJOURNMENT 8:06pm**

Minutes Taken By: Maggie Buckley

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



Name	Present	Absent
Vicki Wonacott		
Laurel Hill-Ward		
Ryan Sanders		
Donna Kreskey		
Trisha Atehortua		

➤ Vote



<b>Name</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Vicki Wonacott				
Laurel Hill-Ward				
Ryan Sanders				
Donna Kreskey				
Trisha Atehortua				

➤ Vote passes