

BLUE OAK CHARTER SCHOOL
450 W. East Avenue, Chico, CA 95926
(Room 24)
CHARTER COUNCIL
REGULAR & SPECIAL MEETING APPROVED MINUTES
Tuesday, Oct 21, 2025 06:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88069901920?pwd=H8rs5nFCFeIVoqaLOKyLoXHGSIM5SN.1>

Meeting ID: 880 6990 1920

Passcode: 79EGKH

***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 - 6:00PM

1. OPENING

- 1.1.** Call Meeting to Order 6:00pm
- 1.2.** Roll Call of Council Members to establish a quorum

Name	Present	Absent
Vicki Wonacott	x	
Laurel Hill-Ward		x
Donna Kreskey	x	

Trisha Atehortua	x	
Lauren Cesca	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.

6:05pm At this time we will close our regular session and open the special meeting.

BOCC SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

OPEN SESSION - 6:05PM

1. OPENING

1.1. Call Meeting to Order 6:05pm

1.2. Roll Call of Council Members to establish a quorum

Name	Present	Absent
Vicki Wonacott	x	
Laurel Hill-Ward		x
Donna Kreskey	x	
Trisha Atehortua	x	
Lauren Cesca	x	

2. GOVERNANCE

2.1. CUSD Letter Discussion/Action

Trisha Atehortua

We had a lot of communication over the last year with the CUSD Facilities department representative. She has attended our Facilities Committee Meetings and Board Meetings to discuss the plan to apply for different funding one of which was Measure C. She was involved when we met with the architect and reviewed site plans. She has been advising us on how to go about applying for Measure C funding. The day of the meeting when Susan and I reviewed CUSD’s agenda we saw that Inspire had already been awarded \$10 million dollars out of the \$17 million dollars that we were told was available in the Measure C fund. We were shocked as we were not informed of this. Our application to apply for Measure C was due on May 2nd. We submitted this on time on May 2nd, 2025. The letter I

wrote summarizes the timeline of events that unfolded but ultimately we felt like we were not communicated with appropriately. We were left out of the loop and the whole process seemed to not be equitable or a fair process for Charters. April 17th was when they approved Measure C applications. During the application process the CSUD facility representative repeated that this is the first time we are doing this so we are just trying to figure it out, this is uncharted territory for the district etc. On May 14th Susan emailed the CUSD facility representative to follow up because she heard from one of our staff members that Inspire was going to receive funds from Measure C. The reply that we received from the facility representative did not address this question but addressed other items instead. This specific information on whether Inspire would receive additional funds was omitted. We were not looking at CUSD's agenda on May 14 because we had been told that the decision to award funding would not be on the agenda until either the June or the July meeting because it would take CUSD time to review the applications received on May 2nd. We were also told that sometimes they do not have meetings in July so it might even be August before the decision to award Measure C funding was made. We were blindsided when we realized that Blue Oak School was actually on the May 14th agenda along with Inspire and Sherwood Montessori. We were never informed that we were going to be on the agenda at this time. According to CUSD Meeting notes it was at this time on May 14th that the facility department's recommendation was to award Inspire an additional \$10 million dollars. This information was also omitted when CUSD reached out to follow up with additional questions about our application for Measure C funding leaving us under the impression that there was a \$17 million dollar pot to request funding from when there was now only \$7 million left. Susan did reach out to respond to the additional questions that were sent to us by the facility representative on May 20th. We received a formal response, below, on what information they needed on May 30th.

Section 2, Project Overview, the district said, please provide a more comprehensive description of the proposed project. This should include project plans, detailed descriptions, schematics, budget, project cost,

of primary concern is phasing, understanding that the only... that only the first phase is your current plan. How do you project to construct in Phase 1? Fulfill the needs of the students until future phases can be complete?

Section 3 was leverage funding. More detail on how the charter school plans to leverage Measure C find... funding. Please include clear and specific information based on the actual project estimates. And then Section 5, the initial response focused, which was, impact on in-district students.

The initial response focused primarily on the impact of Blue Oak students.

That was the response we received back from the district.

The big sticking points for us are that we were not informed about the vote happening on May 14th. It felt like this information was omitted intentionally. In all of the following conversations we had with the CUSD facilities department back and forth it was never once mentioned that Inspire was awarded the funding and even after we submitted our application for \$13 million it wasn't mentioned. It just seems that as an ally you might mention "Hey you are aware that there is no longer \$17 million dollars available right?" Until we show up at the meeting in September in front of the CUSD Board and they finally ask what is your plan for getting all of this money you are asking for when the funds are not available? Then we look like we are not prepared. We would like our letter to point out these facts. The relationship is definitely fractured now and our hope is that moving forward there might be some changes to their process that include equity, accountability, and integrity for all charters. Conversation continued.

Video of this meeting is available online.

Motion to edit the letter and send to CUSD by Trisha Atehortua. We will cc. Superintendent. Second motion by Donna Kreskey.

➤ Vote

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vicki Wonacott	x			
Laurel Hill-Ward				x
Donna Kreskey	x			
Trisha Atehortua	x			
Lauren Cesca	x			

➤ Vote passes

3. ADJOURNMENT of Special BOCC Meeting - Close this session at 6:52pm

6:53pm Reopening the Regular BOCC Meeting session.

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 audience members addressed the council.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

- 2.1.** Approve Regular Meeting Minutes (September 2025)
- 2.2.** Charter Impact Monthly Report Jim Weber
- 2.2.1.** Cash Flow
- 2.2.2.** Balance Sheet Detail
- 2.2.3.** Warrants/Aged Payable
- 2.2.4.** Actual to Budget Summary
- 2.3.** Point of Sale Transactions/Check Register (September 2025)
- 2.4.** Credit Card Statement (September 2025)

Motion to accept the consent agenda by Trisha Atehortua. Second motion by Donna Kreskey.

➤ Vote

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vicki Wonacott	x			
Laurel Hill-Ward				x
Donna Kreskey	x			
Trisha Atehortua	x			
Lauren Cesca	x			

➤ Vote passes

3. FACULTY

- 3.1.** Faculty Report

Cheryl Grant
Emily Swanson

Cheryl Grant presented the monthly faculty update.

4. BUSINESS

- 4.1.** Executive Director Hiring

Discussion/No Action

Outreach discussion. Susan has reached out to the Alliance for Public Waldorf Education to share that we are looking for an Interim/Permanent Executive Director. Outreach to BCOE as well. Other ideas are discussed for recruitment.

- 4.2.** Prop 39

Discussion/Action

Discussion on CUSD providing a district site and the application process. Prop 39 says that the district has to provide us with an appropriate site as long as we have 80 students. They get to pick the site. They apply their numbers to the site. This means they can say oh you have 32 district students then you get one classroom. When we went through the process before they didn't give us any rooms for specialties and they split us up into two different sites. One for elementary and one for middle school. To split the school up into two different sites will obviously not work with our program. Application is due November 1st. The district deadline is December 1st. We negotiate. They will give us an offer and our deadline to accept is March 1st.

- 4.3.** 7th grade Field Trip Discussion/Action
Trisha Atehortua motion to approve the 7th grade field trip. Donna Kreskey second motion.

➤ Vote

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vicki Wonacott	x			
Laurel Hill-Ward				
Donna Kreskey	x			
Trisha Atehortua	x			
Lauren Cesca	x			

➤ Vote passes

5. GOVERNANCE

- 5.1.** Facilities Committee Report Trisha Atehortua

Review of Prop 2 application and process timeline. The Facilities Committee meets this Thursday October 23, 2025 at 6:00pm.

- 5.2.** Finance Committee Report Susan Domenighini

We did change meeting times to 5pm. We had a full report from Jim Weber. Accounting for ELOP cost accounting was provided to Susan and we will be reviewing this regularly. We are balanced overall and in good financial standing.

- 5.3.** Attendance/ Behavior Susan Domenighini

We are down in behavior referrals. Work on Tier 1 support continues. Behavior assessments deepen our understanding of student behavior. Reports from paraprofessionals is that on the playground we are seeing more discussions and conflict resolutions between students instead of conflicts with fights. Attendance rewards and citizenship rewards are happening. We have continued the Blue Oak Leaves reward system.

- 5.4.** Establish Training Retreat Date Vicki Wonacott

We need to do an annual Board Ethics and Brown Act Training. This is scheduled for 5pm, Tuesday, October 28, 2025. You are welcome to bring food to share. We will look up CSDC ethics training. This is a longer training and may require more time than we will have on the 28th.

6. ADMINISTRATION

6.1. Executive Director's Report

Susan Domenighini

Amazing Harvest Festival! We had student leadership participating in blue t-shirts which was wonderful to see. The George and the Dragon best play ever by 2nd and 3rd grade! The Parade of Lights was a wonderful event. Jim Weber from Charter Impact is back with us in the Interim as our support for school finance.

We had a school tour today with several lovely families all interested in enrolling. We vet the families that are invited during the school day to tour for safety reasons. It is meaningful for families to see our school while it is in session.

Kari is here mentoring our teachers emma angela and ms smith - bringing in waldorf

In April Kari will return to continue support,

Aly Main on the advisory - continuing work with that this year. Working on creating a waldorf experience event.

7. CLOSED SESSION

7.1. Unrepresented Employee - Executive Director §54957.6

Report out from closed session Motion to extend contract of Executive Director to Jan 31st 2026, by Trisha Atehortua. Second motion by Vicki Wonacott.

➤ Vote

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vicki Wonacott	x			
Laurel Hill-Ward				x
Donna Kreskey	x			
Trisha Atehortua	x			
Lauren Cesca	x			

➤ Vote passes

7.2. Conference with Legal Council §54956.9 (b)

7.2.1. Initiation of litigation pursuant to §54956.9(c)

Report out from closed session - no action was taken.

- 7.3. Real Property Negotiations \$54956.8
⇒450 W East Ave. Chico, CA 95926
Report out of closed session the board directed our administrator to move forward with real estate negotiations.

Next meeting is the BOCC Retreat 10-28-25 @ 5pm

NEXT Regular Meeting - Tuesday, November 18, 2025 at 6:00 PM

8. ADJOURNMENT - 8:23pm

Minutes Taken By: Maggie Buckley

Approved by: _____ Date: _____

Name	Present	Absent
Vicki Wonacott		
Laurel Hill-Ward		
Donna Kreskey		
Trisha Atehortua		
Lauren Cesca		

➤ Vote

Name	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Vicki Wonacott				

Laurel Hill-Ward				
Donna Kreskey				
Trisha Atehortua				
Lauren Cesca				

➤ Vote passes