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Mission Statement:

Create a safe, positive environment that fosters intellectual curiosity and a thirst for discovery where students and staff succeed through exceptional programs

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
DECEMBER 18, 2018 at Banning Lewis Ranch Academy at 6:00 p.m.

- 1. Call to Order – 6:01pm**
- 2. Roll Call**
 - 2.1. Board Members: Deann Barnett, Gwendy Hartsell, Krisell Creager-Lumpkins, Alexandra Tomei, Matthew Pacheco
 - 2.2. Absent: Treasure Davis
- 3. Welcome, Pledge of Allegiance**
- 4. Approval of Agenda**
 - 4.1. Motion to approve: Krisell Creager-Lumpkins 2ndd: Matthew Pacheco All approve
- 5. Approval of the Minutes**
 - 5.1. Approval of the previous Regular Meeting Minutes, November 28, 2018
 - 5.2. Motion to approve: Krisell Creager-Lumpkins 2ndd: Matthew Pacheco All approve
- 6. Positive Observations**
 - 6.1. Krisell Creager-Lumpkins: Santa Sprint lots of fun and amazing every year
 - 6.2. Krisell Creager-Lumpkins: Evaluator for Ms. England's 10th grade class. Wide range of topics shared including annexation of residential to city streets for snow plowing. Professional presentations and open to feedback. Invitation to board meetings to encourage steps forward in their projects. Some showed up for public comment tonight. Thank you to Ms. England who is here tonight but also provided the platform.
 - 6.3. Deann Barnett: boys high school basketball with 2/3 full stands – school support and parent support for banning sports
 - 6.4. Krisell Creager Lumpkins: middle school sports try outs high turn out
- 7. Public Comment - *Speakers are limited to 3 minutes and must sign in at the beginning of the meeting.***
 - 7.1. Hannah Chumbley – presented with peer Shaylee discussing electives. Not that many offered but huge credits needed to be filled. Mentioned online courses in lieu of adding additional teachers to the school or in addition college classes. All 10th graders have taken the electives already offered and cannot repeat them – having to fill credits rather than take classes in areas of interests.

- 7.1.1. Deann Barnett responded regarding current conversations and dialogue that is ongoing including online courses, graduation requirements, and opening other courses.
 - 7.1.2. When asked about online options, Hannah expressed she came to Banning Prep in order to go to a school offline as she came from an online school but she is open to it.
 - 7.1.3. Krisell Creager-Lumpkins suggested the students send their presentation to the board to provide student input and ideas to solve the issues presented.
 - 7.1.4. Question presented on classes they wanted to see – students responded that they wanted to increase the complexity of coursework (i.e. psychology, child development, etc). Discussed doing a google survey of students to seek out what is being wanted in electives. Deann proposed a focus group to get an idea of concerns and interest directly from students that are objective with board members and students, not staff, to get a feel for what is truly desired.
- 7.2. Jaron Mihalko – student presenting on student life and how to get student concerns addressed. Did a survey and found that 75% of students would leave Banning due to strictness of admin and how they were being treated at the prep academy (being treated as younger than they are). Discussed creating a Student Action Assembly in order to address these concerns, find compromises that are positive solutions for everyone. Select their top issues and then work intently on these, then go to administration to enact a solution.
- 7.2.1. A phone example was used for discrepancies in how the rule is being disseminated.
 - 7.2.2. Go to administration first, then to the board to filter some of the professional perspectives for both sides of the argument before coming to the board. Discussed in detail how to address getting yes's and no's from various levels of those in charge of the various issues they are working to change including BOD, administration, teachers, students, parents, etc.
 - 7.2.3. Discussed membership selection including separation of powers between the Student Action Assembly (SAA) and the Student Senate
 - 7.2.4. 2 members from each house on the SAA elected both with student support and teacher support
 - 7.2.5. Qualifications to earn a spot including social skills and leadership skills
 - 7.2.6. Separation of Powers – Student Senate has not done much in Jaron's opinion so creating something like an Assembly Line to specialize how to get projects done (Student Senate for fundraising and dances, SAA for improving student life or handbook issues – some may intertwine, example given for adding bike racks)
 - 7.2.7. Deann Barnett asked about student involvement and Jaron affirmed that there is interest in students being members of the SAA
 - 7.2.8. Krisell Creager-Lumpkins addressed that some issues are being worked on already and appreciated the student involvement that is being demonstrated tonight
 - 7.2.9. Deann Barnett addressed that if an issue was struck down could the reverse education could occur if the administration makes something not possible (i.e. pink mohawks) educating the student body on behalf of the administration after the issue has been heard
 - 7.2.10. Emphasized wanting to be treated like high schoolers and the ability to make change

8. Program Highlight – BLRA Teacher Cultural Exchange

- 8.1. Shannon Molnar presented on an exchange to send 6 teachers to UK during Spring Break to co teach, sight see, present in an assembly with the partner schools, and cultural development
- 8.2. 9 applications, 6 \$1,000 scholarships granted (from just the Ranch)

- 8.3. UK teachers will visit BLRA the second week of April, sending 7. We will provide the same partnership when those teachers visit
- 8.4. One goal is increasing teacher retention through curated communities
- 8.5. Also announced our nomination for Capturing Kids Hearts Showcase School (BLRA)

9. Sanctioned Organizations - *Speakers are limited to 3 minutes when presenting in person*

- 9.1. Stallions Parent & Teacher Club – Gwendy reported on behalf of SPT. Fall fundraiser raised a little less than 10k. Cookie Walk tomorrow at both campuses. Fun Run kicks off Jan 15, 2019
- 9.2. Boy Scout Troop 228 -
- 9.3. Cub Scout Pack 228 – sent email update
- 9.4. Civil Air Patrol – sent email update
- 9.5. Girl Scout Troop – sent email update

10. Standing Committee Reports *Speakers are limited to 10 minutes when presenting*

- 10.1. Finance Committee Report Chair: Krisell Creager-Lumpkins
 - 10.1.1. Meeting went over monthly actuals. Some adjustments made and budget amendments created and document sent to BOD last night with final updates
 - 10.1.2. With the jump in the debt surface occurred this year and balancing the costs, but overall budget is looking solid based on the changes that have also occurred politically so we could hit the budget level we needed
 - 10.1.3. Strategic plan on use of MLO funds is following the plan
 - 10.1.4. District 49 is proposing some special education funding changes, to be determined how or if it will effect BLA

11. BLRAF, Fundraising and Marketing Updates *Speakers are limited to 10 minutes when presenting*

- 11.1. Representative: Heather Zambrano
 - 11.1.1. Santa Sprint completed, beginning planning for 2019 since people are already talking about the next event
 - 11.1.2. Sponsor businesses are showing increased interest and ongoing conversations are continuing
 - 11.1.3. Email to families regarding pushing donations as the tax year ends, preparing letters for those that have already donated
 - 11.1.4. Big ask coming to Oakwood homes
 - 11.1.5. Working on collateral for concurrent enrollment for marketing as we do new enrollments
 - 11.1.6. Ahead of where we were last year at this time for recruitment of new students, will be using ads for targeted enrollment via social media
 - 11.1.7. Discussed being a part of 8th grade choice night next year for the district

12. BLR Admin Reports *Speakers are limited to 10 minutes when presenting*

- 12.1. Supporting documentation BLR Admin Report
 - 12.1.1. Todd Morse reported on enrollment, 1362 current active enrollment. 15 kids have accepted spots to start second semester, 9 have applied for next year as well. Applications are ahead of where we were last year, continuing to have steady applications through December. Appreciate Vanessa's

- work in tracking the enrollment. Appreciated the students showing up with the concerns, and how that impacts enrollment. Minimum of 1488 students required for bond requirements next year.
- 12.1.2. Brandon Monson reported on SAAC meeting recently. New leader in Gwen for the parent organization piece, high participation from all on that committee. SIP committee commended who dipped in the data to make the proposal they did.
 - 12.1.3. Todd Morse reported on the math teacher resignation, already working on filling that position
 - 12.1.4. Rob Wilkinson reported on assessment, high attendance rate. Early access testing is next month. Testing dates are listed on the website. Officially trained and licensed to give Accuplacer exam. All 6 current concurrent enrollment kids passed their course (each earning 2 HS credits, 1 College credit).
 - 12.1.5. Todd Morse reported on athletics – we are voted into Black Forest League. Discussion on middle school following into that league with the high schoolers, but able to stay in our current league of C-Cal. Still waiting on CHASA membership. Discussion about letter jackets and what the letter itself would look like, or what the mascot logo would look like. Would be for academic and athletic lettering.
 - 12.1.6. Brandon Monson reported on BLPA. Affirmed Chuck Shaw and Rob Wilkinson for running through the testing cycles, maintenance of the facilities, etc. Student Assembly last week – all student driven. Teachers finalizing grades towards end of semester. Girls basketball won their first game last night.
 - 12.1.7. Shannon Molnar reported on BLRA. ELL grant money used to purchase a cultural diversity library for each classroom. 3 teachers attended a district training called new teacher bootcamp. Elementary, Middle, and HS choir all performed. 2 field trips planned, snow day cancelled 2nd grade field trip – 5th grade went to AmeriTown. Mr. Teti had kids doing math problems based on their trip.
 - 12.1.8. Chuck Shaw reported on facilities. Short handed still but facilities affirmed by Todd Morse. Full time custodian and evening event supervisor position at BLPA available position. Challenges discussed on renter’s usage in addition to other usage of the building to juggle schedule and rooms, etc. Choir concert and band concert at both campuses. Track update – email sent out to BOD. Struggle with maintaining the temperature above 50 degrees, track surface pushed to likely Spring, but maybe February. Practicing will continue but cannot host.
 - 12.1.8.1. Questions presented on property line between D49 school and our school property to fix the issues presented and about staking that line
 - 12.1.8.2. Discussed putting track surface on in either February or over summer when school is out
 - 12.1.8.3. Must have storage for the new equipment for the track activities that have been put into place
 - 12.1.9. Eric Dinnel reported on rental update. Champions update – new staff and reshaped the program to make necessary changes. Just renewed contract?, this year is the first year of the renewal – unclear on contract and will follow up. ACCEL online team on board for online programming. Legislative updates – same as in past.

13. Discussion Items

- 13.1. BLRA FY19 Budget Amendment Proposal
 - 13.1.1. No questions or discussion presented
- 13.2. BLA Graduation Requirements
 - 13.2.1. Summary for comparison of other area schools

- 13.2.2. Comments on the core classes (English, Science, Math, Social Studies) should stay. World Languages seem high – 3 years could benefit some but not all students
- 13.2.3. Comments on the lack of science classes options / physical rooms in order to meet the science class requirements.
- 13.2.4. Comments on Fine Arts – humanities based school but the facilities are limiting. 1.5 of PE seems appropriate including senior thesis and health. Questions re: academic electives
 - 13.2.4.1. If you took 4 years of math, 3 would fill academic core and 1 would fill academic electives
 - 13.2.4.2. Considering removing academic electives and rolling into all generic electives. Most of those academic electives would be filled with concurrent enrollment. Don't want electives to all just be a free for all, and might need an extra incentive to increase class size in the true elective areas of the core academic subjects.
- 13.2.5. Looking ahead to college, most majors have additional math requirements not science requirements so looking towards college prep. Math is most commonly failed area, so this might be an area to allow that opportunity for a student who fails to still be able to make up that class.
- 13.2.6. Core electives based on the liberal arts charter, core pieces desired in there as we expose in a well rounded way. Looking at the NCAA clearinghouse scale with the academic electives. Colleges are 2-3 years for entrance requirements.
- 13.2.7. Science requirements main admin concern is the lab space – 3 periods of lab space currently free and still needing to add 2 grades
- 13.2.8. Discussing removing some credit requirements from core academics and shifting to the unrestricted electives but ensuring a high credit load to still remain our rigor in our academic content
- 13.2.9. One of the main goals is to prepare students for college, both to apply and to be successful once they get there. The credits is a piece of it, and administration is comfortable with changes presented to removing some core academics, academic electives, fine arts, world languages, and / or adding to unrestricted electives. Moving to 25 credits to allow for quality over quantity focuses.
- 13.2.10. Removing 1 math, removing 1 science, removing 1 world languages, removing 1 fine arts, removing 1 academic core elective, shifting to increase unrestricted electives to 5.0, totaling 25.0 credits for graduation.
- 13.2.11. Going to 24.0, does that shave enough time to increase lunchtime opportunities to decrease the amount of students in the lunchroom at a single time
- 13.2.12. Brandon has the information for amending the charter and formally changing it

14. Action Items

- 14.1. BLRA FY19 Budget Amendment Proposal
 - 14.1.1. Motion to vote: Krisell Creager-Lumpkins, 2ndd: Gwendy Hartsell
 - 14.1.2. Discussion - none
 - 14.1.3. Yes: all No: none Motion Carries

15. Future Business

- 15.1. Board Member Training – Colorado League of Charter Schools
 - 15.1.1. Evaluation of Board Retreat as Training
 - 15.1.2. Coordinating Board Training in the Springs to do in person training in place of modules
- 15.2. Graduation Requirements
- 15.3. New High School Elective course proposals

16. Board Member Communication

17. Adjournment – 8:42pm

DATE: December 18, 2018

//Signed//
Alexandra Tomei, Secretary