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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 MINUTES

JULY 20, 2021 AT BANNING LEWIS RANCH ACADEMY at 6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order

1.1. Deann Barnett called to order at 6:05pm

2. Roll Call

2.1. Board Members: Deann Barnett, Todd Blum, Krisell Creager-Lumpkins, Scott Lewis, Matthew Pacheco, Alexandra Tomei, Heather Zambrano

3. Welcome, Pledge of Allegiance

4. Reading of the Mission Statement

5. Approval of Agenda

5.1. Krisell Creager-Lumpkins moved to approve the agenda with added action item for 21/22 enrollment (item 15.3) and discussion items D49 Charter Renewal Process (item 14.7) and Re-Fi Bond Process (item 14.8), Matthew Pacheco 2nd

5.2. All approve, motion carries

6. Approval of the Minutes

6.1. Approval of the previous Regular Meeting June 15, 2021

6.1.1. Krisell Creager-Lumpkins motioned to approve the aforementioned meeting minutes, Matthew Pacheco 2nd, d

6.1.2. All approve (Abstentions for Heather Zambrano and Scott Lewis), motion carries

7. Positive Observations

7.1. Deann Barnett commented on the sports physical round up with many Banning Students to get them set up for the school year.

7.2. Matthew Pacheco – Coach O had the football team on the teambuilding trip this weekend. Showcased very well and were so respectful the hotel manager sent an email complimenting them and welcome them back. Great job fostering relationships and making them leaders in the community.

7.3. Krisell Creager-Lumpkins complimented that we have a full 7 person board!

8. Public Comment - Speakers are limited to 3 minutes and must sign in at the beginning of the meeting.

8.1. None signed in

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

Finance Committee Report Chair: Matthew Pacheco

- 9.1. Reports printed to distribute to the BOD.
- 9.2. For the 20/21 school year is above Bond Requirements by quite a bit of money
- 9.3. Addition of Patti Ashley to the Accel Team – supporting financing and budgeting.
- 9.4. 2 weeks before the numbers presented will go to the auditors but could have changes / updates prior to that submission. Will present the finalized June 30 financials that go for pre-audit at the next meeting.
- 9.5. Budget completed on 1469 students funded at 7843 per pupil.
- 9.6. Clarification provided that AMP fees on the aged trial balance was for those high school classes online that small groups of students take
- 9.7. Question regarding the default status of many checks – after 90 days most will be gone and paid out. Checks had not been issued by June 30 on these items but have been issued since. As of today (ran a new report live) there is a 0.00 balance.

10. Program Highlight

- 10.1. AMP presentation
 - 10.1.1. Video presented describing the AMP program
 - 10.1.2. Pricing sheet was emailed as well
 - 10.1.3. BLA will pay for CO licenses for AMP teachers, but all teachers will be CO licensed (150-200 per teacher)
 - 10.1.4. K-8 per semester is 941 and 9-12 is 1262 per semester
 - 10.1.5. Would want a communication liaison for the at home students – stipend for teachers to be the person who liasons with at home students
 - 10.1.6. Questions about how the product would improve compared to the lack of quality product that was delivered last fall.
 - 10.1.6.1. Acknowledged that it was rushed last year and that it has been re-tooled such that the product is much better delivery and interface for students and families
 - 10.1.7. One teacher for every elementary grade and then less for high school; estimated 20 teachers total.
 - 10.1.7.1. If a teacher left in the middle of the year, and new teachers assigned, would Accel cover that cost? Not known at this time.
 - 10.1.7.2. Waiver for onsite teachers who are in process to gain that licensure. Typically we don't pay for licensure for in person teachers so this would be different than what we support for our current teachers.
 - 10.1.8. Question about what D49 is offered – offering their online program / Studio Springs program for students who do not wish to return into the building.
 - 10.1.9. All additional fees are included in this pricing – no additional fees should be charged outside of the licensure of students.
 - 10.1.10. Lines of communication related to concerns should be directed to Accel not BLA as they are two separate programs.

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

- 11.1. PTO – still no executive board, continuing to solicit support. Worked with Jen on the spirit hoodies, over 300 purchased. Worked with Jenna Bell on food trucks and a book swap. Since there is no president, BOD has to approve purchases – desire to purchase hoodies to sell

- 11.2. BLA Booster Club – Presentation for wall logos; Krisell met with them to help shape the presentation but the presentations have changed multiple times since. Still waiting on presentation of that once a design is decided on.
- 11.3. Boy Scout Troop 228 - sent an email – getting the COR for their charters. No parent volunteers until that is signed. Discussion needed on letting them into the building for meetings.
- 11.4. Cub Scout Pack 228 – sent an email – getting the COR for their charters. No parent volunteers until that is signed. Discussion needed on letting them into the building for meetings.
- 11.5. Civil Air Patrol – no email sent – out for summer
- 11.6. Girl Scout Troop – no email sent, will follow up on their charter as well.

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

- 12.1. Representative: Heather Zambrano
 - 12.1.1. As of 7/16/21 – 1348 re-enrolled, 446 new ones, 1794 total enrolled
 - 12.1.2. Building capacity according to architect is 750 at BLRA, 1050 at BLPA
 - 12.1.3. Increase of 33 kids last week alone; will discuss more in the discussion items
 - 12.1.4. Understand full amount for the movie stuff
 - 12.1.5. Administration presented to the Foundation a list of requested items. Current ask was declined but additional items are being kicked around to spend that money on to fulfill needs.

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

- 13.1. Supporting documentation BLR Admin Report
 - 13.1.1. Email sent
 - 13.1.2. Concerns about hiring – what are we doing currently?
 - 13.1.2.1. Interviews are ongoing and continuing to occur; updated hard to hire area offers. Approved tuition reimbursement program and requested that to be hi-lighted in job postings as well. Salary range is being posted with the job posting.
 - 13.1.2.2. Referral bonuses for staff and teachers below principal
 - 13.1.2.3. Getting creative should it be needed as well to solve lack of hiring.
 - 13.1.3. Principal update for BLPA – high school. 5 applicants, 2 did not pass 2nd round. Met with 2 others, waiting for screening on 3rd. Then first round of in person interviews.
 - 13.1.3.1. Could hire director of academics to fill gaps if we need to wait for the perfect person / additional AP.
 - 13.1.3.2. Concerns about over-taxing the others in the building by shifting roles;
 - 13.1.4. Wanting to create a sense of urgency and schedule a day that will be available for meetings with these candidates; email in addition with the contingency plans that are potentially in place. July 29 for BOD work session to interview candidates. Still requesting meeting with staff / parents first. Request to meet with all candidates unless major red flags are done. Will be remote at 7pm to accommodate out of town candidates.
 - 13.1.5. Wall paintings, clarified to be a smaller space and did put thought into not clashing with the colors in the carpet and existing wall. Continuing traditions year after year and to encourage this to be a school that is owned by the students in the school.

14. Discussion Items

- 14.1. 21/22 School Year – Masks / COVID-19 Guidelines

- 14.1.1. Governor is putting out guidance for schools in the next few days; may decide something tonight and the governor orders may change that. Need to include a caveat about a more restrictive mandate being pushed out.
- 14.1.2. Examine El Paso County Health as well as the Governor of CO guidelines.
- 14.1.3. Desire for kids to be without masks if possible
- 14.1.4. Estimate on vaccinated staff will be available Aug 2; HR procedure and because it deals with medical records unsure if it can be communicated.
 - 14.1.4.1. CDC guidance is that we can ask but information is not required to be given
- 14.1.5. Need to empower staff and students to make the best health decisions for their family
- 14.1.6. Quarantine policies also differ per the vaccination status – be prepared to run quarantines if exposures occur.
 - 14.1.6.1. Swivl devices for when portions of the prep need to quarantine but not all
- 14.1.7. Concerns about the variant being more heavily impacted.
- 14.1.8. Need to encourage families to report and to keep kids home when sick.
- 14.1.9. Extra-curricular activities
 - 14.1.9.1. CHSAA will control many in the athletics program
 - 14.1.9.2. Those will follow the guidelines we decide when using our school.
- 14.1.10. Allowing the extra curricular activities back into the school, including Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, clubs, etc. – general consensus is yes
- 14.1.11. AMP – are we going to offer a year long online school option?
 - 14.1.11.1. Did not go well for us last year
 - 14.1.11.2. Reserving a spot for the following year should they return
 - 14.1.11.3. Concerns about no changes to the program and the AMP team requesting to present but not coming to present
 - 14.1.11.4. Hypocritical to license AMP teachers but not Banning teachers
- 14.2. BLA Handbooks / Dress Code
 - 14.2.1. Change for parking lot sent (language)
 - 14.2.2. Concerns about fees that have been presented to the BOD
 - 14.2.2.1. Should be delineated in the handbook; currently increased
 - 14.2.2.2. In middle school, part of the increased fees was to purchase all the school supplies (binders, loose leaf paper, markers, protractors, etc). Some extra fees for art, music, planner, etc. may be included in any surplus and returned to departments. Includes House / Order t-shirt they design
 - 14.2.2.3. Additional supplies on the syllabus – being heavily tracked for each item purchased. Not currently anticipating additional supplies but will confirm on Monday
 - 14.2.2.4. Additional communication to families needed to explain this.
 - 14.2.2.5. Cannot speak on behalf of high school; does not cover everything the same way and needed clarification. 1:1 devices and rental fee is included in the higher fee.
 - 14.2.2.6. Leanne clarified that it is mirrored in the high school but is different sets of supplies compared to the middle school. Will still satisfy the general high school needs.
 - 14.2.2.7. Conflicts with the previous standard of a family max
 - 14.2.2.8. Overall fantastic ideas and needs to be better communicated
 - 14.2.2.9. Purchased for 180 in each grade level
- 14.3. Enrollment Goals 21/22

- 14.3.1. John Hattie – education research into effect sizes. 260 initiatives into effective teaching. (235 and beyond have a negative impact on student learning)
 - 14.3.1.1. Most effective aspect of the classroom is teacher collective efficacy (teams of teachers that believe in themselves and each other to teach and educate the students) – 1.57 effect size
 - 14.3.1.2. Reduced class sizes is number 186 - .21 effect size
- 14.3.2. Last year BLRA enrollment was 735 and goal for 790 (class sizes of 25 for kinder, 26 for 1-2, and 27 for 3-5)
- 14.3.3. Last year BLPA enrollment was 889 and goal for 1085 (210 per grade in 6-8, 125 in 9th, 115 in 10th, 110 in 11th – with 10% off campus - , and 105 in 12th – with 25% off campus – total on campus is 1036.75)
- 14.3.4. Total enrollment 21-22 of 1679, goal of 1875 by 23-24
- 14.3.5. Re-enrollment between July 1 and October 1 is 84%
- 14.3.6. New enrollment rate – 85% on October 1
- 14.3.7. Considering attrition rates as estimated by Accel – 1477 total – for 21/22.
- 14.3.8. Concerns that the math does not match and many classes are over-stuffed (BLRA is almost 100 over) and BLPA has more wiggle room because 11/12 is not full.
- 14.3.9. BLA Charter contract has BLRA at a capacity of 810 and we are currently over enrolled.
- 14.3.10. Concerns about how we got here to higher capacities, why a lottery was not given this year per all previous years, why waitlists are not being started as soon as we meet projected goals, etc.
- 14.3.11. Future goals to keep these caps on classroom sizes and move to waitlists with a small 10% buffer.
- 14.3.12. Master schedule is complete for 6-12 and each newly enrolled student has a schedule assigned.
- 14.3.13. 6th – 167, 7th – 147, 8th – 143. 9th – 158. 10th – 120. 11th – 83. 12th - 62 (enrolled with schedules. (as of tonight).
- 14.3.14. K – 124, 1 – 153, 2 – 141, 3 – 141, 4 – 133, 5 – 146. (as of 3:30 today in powerschool)
- 14.3.15. Considerations about PE and band – but not taken by all students every year
- 14.3.16. 790-810 for K-5; at BLPA have to look at a number per grade level instead and separate out high school
- 14.4. BOD Meetings 21/22 School Year
 - 14.4.1. Current meetings per the third Tuesday for 21/22 are as follows with potential conflicts per the approved school calendar:
 - 14.4.1.1. August 17
 - 14.4.1.2. September 21
 - 14.4.1.3. October 19 – Fall break
 - 14.4.1.4. November 16
 - 14.4.1.5. December 21 – Christmas break
 - 14.4.1.6. January 18
 - 14.4.1.7. February 15
 - 14.4.1.8. March 15
 - 14.4.1.9. April 19
 - 14.4.1.10. June 21
 - 14.4.1.11. July 19 – potential conflict with Accel annual conference
 - 14.4.2. Move all conflicting meetings one week earlier

- 14.5. BOD Officer Seats
 - 14.5.1. Clarified roles and responsibilities and current positions
 - 14.5.2. There are many positions with balls in the air that may be hard to replace people on.
 - 14.5.3. Discussed the current roles and who would like to be in their current positions.
 - 14.5.4. Discussed people who would like new positions and why
- 14.6. Round Up – BOD Presentation
 - 14.6.1. Manning tables for the prep – concerns about scheduling and will communicate back
- 14.7. D49 Charter Renewal and Process
 - 14.7.1. 5 year review / renewal with D49. Come into the school and do a report that is presented to D49.
 - 14.7.2. Determine where we are in that process and report back
- 14.8. Re-Fi Bond Process
 - 14.8.1. No new information yet, in a holding pattern waiting for more information.
 - 14.8.2. No analysis about the partial vs whole yet; awaiting more information

15. Action Items

- 15.1. 21/22 School Year – Masks / COVID-19 Guidelines
 - 15.1.1. Matthew Pacheco motioned for the 21/22 school year to maintain current masking policies for staff / students, to not implement AMP program as presented, to allow sanctioned organizations and clubs back into the building, with the understanding that we will abide by state and county health guidelines as well as CHSAA guidelines should they become more stringent, Heather Zambrano 2nd d
 - 15.1.2. No Discussion
 - 15.1.3. Vote Yes: Deann Barnett, Todd Blum, Krisell Creager-Lumpkins, Scott Lewis, Matthew Pacheco, Alexandra Tomei, Heather Zambrano
 - 15.1.4. Vote No: None
 - 15.1.5. Motion carries
- 15.2. BLA Handbooks / Dress Code
 - 15.2.1. Matthew Pacheco motioned to approve the BLA handbook and dress code as presented, Todd Blum 2nd d
 - 15.2.2. Discussion
 - 15.2.2.1. Make sure to include all breakdowns of fees in each subsequent revision to avoid miscommunication with families
 - 15.2.3. Vote Yes: Deann Barnett, Todd Blum, Krisell Creager-Lumpkins, Scott Lewis, Matthew Pacheco, Alexandra Tomei, Heather Zambrano
 - 15.2.4. Vote No: None
 - 15.2.5. Motion carries
- 15.3. Enrollment Goals 21/22
 - 15.3.1. Matthew Pacheco motioned to move students to a waitlist before first day of school when a cap of 28 students per class in K, 29 students per class in 1-2, and 30 students per class in 3-12 and after Oct 1, a cap of 25 per class in K, 26 per class in 1-2, and 27 per class in 3-12, Heather Zambrano 2nd d
 - 15.3.2. No Discussion
 - 15.3.3. Vote Yes: Deann Barnett, Todd Blum, Krisell Creager-Lumpkins, Scott Lewis, Matthew Pacheco, Alexandra Tomei, Heather Zambrano
 - 15.3.4. Vote No: None

15.3.5. Motion carries

15.4. BOD Meetings 21/22 School Year

15.4.1. Matthew Pacheco motioned to approve the BOD meeting schedule listed below, at 6pm, online posting per open meeting laws, located at BLRA, Heather Zambrano 2nd d

15.4.1.1. August 17

15.4.1.2. September 21

15.4.1.3. October 12

15.4.1.4. November 16

15.4.1.5. December 14

15.4.1.6. January 18

15.4.1.7. February 15

15.4.1.8. March 15

15.4.1.9. April 19

15.4.1.10. June 21

15.4.1.11. July 12

15.4.2. No Discussion

15.4.3. Vote Yes: Deann Barnett, Todd Blum, Krisell Creager-Lumpkins, Scott Lewis, Matthew Pacheco, Alexandra Tomei, Heather Zambrano

15.4.4. Vote No: None

15.4.5. Motion carries

15.5. BOD Officer Seats

15.5.1. Scott Lewis motioned to put Heather Zambrano in the president seat, Krisell Creager – Lumpkins in the vice president seat, Alexandra Tomei in the secretary seat, Matthew Pacheco in the treasurer seat, Todd Blum 2nd d

15.5.2. No Discussion

15.5.3. Vote Yes: Deann Barnett, Todd Blum, Krisell Creager-Lumpkins, Scott Lewis, Matthew Pacheco, Alexandra Tomei, Heather Zambrano

15.5.4. Vote No: None

15.5.5. Motion carries

16. Executive Sessions

15.1. None requested

17. Future Business

17.1. Booster Club Logo Proposal

17.2. BOD Training

18. Board Member Communication

18.1. Alex Tomei will not be on the strategic planning meeting tomorrow night

19. Adjournment

19.1. Deann Barnett adjourned the meeting at 11:49pm

DATE: July 20, 2021

//Signed//

Alexandra Tomei, Secretary