



7094 Cottonwood Tree Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80927

Phone: 719.570.0075 - Fax: 719.522.2900 Email: BoardBLRA@blracademy.org

**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  
December 13, 2022 AT BANNING LEWIS RANCH ACADEMY at 1800.**

**1. Opening Items**

- 1.1. Pledge of Allegiance
- 1.2. Reading of the Mission Statement Roll Call
  - 1.2.1. All present
- 1.3. Leigh called meeting to order at 1801
- 1.4. Approval of the Minutes
  - 1.4.1. Approval of the previous Regular Meeting Minutes, November 15, 2022
    - 1.4.1.1. Kim motioned to approve the minutes from November 15, 2022
    - 1.4.1.2. Roland seconded
    - 1.4.1.3. All approve, motion carries
- 1.5. Amendment to the Agenda
  - 1.5.1. No changes to the agenda
- 1.6. Good news: Board members shared what they saw positive across the school
  - 1.6.1. Chris- No Place for Hate in January. Faculty and staff are stepping up to address many challenges.
  - 1.6.2. Guin- Cross-country had their end of season banquet. Earned many plaques and trophies. Great to see athletics take off.
  - 1.6.3. Roland- Echo Chris. Teaching and learning is not easy. The last month and a half has been a lot. Kudos to all. Just went into the gym and saw the girl's basketball team practicing. It is always exciting to see athletics in the gym.
  - 1.6.4. Leigh- Choir concert at the Prep that blended both campuses went well.
  - 1.6.5. Kevin- Spirit week is fun to see
  - 1.6.6. Kim- Echo Leigh. Great to see the turn out for our fantastic girl's basketball teams. Love the school spirit.
- 1.7. Board Spotlight
  - 1.7.1. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Science demonstrating the CPOP 5E model of kinesthetic learning
    - 1.7.1.1. Mrs. Hernandez with Tommy, Izzy, and Taliah
    - 1.7.1.2. Demonstrated and explained an exothermic chemical reaction
- 1.8. Public Comment - *Speakers are limited to 3 minutes and must sign in at the beginning of the meeting.*
  - 1.8.1. Jace Hollister
    - 1.8.1.1. Discrimination and hostile environments in the classrooms at Prep
      - 1.8.1.1.1. Transphobic
      - 1.8.1.1.2. Alienation
    - 1.8.1.2. Encouraged staff to attend inclusivity training
      - 1.8.1.2.1. Students should feel safe and welcome
      - 1.8.1.2.2. Teachers' political positions do not belong
    - 1.8.1.3. Hostile environments make students feel overwhelmed and unwelcome
  - 1.8.2. Deann Barnett
    - 1.8.2.1. Requested a long-term replacement and reserve plan

- 1.8.2.1.1. HVAC
- 1.8.2.1.2. Painting
- 1.8.2.1.3. Parking lots
- 1.8.2.1.4. Track (initially cost \$400,000)
- 1.8.2.1.5. Security system
- 1.8.2.2. Requested a schedule of earmarked items
- 1.8.2.3. HB21-1286 applies to both BLA buildings
  - 1.8.2.3.1. Consider LED and/or solar replacement

## 2. School Updates

### 2.1. Principal Reports

- 2.1.1.1. None

### 2.2. Information on Prep Field- Roland Rainey

#### 2.2.1. Three phase steps due to increasing injuries.

- 2.2.1.1. First step was to investigate

- 2.2.1.2. Currently in the second phase

#### 2.2.1.2.1. Options

- 2.2.1.2.1.1. Option 1: Budget item to resod, aerate, and fix sprinklers

- 2.2.1.2.1.2. Option 2: Assess long-term solution for multi-service turf field and potential for profit

- 2.2.1.2.1.3. Option 3: Mixture of Option 1 and Option 2

- 2.2.1.2.1.3.1. Explore NFL grant program that Prep can apply for. The State NFL team will sponsor

- 2.2.1.2.1.3.2. Aerate field and fix sprinklers

- 2.2.1.3. Roland motion to pass field repair to the Administration

- 2.2.1.4. Guin seconded

- 2.2.1.5. All in favor, motion carries

### 2.3. 2023-2024 Calendar selection

#### 2.3.1. Admin prefer option C

- 2.3.1.1. More focused staff time for training

- 2.3.1.2. Aligns with D49

- 2.3.1.3. How will kids learn to use tech with no e-learning days?

- 2.3.1.3.1. Intentional focus around tech at Ranch

- 2.3.1.3.2. Prep uses Chrome Books

- 2.3.1.3.3. Better focus on equitable access for all students

- 2.3.1.4. Leigh motion to adopt proposed Calendar C for 2023-2024 school year

- 2.3.1.5. Kevin seconded

- 2.3.1.6. All in favor, motion carries

- 2.3.1.7. The BLA Board resolves to select Calendar C. The Board also commits to ongoing work with D49 to come into alignment this as well as others with our Charter School contract.

### 2.4. Course Catalog

- 2.4.1. Great array of classes

- 2.4.2. Team sports is in the student handbook and in the credit breakdown at the beginning of the catalog.

- 2.4.3. Concurrent enrollment (CE) seemed thin.

- 2.4.3.1. CE spotlight will be implemented and incorporated into the newsletter.

- 2.4.4. Leigh motioned to approve the Course Catalog

- 2.4.5. Guin seconded

- 2.4.6. All approve, motion carries

## 3. Special Education Services MOU

### 3.1. BOD received the Special Education Services MOU

- 3.1.1. Reviewed by legal counsel

- 3.1.2. Financial liability is being absorbed by BLA

- 3.1.3. Plan to post SpEd positions through proper ACCEL channels in January

- 3.1.4. RMCA has been supportive and providing guidance throughout the process

## 4. Committees

### 4.1. SAC

#### 4.1.1. Last SAC meeting 12-12-22

4.1.1.1. Mr. Shaw and Officer Pete presented procedures for evacuate and hold.

4.1.1.2. Appointed positions for SAC co-chair and SAC secretary

### 4.2. Finance Committee

#### 4.2.1.1. ACCEL requesting an increase in Administration fees

4.2.1.1.1. 2018-2019 \$66,000 with an incremental increase from that time to \$193,000 in this budget.

4.2.1.1.1.1. This fee would include payroll, recruitment, performance management, counseling services for employees for over 175 employees annually.

4.2.1.1.1.2. Request to see the contract with ACCEL

#### 4.2.1.2. Bank discussion

4.2.1.2.1. Consider different institutions for better interest rates

4.2.1.2.2. Public Depository Protection Act

4.2.1.2.2.1. Compliant?

4.2.1.2.2.2. Does it meet our needs?

4.2.1.2.2.3. Is the interest rate good?

#### 4.2.1.3. November financials

4.2.1.3.1. Five months into the year or 42% through the year

4.2.1.3.2. Largest expenses are payroll

4.2.1.3.3. Expenditures are within the BOD approval

#### 4.2.1.4. Amended Budget

4.2.1.4.1. Revenues have changed

4.2.1.4.1.1. Enrollment decrease

4.2.1.4.1.2. District fees

4.2.1.4.1.3. SpEd Services

4.2.1.4.1.4. Increases with student supplies

4.2.1.5. Kevin motion to approve amended budget

4.2.1.6. Kim seconded

4.2.1.7. Roll call vote

4.2.1.7.1. Leigh- no

4.2.1.7.2. Kevin- no

4.2.1.7.3. Kim- no

4.2.1.7.4. Roland- no

4.2.1.7.5. Guin- no

4.2.1.7.6. Chris- no

4.2.1.8. The motion does not carry

4.2.1.8.1. The budget is tabled

4.2.1.8.2. Roland will schedule a budget work session

### 4.3. Governance Committee

4.3.1. Evaluated existing policies and recommendations from D49

4.3.2. Updated workplan through January

4.3.2.1. Grievance policy

4.3.2.1.1. Request the proposed Greivance Policy be posted on the BLA website for community feedback

4.3.2.2. Next month

4.3.2.2.1. Enrollment policy

4.3.2.2.2. Election policy

4.3.2.2.3. Appointment policy

4.3.2.3. Reinforcing the responsibiites of the BOD

4.3.2.4. Review and approval process

4.3.2.4.1. Draft to BOD

- 4.3.2.4.2. Ask the BOD to pass for community review
  - 4.3.2.4.2.1. Post on website
  - 4.3.2.4.2.2. Comments to BOD via email
- 4.3.2.4.3. Committee will meet monthly and review public comments
- 4.3.3. Need to address Charter Accreditation and Charter Contract
  - 4.3.3.1. Recommend Task Force
    - 4.3.3.1.1. Meet with Andy Franko in May
    - 4.3.3.1.2. Leigh motion to establish a Charter Accreditation and Charter Contract Task Force
    - 4.3.3.1.3. Kevin seconded
    - 4.3.3.1.4. All in favor, motion carries
      - 4.3.3.1.4.1. Kim will lead the Task Force

**2. Governance: Expectations and Policies**

- 2.1. Board training: The Board's Role in Providing Academic Oversight
  - 2.1.1. Jennifer Douglas
    - 2.1.1.1. Ensure legal and ethical integrity and maintain accountability
    - 2.1.1.2. Determine, monitor, strengthen the school's programs and services
- 2.2. ACCEL Evaluation Process
  - 2.2.1. Three main levels
    - 2.2.1.1. Goals
    - 2.2.1.2. Parts of contract
    - 2.2.1.3. RVP performance
  - 2.2.2. Summary synthesis
  - 2.2.3. ACCEL feedback to the BOD

**Work Session 12-28-22 1800 to discuss Budget, Website posting logistics and Sunshine list, Who is Banning? Reference assignment concern**

**Next Meeting 1-17-23 1800**

**Meeting adjourn 2002**

DATE: December 13, 2022

//Signed//

---

Kimberly Whitten-Chung, Secretary