



# Banning Lewis Academy

## Board Meeting

Date and Time: July 25th, 2023 - 6:00pm - 9:00pm

Location: 7094 Cottonwood Tree Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80927

Phone: 719.570.0075; Fax: 719.522.2900; Email: [BoardBLRA@blracademy.org](mailto:BoardBLRA@blracademy.org)

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

### Agenda

#### 1. Opening Items:

	Purpose (vote discuss, FYI)	Presenter	Time (start): 6:00 pm
Pledge of Allegiance 1803 Reading of Mission Statement 1803 Roll Call- All Present	FYI	Leigh Bolton	6:00
Call the Meeting to Order 1804	FYI	Leigh Bolton	6:05
Approve Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o May, 2023<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Guin Motion</li><li>• Kim Second</li><li>• Motion carries</li></ul></li></ul>	Vote	Leigh Bolton	6:08
Amendments to Agenda- none	Discuss/Vote	Leigh Bolton	6:10
Good News- Guin: graduation was exciting and well done. Very professional. Good staff turn out and nice to see former staff return. Leigh- Back to school bash was very well done. Kim- Thank you to Devin for all of her hard work to make sure the Bash was successful. Chris- Staff retention year-to-year is amazing	FYI	Board	6:12
Public Comment- none	FYI	Public	6:15

Board Election and Appointment Committee - Welcome new members Welcome Tiffany and welcome back Guin and Kim. We have a full Board!		Chris Thompson	6:25
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Executive Session §24-6-402(4)(e), C.R.S., Determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiators for financials.

Kim motions to enter Executive Session §24-6-402(4)(e), C.R.S., Determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiators for financials.

Leigh second

Roll call vote

Leigh- yes

Kevin- yes

Roland- yes

Guin- yes

Chris- yes

Kim- yes

Tiffany- yes

1918 Return from Executive Session all present

**2. Finance Review:**

		Presenter	Time:
Review financials			

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Financial Package review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patti will send the June financials tomorrow. All the information has been sent to the auditors</li> <li>• Patti has no suggested edits at this time</li> <li>• Did well this year and within budget</li> <li>• Surplus is better than projected. Amended budget approved in December had ~600K but actual is ~800K</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Bank Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leanne and Amanda went to State Bank and wire transferred ~6 million and left ~1.5 million in State Bank to cover bills and payroll</li> <li>• Signers need to visit Wells Fargo with two forms of ID</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Investment structure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently 6mil in WF</li> <li>• Within first month, goal is to build up as much of the CD portfolio as possible <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Place 4 mil in CDs</li> <li>• Keep 2 mil in Treasury Money Market Fund</li> <li>• This does not account for the stadium funds that need to pay out</li> </ul> </li> <li>• WF will shop the best interest rates in the CDs</li> <li>• Finance Committee will monitor and there will be a new line in the monthly report</li> <li>• Kim motion- 6 million in WF will place 4mil in laddering CD and 2 mil liquid in TMMF</li> <li>• Leigh second</li> <li>• Roll call <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leigh- yes</li> <li>• Kevin- yes</li> <li>• Roland- yes</li> <li>• Guin- yes</li> <li>• Chris- yes</li> <li>• Kim- yes</li> <li>• Tiffany- yes</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Motion carries</li> <li>• When first CDs mature the Finance Committee report back to the Board and a decision will be made moving forward <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leigh motion</li> <li>• Kevin second</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	FYI FYI Vote Vote	Kevin and Roland	6:40
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- All in favor
- Motion carries
- Board will weigh in on the advice from the Wealth Management Team
- Employee admin fee
  - Left at last meeting with an approved budget because as a Board we cannot pay for something that we do not know
  - Waiting for feedback from ACCEL with a definition regarding what the fee is paying for
  - RFP for Employee Administrative Processes provided by Leanne
    - Greenhouse and Crosscheck allows staff to sign in and see applicants- per fee cost
    - PowerSchool has a per student cost
    - ACCEL has stated there is overlap between the Administrative Fee and the Management Fee.
    - Indirect cost is the management fee. Direct cost is the administration fee.
  - The administration fee was discussed during the most recent Finance Committee meeting. ACCEL stated we could pay \$15000/month until an agreement is achieved. ACCEL charges \$42.50/paycheck per employee
  - No known negotiation or discussion with any Banning Boards regarding the Administrative Fee
  - The Banning Board DOES NOT approve ACCEL to move forward with any *illegal* actions
  - The Banning Board recognizes that refusal to pay teachers is illegal and will report this action to the State of Colorado
  - ACCEL is unable to answer the Board question regarding specific cost breakdown because they serve the entire Panasophic family
  - Chief Finance from ACCEL
    - Our services are bundled and volume discounted.
  - Roland- can the fee be baselined to ensure our teachers and staff are covered?
    - Guin- troubled that we do not have specific documentation regarding what we are paying
    - Want to ensure that our staff

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>are getting paid</li> <li>• How are other Charter Schools paying?</li> <li>• Chris- don't like being strong-armed and pushed into a corner</li> <li>• Don't like that our teachers are being threatened</li> <li>• Roland- recommend \$15000 at this time and assess on a month-to-month basis</li> <li>• Roland motion to pay no more than \$15000 to the Employee Administrative Fee on a month-to-month basis at evaluated at the monthly Board meetings until we can get feedback on the RFP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chris second</li> <li>• Roll call <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leigh- yes</li> <li>• Kevin- yes</li> <li>• Roland- yes</li> <li>• Guin- yes</li> <li>• Chris- yes</li> <li>• Kim- yes</li> <li>• Tiffany- yes</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>			
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### 3. School Updates:

	Purpose (vote, discuss, FYI)	Presenter	Time:
Principal Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Summer Bash <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Led by Mr. Dahlman</li> <li>• Went off exceptionally well</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Enrollment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1603 students</li> <li>• Saw a bump in enrollment of the weekend</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Staffing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 95% staffing retention from the previous school year</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	FYI	Principals	7:15
Board Spotlight - Update on Goals 2023-2024 Instructional Model Handout 22-23 K-12 Data Unified Improvement Plan (UIP) included: Short cycle assessments in Math and ELA, differentiated professional developments in Math and ELA, PLC in Math and ELA, PDSA in READ Act → all goals accomplished Will continue to move forward in the same direction to meet the goals	FYI	Mrs. Brauner	7:15

<p>Special Education Roll-out Update</p> <p>Ready to launch this fall semester</p> <p>Increasing enrollment requirements are the Ranch.</p> <p>Will be posting another SPED para position</p>	FYI	Leanne Weyman	7:25
<p>Name Change Decision</p> <p>Currently in many legal documents and in DOE the name is Banning Lewis Ranch Academy</p> <p>Should the name change to Banning Lewis Academy? This will not change the perception from the State. We will continue to have one school code, but the name change will more accurately represent the community.</p> <p>Are there any different accounting numbers that need to be considered? There are internal State accounting codes for the Ranch and the Prep that currently fall under BLRA. Those codes would still live under BLA. Mostly test data would be affected.</p> <p>Chris motion to change the name from Banning Lewis Ranch Academy to Banning Lewis Academy</p> <p>Roland second</p> <p>All in favor</p> <p>Motion carries</p>	Vote	Leanne Weyman	7:30
<p>Update on Field Process</p> <p>Chuck sent out updates regarding approval from State</p> <p>Waiting on permit approval from Colorado Springs</p> <p>Anticipate being off the field for the first two games. First game is 8/24. Waiting on approval from D49.</p> <p>Press box installed in December</p> <p>The 'plaza' will be installed after the turf.</p> <p>Timeline TBD</p>	FYI	Chuck Shaw/Ashleigh Davis-Lee	7:35
<p>Athletic fee increase</p> <p>All fees are increasing by \$5</p> <p>Reduced lunch is increasing by 60%</p> <p>Free lunch is a flat fee of \$30</p> <p>Even though all lunch is free this year it is still important for families to apply for free and reduced lunch</p> <p>Leigh motion to accept athletic fee increase</p> <p>Kevin second</p>	Vote	Mrs. Davis-Lee	7:45

All in favor Motion carries			
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#### 4. Committee:

	Purpose (vote, discuss, FYI)	Presenter	Time:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PTO Update</li> <li>• SAC Update (Culture Survey Highlights)</li> <li>• Athletic Boosters Club Update</li> </ul>	FYI FYI FYI		8:00
Charter Update Committee Meeting 7/31 Mission Statement Change?	Update	Kim Whitten-Chung	8:15

#### Communication/other:

	Purpose (vote, discuss, FYI)	Presenter	Time:
Oath for all board members Charter Finance Act requests that all Board Members swear in an oath of office	Signing	Board	8:20
Board communication to stakeholders Template created Will coordinate on highlights and get sent out	FYI	Leigh Bolton	8:40
Foundation Donation Update - Workgroup assignment Need a committee/work group to get suggestions to Oakwood in August- led by Tiffany Coordinate with Ranch and Prep Request a proposal to positively influence the most number of children possible Leigh motion to make Tiffany Foundation Donation lead Kevin second All in favor Motion carries	Vote	Leigh Bolton	8:45

#### Closing Items:

	Purpose (vote, discuss, FYI)	Presenter	Time:

<p>Determine Board meeting dates for 23-24</p> <p>August 15<sup>th</sup></p> <p>September 19<sup>th</sup></p> <p>October 17<sup>th</sup></p> <p>November falls during Thanksgiving Break- move to 11/14</p> <p>December falls during Winter Break- move to 12/12</p> <p>January 16<sup>th</sup></p> <p>February 20<sup>th</sup></p> <p>March 19<sup>th</sup></p> <p>April 16<sup>th</sup></p> <p>May falls after school- move to 5/7</p> <p>June work session 6/18</p> <p>July 16<sup>th</sup></p>	FYI	Leigh Bolton	8:50
Adjourn Meeting 2158	FYI	Leigh Bolton	8:55