



Banning Lewis Academy

Board Meeting

Date and Time: January 16th, 2024 - 5:30pm - 8:00pm

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

Phone: 719.570.0075; Fax: 719.522.2900; Email: 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):
Pledge of Allegiance Reading of Mission Statement Roll Call Leigh Bolton Kevin Clark Roland Rainey Guin Leeder Tiffany Blagmon	FYI	Leigh Bolton	5:30pm
Call the Meeting to Order	FYI	Leigh Bolton	5:36pm
Approve Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none">o December, 2023o Guin sent edits to Kim. Edits were made and re-sent.o Leigh motioned to approve minutes. Guin seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.	Vote	Leigh Bolton	5:36
Amendments to Agenda None	Discuss/Vote	Leigh Bolton	5:36

Executive Session: C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(e), developing strategy for negotiations, instructing negotiators, and determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, specifically: the management contract

Leigh motioned to enter into Executive Session at 5:37pm. Kevin seconded. Roll call vote.

- Leigh Bolton - Yes
 - Kevin Clark - Yes
 - Roland Rainey - Yes
 - Guin Leeder - Yes
 - Tiffany Blagmon – Yes
- Motion carries.

Leigh motioned to re-enter back into regular session at 6:44pm. Kevin seconded. Roll call.

- Leigh Bolton - Yes
 - Kevin Clark - Yes
 - Roland Rainey - Yes
 - Guin Leeder - Yes
 - Tiffany Blagmon – Yes
- Motion carries.

Kim Whitten-Chung is joining the meeting via phone.

Good News	FYI	Board	6:46
Public Comment Scott Lewis, who works at the school, but spoke as a community member. School asks for a lot in terms of donations. There are a lot of donations requested throughout the year. Can we streamline the fundraising and/or messaging. Could result in parents being more apt to give to the school.	FYI	Public	6:47
Board Spotlight: Middle of Year (MOY) testing Data presentation	FYI	R. Dahlman & Administrative Team	6:49

2. Finance Review:

		Presenter	Time:
Review financials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Financial Package review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Presented by XP from ACCEL ■ New funding source, D49 allocating additional SPED funding of \$186k to BLA. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● First payment will arrive Jan/Feb. ● Monthly payments for remainder of year. ■ Kevin asked XP and Leanne for a recommendation on how much that we should spend on capital projects. A request is out to facilities for a 5-year facilities plan. Then we can determine how much will be needed for capital projects. Ultimately, we want to spend 	FYI Discuss/Vote Discuss	ACCEL Finance and Board Finance Committee	7:27

the money that we have on students and staff.

- Guin asked if we could get a unified list of all asks / needs that we can spend capital funds on. Possibly a committee? Possibly SAC? Start simple with a spreadsheet and have a tab for each section. Dr. Weyman to take next steps.
- Employee Administration Fee (EAF)
 - Will separate out amounts for EAF. Apparently, the EAF has been included, although not explicit, in previous invoices and as a result, those invoices have not been paid. Moving forward, the EAF will be a separate line item so that the rest of the invoice can be paid. The outstanding invoices for medical and 401k benefits (minus the EAF) will be paid to ACCEL which will balance out our budget.
- Review of Finance Committee meeting
 - Wells Fargo Account
 - Commission vs. Fee-Based accounts
 - Katie Euler raised a concern that we are currently on an advisory account. This is not an appropriate account type for BLA. We also asked to have the transaction fee negotiated, as it is currently high for a low maintenance account. An alternative option would be to put the money into a high yield savings

account. Wells Fargo only offers fee-based advisors. Leigh suggested asking a local Wells Fargo advisor if this is true or not. Roland to take this as an action item.

- Chris Thompson asked for an agenda item to be added to February to discuss remaining cash at State Bank.
- Kevin makes a motion to move to authorize President Bolton to work with BLA's legal counsel to draft and send a letter to ACCEL addressing the issues covered in the letter from BLA's legal counsel to the Board addressing BLA's prior concerns that ACCEL did not address to BLA's satisfaction in ACCEL's January 9, 2024, letter and the additional concerns raised by the information provided in ACCEL's letter. Chris seconds the motion. Motion carries. Roll call vote.
 - Leigh Bolton - Yes
 - Kevin Clark - Yes
 - Roland Rainey

- Yes
- Guin Leeder - Yes
- Tiffany Blagmon – Yes
- Kimberly Whitten-Chung – Yes
- Kevin makes a motion to move not to authorize payment of the Administrative Fee and to not take up consideration of the matter again at a BLA Board meeting unless ACCEL provides a written response addressing all of BLA's concerns at least one week before the BLA finance committee meeting that is approximately one week before the BLA Board meeting at which the Board could next consider the Administrative Fee. Kim seconds. Motion carries. Roll call vote.
 - Leigh Bolton - Yes

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Kevin Clark - Yes ■ Roland Rainey - Yes ■ Guin Leeder - Yes ■ Tiffany Blagmon – Yes ■ Kimberly Whitten - Chung - Yes ■ Motion carries. 			
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3. School Updates:

	Purpose (vote, discuss, FYI)	Presenter	Time:
Principal Reports	FYI	Principals	8:30
Special Education Roll-out Update Dr. Weyman suggested that we reduce enrollment availability by 15 students next year, as the campus has reached its limits to support students and their needs.	FYI	Dr. Leanne Weyman	8:31
Give! update	FYI	R. Dahlman	8:42

4. Committee:

	Purpose (vote, discuss, FYI)	Presenter	Time:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PTO Update ● SAC Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Presented by Matt Harding ○ Next SAC update is Feb 12th. ○ SAC would be happy to take on consolidation of capital project requests. ● Athletic Boosters Club Update 	FYI FYI FYI	Representatives	8:54

<p>Foundation Donation Update</p> <p>Check will arrive tomorrow (Jan 17th) for about \$1.25M. A couple of requests were made by Oakwood to list of projects / line items to spend the money on. Will move some of the money into professional development. Oakwood did ask for a celebration on Mar 1st at 2:30pm.</p>	FYI	Dr. Leanne Weyman	8:55
Board Appointment Committee development	Vote	Leigh Bolton	9:01
Guin and Tiffany, plus a SAC representative will lead the appointment process.			

5. Communication/other:

	Purpose (vote, discuss, FYI)	Presenter	Time:
<p>Board communication to stakeholders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Determine topics 1) Appointment of seat coming up 2) Oakwood Foundation donation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Share list of items 3) Field update 	FYI	Chris Thompson	9:05

Closing Items:

	Purpose (vote, discuss, FYI)	Presenter	Time:
<p>Next Board Meeting Feb 20th</p> <p>Graduation is May 19th at 1pm on the Prep Field</p> <p>Work Session with Principals: Jan 29th at 5:30pm</p> <p>Work Session for Spending: Feb 7th at 5:30pm</p>	FYI	Leigh Bolton	9:09
Adjourn Meeting	FYI	Leigh Bolton	9:15