



Banning Lewis Academy

Board Meeting

Date and Time: February 20th, 2024 - 6:00pm - 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Leigh BoltonKevin ClarkRoland RaineyChris ThompsonTiffany BlagmonGuin LeederDr. Whitten-Chung	FYI	Leigh Bolton	6:00
Call the Meeting to Order	FYI	Leigh Bolton	6:05
Approve Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none">January, 2023Guin motioned to approve the minutes. Chris seconded. Motion carries.	Vote	Leigh Bolton	6:07
Amendments to Agenda None	Discuss/Vote	Leigh Bolton	6:07

Good News	FYI	Board	6:07
Public Comment None	FYI	Public	6:10
Board Spotlight: BLA Communications and	FYI	Cynthia Harding	6:10

Marketing presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current Brand Guide Provided to the Board, along with a presentation on the use of the Banning Brand. 			
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2. Finance Review:

		Presenter	Time:
Bank Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roland asked the Board if we should make a decision to move the remaining balance to Wells Fargo from State Bank. Risks would be mitigated through a timely transfer. We would need to find out if there are any fees involved with separating from State Bank. We currently have \$4.9M at State Bank. Chris raised the question that we need to ensure that the issues of fraud are not internal so that we can be accountable and hold our bank accountable. Roland also raised this concern and asked the question of whether or not the fraudulent checks were from an internal source at Accel or Banning. Not accusing anyone, rather, we, as Banning Lewis Academy are putting in adequate financial controls. Action Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verify transfer / cancellation fee(s) Verify transition timeline Ensure checks have all cleared from State Bank E-Rate funding Review financials <ul style="list-style-type: none"> January Financial Results <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Donation from Oakwood arrived, which increased our balance. Would have had a surplus even without gift of \$0.8M For capital improvements, we can spend down \$10.25M. Down to \$700k. Does not recommend spending everything. The message is that we have financial flexibility for capital expenses. Dr. Weyman and XP suggested that we maintain 60-90 days of funds in reserve. Would amount to about \$4.5M. This is in addition to the \$2.1M for bond holders. We do not currently have any 	Vote Discuss/Vote Discuss FYI Vote FYI Vote	Roland Rainey Roland Rainey Roland Rainey Roland Rainey Dr. Weyman	6:28

significant planned expenses for the remainder of this year.

- Reviewed the Budget Calendar
- Reviewed the Capital Construction Funds
 - Bond agreement requires that these funds be used for debt services.

Proposed Budget

- Roland made a motion to earmark \$3M for Instructional, Facilities, and Sports projects for the calendar years 2024 – 2026. The ceilings, student restrooms, the playground , as well as the bleachers, safety and security and expansion assessment are approved for spending immediately. Any requests outside of the aforementioned items will need to be brought to the Board for approval. The Admin will determine priority and report spending back to the Board at future Board meetings. Kim seconded.
- Roll call vote
 - Leigh Bolton – Yes
 - Kevin Clark – Yes
 - Roland Rainey – Yes
 - Chris Thompson – Yes
 - Tiffany Blagmon – Yes
 - Guin Leeder – Yes
 - Dr. Kim Whitten-Chung – Yes
- The motion carries.

Update on finance work session - discussion of priorities.

Field fees

E-Rate funding

- Option 1 is to file with D49 at a 50% discount. That money has already been spent for the next 2 years, so Banning would not get anything.
- Option 2 would be to file independently at a reduced rate of 40%. This would allow Banning to receive at least some money sooner.
- The decision needs to be made now because the window is open now.
- Guin motioned to allow Accel to file e-rate independently of D-49 and notify D-49 of our intent. Kim seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.

3. School Updates:

	Purpose (vote, discuss, FYI)	Presenter	Time:
Principal Reports	FYI	Principals	8:35
Special Education Roll-out Update	FYI	Dr. Weyman	8:40

4. Committee:

	Purpose (vote, discuss, FYI)	Presenter	Time:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PTO Update ● SAC Update ● Athletic Boosters Club Update 	FYI FYI FYI	Representatives	8:47
Foundation Donation Update	FYI	Dr. Weyman	8:49
Board Appointment Committee Update - Leigh motioned to approve Appointment Committee timeline. Kevin seconded. Motion carries.	Vote	Leigh Bolton	8:51
Strategic Plan adoption Chris motioned to accept the Strategic Plan. Guin seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.	Vote	Dr. Weyman	9:18
<p>Policy and Governance Committee update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Met on 2/1 ● Discussed the Communications Policy Revision. Will send out a draft of the Communications Policy to the Stakeholders. ● Discussed the Election and Appointment Policy. No changes. ● Discussed Facility Fees. This is an Accel function. ● Discussed need for Finance and Budget Policy. Guin is writing a draft. Will reach out to the Finance Committee for input. ● Discussed Curriculum Policy regarding how we select curriculum at Banning. ● Discussed letters to parents. Admin has looked at letters to parents to be more specific and enable more transparency. 	Vote/FYI	Guin Leeder	9:19
Appointment committee - Draft Timeline Covered under the Board Appointment Committee Update	Vote	Guin Leeder/Tiffany Blagman	--

5. Communication/other:

	Purpose (vote, discuss, FYI)	Presenter	Time:
Board communication to stakeholders <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Comms Policy- Appointment Process- \$3M Earmark for Improving School. Include items listed in motion.- Funds received from Oakwood Foundation! List items that we will do with this money.	FYI FYI	Chris Thompson Dr. Weyman	9:24
March 1st foundation celebration			

Closing Items:

	Purpose (vote, discuss, FYI)	Presenter	Time:
Next Board Meeting March 19th	FYI	Leigh Bolton	9:29
Adjourn Meeting	FYI	Leigh Bolton	9:30