



Banning Lewis Academy

Board Meeting

Date and Time: March 18th, 2025 at 6:00pm - 8:45pm

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

Phone: 719.570.0075; **Fax:** 719.522.2900; **Email:** BoardBLRA@blracademy.org

Vision: Every student. Every day.

Mission: Create a safe environment where students thrive academically and develop the skills, character, and mindset to engage the world.

Agenda

1. Opening Items:

	Purpose (vote discuss, FYI)	Presenter	Time (start):
Pledge of Allegiance Reading of Mission Statement Roll Call Chris Thompson Tiffany Blagmon Leigh Bolton Guin Leeder Kevin Clark Kimberly Whitten-Chung	FYI	Chris Thompson	1800
Call the Meeting to Order	FYI	Chris Thompson	1801
Approve Minutes Chris motion Guin second All in favor, motion carries	Vote	Chris Thompson	1802
Amendments to Agenda Add Executive Session Add Academic Decathalon Add vote for Federal Funding Changes Chris motion Kevin second All in favor, motion carries	Discuss/Vote	Chris Thompson	1804
Good News Gifted/Talented Night- great to see the kids	FYI	Board	1807

<p>passionate about their topics Wish week just completed at Prep Recognizing the Student Council at principal interviews. Represented BLA well. Boys Basketball and Girls Basketball did well during playoffs. Academic Decathalon scored highly</p>			
<p>Public Comment No public comment</p>	FYI	Public	1808
<p>Academic Decathalon Fifth at Regional Meet, which allowed BLA to attend State. This is the first BLA year competing. National Meet in Iowa 5/1-5/3. Full day of rigorous academic competition. Funding request \$9312 Tiffany motion to fund up to \$9500 Kim second Roll call vote: Leigh Bolton- abstain Chris Thompson- yes Tiffany Blagmon- yes Guin Leeder- yes Kevin Clark- yes Kimberly Whitten-Chung- yes</p> <p>Guin recommends next fiscal year the funds are built into the budget</p>	Discuss/Vote	Joachim Bendixen	1809
<p>Federal Funding Changes Concurrent Enrollment and ASCENT (5th year CE program that allows students to participate in college courses). Recent communication from CO will change the ASCENT model for the graduating seniors. Request: Consider allocation of funds for ASCENT students for 25/26 school year and TREP students Cost: ~\$30,000 Additional resources have been provided to the students as well.</p> <p>Guin motion Make available contingency funds for five ASCENT and two TREP with requirement to complete scholarship application for school year 25/26 Chris second. Roll call: Chris Thompson- yes Tiffany Blagmon- yes Leigh Bolton- yes Guin Leeder- yes Kevin Clark- yes Kimberly Whitten-Chung- yes Motion carries</p>	FYI/Vote	Erin Altman	1821

2. Finance Review:

		Presenter	Time:
<p>Financial Updates</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Review Financial Package Entered operating surplus and will remain for the rest of the fiscal year. Cash 12.1mil MLO payment received beginning of March. Cash on hand 5.5 months of expenses. Remaining MLO payment will likely occur in May. No significant month over month. Will move enrollment target to 1640. Reduce one class at the Ranch. PPR numbers 2.3% increase, not known for D49 specifically at this time. Finance Committee Meeting Update Requested the information for the new wing at BLA. 	FYI	Finance Committee/ ACCEL	1843

3. School Updates:

	Purpose (vote, discuss, FYI)	Presenter	Time:
<p>Principal Reports</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Course Catalog Draft of Prep Student Handbook submitted to the Board. Questions can be sent to the Administration. Request vote on Handbook in April. Ranch Handbook will also be updated and submitted to the Board for review. 	FYI/Vote	Principals	1905
<p>Head of School Report</p> <p>Six grade levels waitlisted for 25/26 school year</p> <p>Transition of BLA Principal Process went well and prepared with a recommendation to hire. Will be instrumental in making decisions in new/modified positions at Prep.</p> <p>Director of Academics Cassie Brauner has been an asset to BLA and will be missed. Considering realignment of the position. Seeing high need of student support at the Ranch (Dean of Students). Also lacking a manager of student support services at Prep.</p> <p>D49 iConnect Zone is being absorbed and going to geographical zones. Van transportation update- prepared for use. PowerSchool update- many topics resolved. A</p>	FYI	Administration	1910

<p>few outstanding topics that will be addressed after Spring Break. HR update- offer letters are being crafted. Will be ready for distribution by the end of Spring Break. Some known vacancies. HR on-site JD- posting should be going up soon Management agreement questions- upcoming meeting attendance from Accel: Maria, Natalie. Need fundamental alignment to move forward. Request a meeting 3/31 during the day. Board Training- April 28th Trello Board Completion: Transportation Plan for vans, Establish Fund 43</p>			
<p>Banning Lewis Prep Facility Expansion Update Mock-up provided allows for additional usable space directly off the cafeteria. Next step: Funding exploration Consider conducting surveys</p>	FYI	Principals	1935
<p>School Management Committee Upcoming meeting with Accel Is Accel fundamentally ok with a school like Banning? Need to send out RFIs</p>	Discuss	Chris Thompson	1945

4. Committee:

	Purpose (vote, discuss, FYI)	Presenter	Time:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PTO Update ● SAC Update ● Athletic Boosters Club Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Applications due 5/5 vote on 5/12 ○ Need running water in Snack Shack 	<p>FYI FYI FYI</p>	Presented in Board Reports	1947

5. Communication/Other:

	Purpose (vote, discuss, FYI)	Presenter	Time:
<p>Board Member Election Process Application is posted and due April 7th. Interviews April 21st. Election May 1st and 2nd. Votes will be counted during the May Board meeting.</p>	Discuss	Chris Thompson	1952
<p>Executive Session §24-6-402(4)(f), C.R.S., Personnel matters, identifying the person or position to be discussed. Prep Principal. Kim motion Chris second All in favor.</p>	Discuss	Board	1959

<p>Motion carries.</p> <p>Return from Executive Session 2022 Chris motion to return to regular session Guin second All in favor Motion carries</p> <p>Board accepts the candidate recommendation for Prep Principal</p>			
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Closing Items:

	Purpose (vote, discuss, FYI)	Presenter	Time:
<p>Board Communication</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Election Communication 2. Academic Decathalon 3. FBLA April 21st through 23rd 	FYI	Board	2023
<p>Board Work Session April 7th, 2025 @ 1730</p> <p>Next Board Meeting April 16th, 2025 @ 1800</p>	FYI	Chris Thompson	2026
Adjourn Meeting	FYI	Chris Thompson	2029