



Colorado Springs Charter Academy

Board Meeting Minutes | February 24, 2022

Vision: We kindle enthusiasm to craft bold and effective citizen-scholars

Mission: Colorado Springs Charter Academy is love for community expressed in action. We are entrusted with dear purchase, to bind our students' days of innocence and joy with structure, content and character. To accomplish this, we cultivate the individual potential of all our students by: providing academically rigorous, proven, content-rich educational programs; developing incisive analytical skills and well-stocked minds; fostering self-advocacy, passion, citizenship, and exemplary character; holding individualized high expectations; involving and welcoming parents and community members.

EPIC - Excellence/Positivity/Integrity with Respect/Citizenship

Preliminaries

Call to order at 6:32pm

Board Members Present – Breck Merkle, Najah Lamborn, McCrea Andersen, Summer Groubert

Guests Present – Amber Davis, Zoe Ann Holmes, Tess Simons, Julie Dalton, Shannon Larson, Mike McCaffrey, Kristie Kehm, Hannah Linhart, Noah Kaplan, Rachel Woods, Andi Stemper, Tom Pesavento, Bobby Adams, Anna Mitchell, Katie Pratt

Reading of School Vision & Mission – McCrea Andersen

Public Comments (2 minutes for each person) – intro from Noah Kaplan from Charter School Institute

Review and approval of minutes 11.18.21, 01.20.22., 02.03.22 – motion to approve all minutes, motion passed, minutes approved

Reports

❖ Interim Head of School: Zoe Ann Holmes

- **Enrollment** – current 394, 1st grade will over 50 students if current numbers hold
- **Marketing & media** strategies being reviewed and updated as needed
- Kindergarten is being screened for reading skills to be applied in upcoming year
- **Safety & Security** – all school fire drill scheduled and ERT has met to discuss situational awareness at school events, three new security cameras have been purchased and will be installed, safety and security walk scheduled with a third-party, additional security measures will be in place during the Winter Dance this Friday night, discussion of additional potential security measures
- **Staffing** – Mrs. Garzaniti (music) has accepted a job to teach music in Japan, Amber Perry-Pardo has accepted a position in Special Education that will be funded by a special grant, Jamie Wright (MS writing) has resigned, there is currently a long-term substitute in place, working to permanently fill the music and MS writing teacher positions
- **Student performances/activities:** On March 11th we are hoping to have our first all school assembly since the pandemic started, Girls' basketball finished in the top 5 in our division, best we have ever finished. Girls' soccer will start soon and is in need of a coach. Kindergarten and 2nd grade performed for the school and parents. Student Government is planning the "Winter Dance" which will be held on February 25th in the cafeteria. Book Fair is being planned for March 14th – March 17th. Art projects

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will continue to be displayed at the Starbucks at Flintridge & Academy. Mrs. Ross had students participate in the Glen Eagle Sertoma Club essay contest and three won awards for “What Freedom Means to Me”.

- **DriveLine** – streamlined the morning process and looking for feedback
- **Curriculum** – committee is meeting to identify CDE requirements and what changes are needed to meet these requirements
- Volunteers needed in classes, at events, PTO and in DriveLine
- ❖ PTO Report: Amber Davis
 - Candy Grams brought in almost \$500
 - Dinner at Perry’s Pizza we earned about \$200
 - PTO gift for this year is in discussion
 - No Uniform Exchange in March
 - Dinner night at Chuck E Cheese – March 15th
 - Bake Off will be March 12th (in person)
 - February Staff Luncheon went really well!
 - Arch Staff Luncheon will be on March 4th
- ❖ Teacher Report: Tess Symons
 - Thank you for the additional Teacher Work Days
 - Staffing and subs has seen improvement
 - Thank you to Mr. Bishop from the team
 - K-5 has met about how to improve reading lessons, workflows and processes.
 - Reading curriculum team – currently researching curriculum options to use in the upcoming year. Hope to make a decision by end of March to avoid any potential supply chain delays.
- ❖ Financial Report: Summer Groubert – no report given

Board Topics

- ❖ Amended Budget update for Spring 2022 discussion and financial oversight vote to move forward with G&G consulting for CSI reporting and internal financial accountability
 - Breck and Summer will work together to arrive at a proposal that will be shared with the board for discussion and vote at a later date
- ❖ Legal fees from December and January discussed and voted on to pay – motion made to approve payment of the fees although an overage of the budgeted amount. Motion approved, motion passed
- ❖ Screening Team Committee Update: Najah Lamborn
 - Started with 39 applicants and have narrowed down to five applicants for interview
 - Next step is to schedule interviews – looking at March 4th or March 11th
- ❖ Uniform policy Update: Amber Davis
 - Discussion to amend policy to provide more clear direction regarding the policy for both students and staff
- ❖ Library update and position report/discussion: Shannon Larson
 - Mrs. Larson shared with us what she oversees, coordinates and manages for the school
 - Suggestion made to have a library software program relicensed and upgraded

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- ❖ Facility update and capital improvements discussion with vote if needed
 - Painting at the elementary school has been completed
 - Waiting on bids for power and data for new cameras, middle school drainage and foundation projects, upgrade the exterior lighting at the gym, add parking lot lighting
 - Working on rental house improvements
 - Discussion of how improve overall fire life safety
 - Discussion of A/C project
- ❖ Key Points
 - Need to fill music teacher, MS writing teacher and soccer coach positions
 - Book Fair will be March 14th – 17th
 - First in-person full school assembly will be in March
 - Head of School applicants have been narrowed down to 5. Interviews will be scheduled in the near future with these five candidates.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm

Meeting Close

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