

APPROVED

# Desert Sands Charter High School

## Minutes

Special Board Meeting Operated by Desert Sands Public Charter, Inc.

A California Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation

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### Date and Time

Thursday April 15, 2021 at 4:30 PM

### Location

Conference Line: (661) 249-6805 Code:525676

### MEETING LOGISTICS

On March 17, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20 related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Executive Order allows state bodies covered by the Brown Act to hold public meetings via teleconferencing. The public is encouraged to participate in the meeting telephonically by dialing the conference line listed above and may submit written comments for prior consideration to the board members. Comments can be submitted to [vmendoza@dschs.org](mailto:vmendoza@dschs.org). Public comment on the day of the meeting can also be given during the "Public Comment" section of the meeting agenda.

### REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION WILL BE PROVIDED FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY

Please see the "Accommodations" notice below.

### REMINDER

As required by state law (SB 126), this meeting will be audio recorded and posted on the charter school's website.

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### Directors Present

Dana Clark (remote), James Lott (remote), Marvin D. Smith (remote), Michael R Adams (remote), Ruth Escarcega Newell (remote)

### Directors Absent

None

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## I. Opening Items

### A. Call the Meeting to Order

Board President Adams read aloud the notices regarding meeting logistics, accommodations and audio recording.

Michael R Adams called a meeting of the board of directors of Desert Sands Charter High School to order on Thursday Apr 15, 2021 at 4:30 PM.

**B. Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum**

**C. Pledge of Allegiance**

Board Member Smith led the pledge of allegiance.

**D. Staff Introductions**

Jeff Brown, CEO  
Taera Childers, Area Superintendent  
Jeff Martineau, V.P. of Charter Relations  
Bill Thompson, Legal Counsel  
Michelle Lopez, Legal Counsel, LLAC

**E. Approve Agenda for the April 15, 2021, Special Public Meeting of the Board of Directors**

Ruth Escarcega Newell made a motion to approve the agenda for the April 15, 2021, Special Public Meeting of the Board of Directors.

James Lott seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

James Lott	Aye
Michael R Adams	Aye
Ruth Escarcega Newell	Aye
Marvin D. Smith	Aye
Dana Clark	Aye

**II. Public Comment**

**A. Public Comment**

Board President Adams read the following announcement for members of the public:

At this time, members of the public may address the Board on any item within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board, whether or not the item is on the agenda. If you would like to participate in public comment, you must have signed in before the commencement of the meeting. Also, our teleconference line is open to members of the public who wish to participate in public comment. The time allotted per presentation will not exceed three (3) minutes, except in the case where a member of the public utilizes a translator, in which case the time allotted will not exceed six (6) minutes. The total time allotted for public comments will not exceed eighteen (18) minutes per agenda item, or ten (10) minutes for non-agenda items. In accordance with the Brown Act, no action may occur at this time but it is the Board's prerogative to hold a brief discussion, provide information to the public, provide direction to staff, or schedule the matter for a future meeting.

Board President Adams asked if there were any members of the public who wished to offer public comment. There were no members of the public who offered public comment or submitted written comment.

**III. Closed Session**

**A. Adjourn open public Board meeting to go into closed session.**

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—ANTICIPATED LITIGATION (Gov. Code section 54956.9(d)(4).): (1 matter).

Marvin D. Smith made a motion to adjourn the open public Board meeting to go into closed session.

Dana Clark seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

Ruth Escarcega Newell	Aye
Michael R Adams	Aye
Dana Clark	Aye
Marvin D. Smith	Aye
James Lott	Aye

**B. Adjourn closed session and reconvene to open public Board meeting.**

James Lott made a motion to adjourn closed session and reconvene to open public Board meeting.

Ruth Escarcega Newell seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

Dana Clark	Aye
Ruth Escarcega Newell	Aye
Marvin D. Smith	Aye
James Lott	Aye
Michael R Adams	Aye

**C. Report of actions taken or any recommendations made in closed session, if any.**

Board President Adams reported that by unanimous vote of the board the school will opt out of the class action lawsuit *Reyes v. State of California*, Case Number 34-2020-80003489.

**IV. Additional Corporate Officers and Board Members' Observations and Comments.**

**A. Observations and Comments**

Mr. Brown expressed his appreciation to the board.

**V. Closing Items**

**A. Adjourn Meeting**

Ruth Escarcega Newell made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

James Lott seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

Ruth Escarcega Newell	Aye
Marvin D. Smith	Aye
Michael R Adams	Aye
James Lott	Aye
Dana Clark	Aye

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 4:49 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Ruth Escarcega Newell

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**Accommodations.** Requests for disability-related modifications or accommodations, or translation services, in order to enable all individuals to participate in the Charter School's open and public meetings shall be made by contacting Soliman Villapando at (661) 272-1225 at least twenty four (24) hours before the scheduled meeting.

**Non-Discrimination.** The Charter School prohibits discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying based on the actual or perceived characteristics of disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, national origin, ancestry, race or ethnicity, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, immigration status, potential or actual parental, family or marital status, age, or association with an individual who has any of the aforementioned characteristics, or any other basis protected by federal, state or local law.

**Public Documents.** To request documents provided to a majority of the governing board regarding an open session item on this agenda, please send an email request to [vmendoza@dschs.org](mailto:vmendoza@dschs.org).