

APPROVED

Desert Sands Charter High School

Minutes

Operated by Desert Sands Public Charter, Inc.

A California Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation

Date and Time

Monday May 17, 2021 at 3:30 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. 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.

Directors Present

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

Directors Absent

None

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 Monday May 17, 2021 at 3:30 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
Tinisha Hamberlin, Regional Director of Education
Mary Reagan, Principal
Jenny Bonilla, Principal
Bill Thompson, Legal Counsel
Michelle Lopez, Legal Counsel, LLAC

E. Approve Agenda for the May 17, 2021, Regular Public Meeting of the Board of Directors

Ruth Escarcega Newell made a motion to approve the agenda for the May 17, 2021, Regular Public Meeting of the Board of Directors.

James Lott seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

F. Approve Minutes of the April 15, 2021, Special Public Meeting of the Board of Directors

Ruth Escarcega Newell made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 15, 2021, Special Board Meeting Operated by Desert Sands Public Charter, Inc. on 04-15-21.

James Lott seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

G. Approve the Minutes of the April 19, 2021, Regular Public Meeting of the Board of Directors

Dana Clark made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 19, 2021, Regular Public Meeting of the Board of Directors, Operated by Desert Sands Public Charter, Inc. on 04-19-21.

Ruth Escarcega Newell seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

A. Consent Agenda Items

Board President Adams announced the consent agenda item and asked if any member would like to discuss the item for action separately. Hearing none, Board President Adams asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda.

James Lott made a motion to approve the consent agenda.

Ruth Escarcega Newell seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

IV. Action Items

A. The Board will be asked to approve the Expanded Learning Opportunities Grant Plan

Taera Childers informed the Board the COVID relief package, approved by the California legislature, includes \$4.6 billion for the Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO) Grants. The amount Desert Sands is receiving is in the board packet. The funds will be used to implement a learning recovery program that provides supplemental instruction, support for social and emotional well-being, as well as meals and snacks to specified student groups who face adverse learning and social-emotional circumstances. Funds are to be focused on students identified as needing academic, social-emotional, and other supports, including low-income students, English learners, foster youth, homeless students, students with disabilities, students at risk of abuse, neglect, or exploitation, disengaged

students, credit-deficient students, students at risk of not graduating, and other students identified by certificated staff.

The Extended Learning Opportunity Grant was developed with stakeholder feedback from students, staff, family members, board of directors, and the community. Ms. Childers explained to the board how feedback was received from stakeholders. Based on feedback from the stakeholders listed above, ELO grant funds will be used to offer supplemental instruction, including additional evening and weekend tutoring hours from both tutors and certificated staff, evening and weekend additional instructional time with certificated teachers, additional access to EL, SPED, and bilingual paraprofessionals, the expansion of intervention programs like Read 180 and Math 180, expanded summer enrichment programs. In addition, funds will be used to provide additional mental health support, bus passes and hop/skip/drive to assist with transportation to and from school, and a nutrition program that will provide additional meals and snacks.

Furthermore, 15% of the funds can be used for distance learning and preparation for returning to in-person instruction, including the purchasing of additional technology, furniture, and supplies.

Lastly, as a requirement of the grant, 10% of the ELO funds provides for the hiring of additional paraprofessionals to support English Learners, Special Education students, and other students needing more intensive support. Professional development will also be included in the plan to provide training for school staff on strategies to engage students and families in addressing social-emotional and academic needs.

Ruth Escarcega Newell made a motion to approve the Expanded Learning Opportunities Grant Plan.

Dana Clark seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

B. The Board will be asked to approve entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with Paraclete High School to provide instruction to students

Taera Childers informed the board Desert Sands and Paraclete have established a very successful July school program. This MOU will allow that program to continue. The classes offered meet both school's standards and State requirements. 175 high school students will be attending, if approved.

Marvin D. Smith made a motion to approve entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with Paraclete High School to provide instruction to students.

James Lott seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

V. Additional Corporate Officers and Board Members' Observations and Comments.

A. Observations and Comments

Jeff Brown thanked Ms. Childers for her report.

Board Member Smith inquired about in-person board meetings. Mr. Brown informed the board they expect in-person meetings to resume in August.

VI. Closing Items

A. Next Regular Board Meeting Date: June 1, 2021, 4:00pm

B. Adjourn Meeting

Ruth Escarcega Newell made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Marvin D. Smith 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 3:46 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ruth Escarcega Newell

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.