

APPROVED

# Desert Sands Charter High School

## Minutes

### Regular Board Meeting

Operated by Desert Sands Public Charter, Inc., A California NonProfit  
Public Benefit Corporation

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#### Date and Time

Tuesday July 19, 2022 at 3:30 PM

#### Location

[https://teams.microsoft.com/dl/launcher/launcher.html?url=%2F%20%2Fmeetup-join%2F19%3Ameeting\\_MDQyZjEzNDItZGI5Ny00ZGI3LWEyZDYtNGlyMTM4MzJjNjk5%40thread.v2%2F0%3Fcontext%3D%257b%2522Tid%2522%253a%2522c33f6d28-3425-42a7-8827-d21f10bb2e83%2522%252c%2522Oid%2522%253a%25224e4cd601-0d23-44be-8261-73cdf2e9f610%2522%257d%26anon%3Dtrue&type=meetup-join&deeplinkId=42ddff93-3721-40c8-ab09-96f05adff403&directDI=true&mSLaunch=true&enableMobilePage=true&suppressPrompt=true](https://teams.microsoft.com/dl/launcher/launcher.html?url=%2F%20%2Fmeetup-join%2F19%3Ameeting_MDQyZjEzNDItZGI5Ny00ZGI3LWEyZDYtNGlyMTM4MzJjNjk5%40thread.v2%2F0%3Fcontext%3D%257b%2522Tid%2522%253a%2522c33f6d28-3425-42a7-8827-d21f10bb2e83%2522%252c%2522Oid%2522%253a%25224e4cd601-0d23-44be-8261-73cdf2e9f610%2522%257d%26anon%3Dtrue&type=meetup-join&deeplinkId=42ddff93-3721-40c8-ab09-96f05adff403&directDI=true&mSLaunch=true&enableMobilePage=true&suppressPrompt=true)

#### Or call in for Audio only:

Conference Line: (657) 207-0015 Code: 945 637 602#

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#### MEETING LOGISTICS

This meeting is held in compliance with Assembly Bill 361, which allows flexibility in Brown Act teleconferencing procedures as addressed by the Board under Agenda Item I.E. The public is encouraged to participate in the meeting telephonically by dialing the conference line or by clicking the weblink listed on the posted agenda. The public may submit written comments to the Board by emailing [publiccomments@dschs.org](mailto:publiccomments@dschs.org). The public may also provide comments telephonically 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 Tuesday Jul 19, 2022 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  
Jeri Vincent, Corporate Secretary  
Taera Childers, Area Superintendent  
Jeff Martineau, V.P. of Charter Relations  
Bill Thompson, Legal Counsel  
Michelle Lopez, Legal Counsel, LLAC

**E. Adopt Resolution Continuing Board of Directors' Authority to Hold Virtual or Teleconference Meetings Pursuant to Assembly Bill 361**

Jeff Martineau discussed Assembly Bill 361, signed by Governor Newsom on September 16, 2021, and explained that the law exempts the board from certain provisions of the Brown Act related to teleconference meetings during states of emergency, as long as the Board makes required findings as detailed in the law. Under AB 361, boards that would like to continue to meet remotely must determine by majority vote whether, as a result of the state of emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees. Mr. Martineau directed the board members to the resolution located in their packet and recommended the board approve the Resolution Continuing Board of Directors' Authority to Hold Virtual or Teleconference Meetings Pursuant to Assembly Bill 361.

Dana Clark made a motion to adopt Resolution Continuing Board of Directors' Authority to Hold Virtual or Teleconference Meetings Pursuant to Assembly Bill 361.

Ruth Escarcega Newell seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**F. Approve Agenda for the July 19, 2022, Regular Public Meeting of the Board of Directors**

Marvin D. Smith made a motion to approve Agenda for the July 19, 2022, Regular Public Meeting of the Board of Directors.

James Lott seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

Ruth Escarcega Newell Aye

**Roll Call**

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

**G. Approve Minutes of the June 1, 2022, Regular Public Meeting of the Board of Directors**

James Lott made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Board Meeting on 06-01-22.  
Dana Clark 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, by dialing the teleconference line or by clicking the weblink listed on the posted agenda. 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. 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. Public Hearing**

**A. Open Public Hearing**

Dana Clark made a motion to open the public hearing.  
James Lott seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

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

**B. The Board will hold a public hearing to solicit the recommendations and comments of members of the public regarding the Revised Personalized Learning Policy**

Board President Adams announced the public hearing opened at 3:38 p.m.

Taera Childers informed the board that on June 30, 2022, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill 181, which is the state budget trailer bill. In addition to the base funding being increased by about 13%, AB 181 requires the school to revise the school's personalized learning policies. Ms. Childers then directed the board to the redlined Revised Personalized Learning Policy included in their board packet and reviewed the following changes:

1. Removes language concerning the academic content required of independent study instruction.
2. Streamlines the procedures that trigger tiered reengagement strategies for students.
3. Recognizes the revised definition of "synchronous instruction," which permits a teacher or teachers of record to provide the instruction.
4. Adds the special education teacher as a required signatory to the student master agreement, as applicable.
5. Removes outdated language that only applied for the 2021-22 school year.
6. And finally, adds language recommended by our auditor which recognizes that a Special Education Specialist will sign a Master Agreement addendum should a student be identified for special education services after they are enrolled in our school.

Taera Childers expressed that the school is pleased with these changes and finds them helpful with the mission to ensure all students are engaged and on-track to graduate. Ms. Childers then asked if the board or any members of the public have any questions or comments on the revised Personalized Learning Policy.

### C. Close Public Hearing

Hearing no comments from the public, Board President Adams asked for a motion and closed the public hearing at 3:42 p.m.

Ruth Escarcega Newell made a motion to close the public hearing.  
Marvin D. Smith seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

#### Roll Call

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

## IV. Action Items

### A. The Board will be asked to approve the Revised Personalized Learning Policy

Taera Childers recommended the board approve the revised Personalized Learning Policy that was shared during the Public Hearing.

Marvin D. Smith made a motion to approve the Revised Personalized Learning Policy.  
James Lott seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

#### Roll Call

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

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

### A. Observations and Comments

Jeff Brown had no additional comments.

Jeri Vincent thanked everyone for their time.

Board Member Lott shared a story with the board about running into a young student who recently graduated from the school. He shared how proud this student was to have been a part of this program.

## VI. Closing Items

### A. Next Regular Board Meeting Date: August 31, 2022, 3:30pm

### B. Adjourn Meeting

Ruth Escarcega Newell made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Dana Clark seconded the motion.

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

#### Roll Call

Marvin D. Smith        Aye

James Lott             Aye

Ruth Escarcega Newell Aye

Dana Clark             Aye

Michael R Adams      Aye

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Ruth Escarcega Newell

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**Accommodations.** All meetings of the Board of Directors are held in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. 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 [publiccomments@dschs.org](mailto:publiccomments@dschs.org).