

APPROVED

Desert Sands Charter High School

Minutes

Regular Board Meeting

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

Date and Time

Wednesday January 4, 2023 at 3:00 PM

Location

Meeting Link:

https://teams.microsoft.com/dl/launcher/launcher.html?url=%2F_%23%2F%2Fmeetup-join%2F19%3Ameeting_MWUzNjhiYjMtNzZkYS00MTY2LWJiMTUtMmMwMjI2NDE3MTY4%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=9b8a6ac3-0174-44f0-a769-591a109bc4bf&directDI=true&msLaunch=true&enableMobilePage=true&suppressPrompt=true

Or call in for Audio only:

Conference Line: (657) 207-0015 Code: 956 063 956#

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. 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.

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 Wednesday Jan 4, 2023 at 3:00 PM.

B. Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum

C. Pledge of Allegiance

Board Secretary Newell 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
Pete Faragia, CEO, LLAC
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.

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

F. Approve Agenda for the January 4, 2023, Regular Public Meeting of the Board of Directors

Ruth Escarcega Newell made a motion to approve Agenda for the January 4, 2023, Regular Public Meeting of the Board of Directors.

Dana Clark seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

Ruth Escarcega Newell	Aye
Marvin D. Smith	Aye
James Lott	Aye
Michael R Adams	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, 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. School Reports and Information

A. Annual Lifelong Learning Administration Corporation (LLAC) Services Report

Pete Faragia, CEO of Lifelong Learning Administration Corporation (LLAC), presented the 2021-2022 Annual Report to the Board of Directors, which described the services provided to the school by LLAC during the 2021-2022 school year. Mr. Faragia reviewed the services and accomplishments of each division within LLAC, including the Educational Products and Services Division, Facilities and Safety Department, Technology Services Department, External Affairs Department, Charter Affairs Department, People Services Division, and the Finance Division.

Board President Adams thanked Mr. Faragia.

Jeff Brown expressed his appreciation for Mr. Faragia and everything he does for the school.

Board Secretary Newell asked if the training being provided to staff includes any required continued education credits. Mr. Faragia discussed the available training programs and informed the board that while the training offered by LLAC does not include any continuing education credits, specific certifications are available to staff.

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

A. Observations and Comments

Jeff Brown thanked Mr. Faragia for what he offers the school. He also thanked the board for attending today's meeting.

Jeri Vincent thanked Mr. Faragia for his presentation and the materials he provided. Ms. Vincent commented on the hard work of LLAC and the freedom that is provided the school to

do positive work for students thanks to LLAC's support services. Lastly, Ms. Vincent thanked the board for their continued support.

Board Member Lott discussed the importance of student and parental choice in school.

Marvin Smith commented on the positive feedback received in the surveys.

V. Closed Session

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

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (Gov. Code section 54957(b)(1).)

Title: Area Superintendent

Ruth Escarcega Newell made a motion to adjourn open public Board meeting to go into closed session.

Marvin D. Smith seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

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

Ruth Escarcega Newell made a motion to adjourn closed session and reconvene to open public Board meeting.

James Lott seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

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

Board President Adams stated no action was taken in closed session for the following:

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (Gov. Code section 54957(b)(1).)

Title: Area Superintendent

VI. Closing Items

A. Next Regular Board Meeting Date: February 1, 2023, 3:30pm

B. Adjourn Meeting

Marvin D. Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

James Lott seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

Dana Clark	Aye
Michael R Adams	Aye

Roll Call

Marvin D. Smith Aye
Ruth Escarcega Newell Aye
James Lott Aye

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 3:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ruth Escarcega Newell

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.