

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 February 1, 2023 at 3:30 PM

#### Location

#### Meeting Link:

[https://teams.microsoft.com/dl/launcher/launcher.html?url=%2F\\_%23%2F%2Fmeetup-join%2F19%3Ameeting\\_NjU1NmUxYjltZGNmNS00MmUxLWI4YzUtNDY5OWJINGU3MWEy%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=11743ebe-00bc-4d38-bafd-1255451ded6e&directDI=true&msLaunch=true&enableMobilePage=true&suppressPrompt=true](https://teams.microsoft.com/dl/launcher/launcher.html?url=%2F_%23%2F%2Fmeetup-join%2F19%3Ameeting_NjU1NmUxYjltZGNmNS00MmUxLWI4YzUtNDY5OWJINGU3MWEy%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=11743ebe-00bc-4d38-bafd-1255451ded6e&directDI=true&msLaunch=true&enableMobilePage=true&suppressPrompt=true)

#### Or call in for audio only:

Conference Line (657) 207-0015 Code: 835 322 697#

---

#### 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.

---

#### 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 Feb 1, 2023 at 3:30 PM.

### B. Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum

### C. Pledge of Allegiance

Board Secretary Newell led the pledge of allegiance.

### D. Staff Introductions

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.

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

Marvin D. Smith 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

### F. Approve Agenda for the February 1, 2023, Regular Public Meeting of the Board of Directors

James Lott made a motion to approve Agenda for the February 1, 2023, Regular Public Meeting of the Board of Directors.

Marvin D. Smith seconded the motion.

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

#### Roll Call

Dana Clark                Aye

**Roll Call**

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

**G. Approve Minutes of the December 5, 2022, Regular Public Meeting of the Board of Directors**

Marvin D. Smith made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Board Meeting on 12-05-22.

Ruth Escarcega Newell seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**H. Approve Minutes of the January 4, 2023, Regular Public Meeting of the Board of Directors**

James Lott made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Board Meeting on 01-04-23.

Marvin D. Smith seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**II. Consent Agenda**

**A. Consent Agenda Items**

1. The Board will be asked to approve the Board Member Travel Reimbursement Policy
2. The Board will be asked to approve the School Accountability Report Card

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

Marvin D. Smith made a motion to approve the consent agenda items.

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  
Dana Clark                Aye  
Michael R Adams        Aye

### III. 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.

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

#### A. Observations and Comments

Board Secretary Newell thanked the Charter Affairs team for providing the documents for today's meeting.

### V. Closing Items

#### A. Next Regular Board Meeting Date: February 22, 2023, 3:30pm

#### B. 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

James Lott                    Aye

Dana Clark                    Aye

Michael R Adams            Aye

Marvin D. Smith            Aye

Ruth Escarcega Newell    Aye

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 3:40 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](mailto:publiccomments@dschs.org).