

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

Wednesday May 31, 2023 at 3:00 PM

#### Location

**Meeting Location:** 177 Holston Drive, Lancaster, CA 93535

#### Or Join Using the Meeting Link:

[https://teams.microsoft.com/dl/launcher/launcher.html?url=%2F\\_%23%2F%2Fmeetup-join%2F19%3Ameeting\\_ZjcwYTM3NTktY2NiYS00ZmY1LTlmZjgtNGQ4NDZkMWEwOWJi%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=a3a10113-7e6a-46af-b7bd-f1e3fb41c4b1&directDI=true&msLaunch=true&enableMobilePage=true&suppressPrompt=true](https://teams.microsoft.com/dl/launcher/launcher.html?url=%2F_%23%2F%2Fmeetup-join%2F19%3Ameeting_ZjcwYTM3NTktY2NiYS00ZmY1LTlmZjgtNGQ4NDZkMWEwOWJi%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=a3a10113-7e6a-46af-b7bd-f1e3fb41c4b1&directDI=true&msLaunch=true&enableMobilePage=true&suppressPrompt=true)

#### Or Call in for audio only:

Conference Line (657) 207-0015 Code: 503 365 568#

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#### MEETING LOGISTICS

The public is encouraged to participate in the meeting in person, or by dialing the conference line or 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 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, James Lott, Marvin D. Smith, Michael R Adams, Ruth Escarcega Newell

### **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 Wednesday May 31, 2023 at 3:00 PM.

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

Board President Adams introduced Vanessa Mendoza, who performed a roll call of the learning center locations that joined the meeting via a two-way teleconference line.

### **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

Adam Miller, Legal Counsel

Guita Sharifi, CFO, LLAC

Heather Stuve, Director of Special Education

Bob Morales, Chief External Affairs Officer, LLAC

### **E. Approve Agenda for the May 31, 2023, Regular Public Meeting of the Board of Directors**

Ruth Escarcega Newell made a motion to approve Agenda for the May 31, 2023, Regular Public Meeting of the Board of Directors.

Dana Clark seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**F. Approve Minutes of the April 24, 2023, Regular Public Meeting of the Board of Directors**

Marvin D. Smith made a motion to approve the corrected minutes from Regular Board Meeting on 04-24-23.

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

**II. Consent Agenda**

**A. Consent Agenda Items**

1. The Board will be asked to approve the revised Education for Homeless Children and Youth Policy
2. The Board will be asked to accept the Uniform Complaints Report for the 2022-2023 school year: 0 Complaints Received

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.

Dana Clark 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  
Michael R Adams        Aye  
James Lott                Aye  
Dana Clark                Aye  
Ruth Escarcega Newell 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. The time allotted per presentation will not exceed three (3) minutes, unless 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. School Reports and Information**

### **A. Area Superintendent Update**

Taera Childers greeted the board and provided a presentation on the following topics:

- Learning Periods 9 and 10 student utilization and credit completion.
- Senior week for graduating seniors enjoyed field trips to Catalina Island, Universal Studios and other fun events.
- Students participated in the school's first dance event with a Hollywood theme.
- Students had an opportunity to attend the Disneyland resort Imagination campus with a focus on leadership and innovation.
- New cohort of soccer sports clinic.
- Principals, AP's, and LCC's were invited to participate in a leadership summit titled "elevation" that took a deep dive into school data pertaining to the methodology required to "elevate" or level-up their practice and engage in intentional planning for the upcoming school year.
- May 9-11 were parent-teacher conferences.
- 31 students walked during the May 26 graduation ceremony.
- May 1 was a Regional Day event at the Palmdale Amphitheater for staff to celebrate all their hard work during this school year. Ms. Childers shared a video of the day's events.
- Longevity luncheon to recognize and celebrate the many years of service of staff members.

Ms. Childers then reviewed upcoming summer events and discussed the exciting partnerships within the school's community established by the school's community liaison, the summer dual enrollment program featuring Health and the roll out of the school's CTE Pathways coursework.

Board President Adams thanked Ms. Childers for her update.

## **B. Finance Update**

Guita Sharifi directed the board to the financial update report for the Hanmi Bank Rotating Line of Credit (RLOC) and LLAC promissory note updates as of April 30, 2023. Ms. Sharifi reviewed the Hanmi RLOC current interest rate of 8.75%, which represents an increase from the previous RLOC of 8.50%, the expiration date, the current RLOC withdrawal amount, and the RLOC covenants ratios. Ms. Sharifi then reviewed the LLAC promissory loan balance, cumulative borrowing, available balance, and current interest rate of 4%. Board President Adams thanked Ms. Sharifi for her update.

Board Secretary Newell asked for additional information regarding the Hanmi renewal. Ms. Sharifi informed the board they would discuss it in more detail later in the meeting.

## **C. Report on Mathematics Placement Results**

Taera Childers explained that the California Mathematics Placement Act of 2015 required the board to adopt “a fair, objective, and transparent mathematics placement policy” before the beginning of the 2016 school year. The policy was first adopted in 2016 with minor revisions approved to the policy in 2020. The policy addresses students entering ninth grade and includes several required elements to ensure equity in student achievement, including multiple objective academic achievement measures, annual examination of pupil placement to ensure students are not held back in a disproportionate manner, providing an annual report to the governing board, and posting the policy on the school’s website.

For the 2022-23 school year, the math placement for 9th graders fell into three categories:

- 49.6% of 9th grade math students placed in remedial math courses
- 43.4% of 9th grade math students placed in Algebra 1 (grade level course)
- 7% of 9th grade math students placed in Geometry or Algebra II (above grade level course)

Ms. Childers then reported the school is pleased to report that all 9th grade students who took math progressed in their courses, and none were held back. Ms. Childers informed the board the school staff will continue to evaluate this data and report to the board next year pursuant to the Board’s policy.

Board President Adams thanked Ms. Childers for her report.

## **D. LCFF Local Indicators Report**

Taera Childers informed the board that all schools in California must measure and report on key local indicators, which are based on five of the LCFF state priorities. The school uses the California Department of Education’s self-reflection tool to determine if the performance standard was met or not met. Ms. Childers then reviewed the following indicators met by the school:

- **Priority 1** – Focuses on ensuring that all students are assigned to appropriately credentialed teachers, that all students have access to their own instructional materials, and the learning centers are in good repair.
- **Priority 2** – Ensuring progress is made in implementing state academic standards. The school scored a 4.09 out of 5, which is full implementation of adopted academic and/or curriculum frameworks. The school continues to improve the curriculum frameworks in mathematics courses, CTE courses, health and visual and performing arts courses and history courses.
- **Priority 3** – Parent Engagement: The school continues increasing communication and connection with parents and families through our Data and Design weekly updates to parents and continues to identify the need to increase parent engagement across all data cycles.
- **Priority 6** – School Climate: The recent school survey confirmed the students feel safe and connected to the school.
- **Priority 7** – Measures the school's progress in ensuring that all students have access to a broad course of study. Due to the nature of the school's independent study program, students are able to access the courses they need to graduate. The school also provides specific support classes for students working to improve their English language development and students with exceptional needs. Students are placed in courses that ensure they not only meet the requirements for their high school diploma, but also for their goals post-graduation.

Ms. Childers then asked the board for any comments on the LCFF Local Indicators Report.

Board President Adams thanked Ms. Childers for her Report.

**E. Annual IRS Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax and the California return for 2021, as filed**

Guita Sharifi informed the board that the corporation's annual 990 federal tax return and the California return for 2021, which was provided to each board member, was filed timely.

Board President Adams thanked Ms. Sharifi for the update.

**F. Legislative Update**

Bill Thompson provided updates to the board of directors on the Governor's May revised budget, proposed legislation, and the ongoing efforts of the LLAC External Affairs division.

Board President Adams thanked Mr. Thompson for the update.

**G.**

### **CDE Notification of 2022 Annual Determination Pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and Selection for 2023 Special Education Monitoring Activities**

Heather Stuve explained that the California Department of Education (CDE) is required to make an annual determination on the performance and compliance data of each local educational agency (LEA) through the Performance Indicator Review process. Ms. Stuve then explained the CDE reviews LEA compliance, disproportionality, and performance data related to the implementation of IDEA requirements. As a result, every LEA receives one of four possible annual determinations, as follows: Meets Requirements, Needs Assistance, Needs Intervention, or Needs Substantial Intervention. Ms. Stuve informed the board that the school received a Needs Assistance, Targeted Level 3 for School Age, to meet the requirements of IDEA, Part B, for the 2021-2022 school year. The school will be monitored by the CDE in the 2023 Monitoring Year. Ms. Stuve then discussed how the school will be monitoring and addressing these areas.

Finally, Ms. Stuve asked the board if they had any questions.  
Board President Adams thanked Ms. Stuve.

#### **H. 2023-2024 Board Meeting Dates**

Board President Adams directed the board to the draft 2023-2024 regular board meeting calendar located in their board packet and reviewed meeting dates and times.

### **V. Public Hearing**

#### **A. Open Public Hearing**

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

##### **Roll Call**

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

#### **B. The Board will hold a public hearing to solicit the recommendations and comments of members of the public regarding the Budget Overview for Parents and the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP), including the specific actions and expenditures proposed to be included in the school's LCAP, with Comprehensive Support and Improvement Plan for the 2023-2024 school year**

Board President Adams announced the public hearing opened at 3:28 p.m.

Taera Childers provided a presentation on the Budget Overview for Parents (BOP) and the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) with a Comprehensive Support and Improvement Plan for the 2023-2024 school year.

Ms. Childers explained the BOP includes information on the Local Control Funding Formula revenues, supplemental and concentration grants, and state funds. The BOP demonstrates to the public and parents that the school directed its funds in 2022-2023 towards increasing or improving services in meeting the needs of the school community, while also directing funding for its high-needs students, such as low-income students, English Learners, foster youth and homeless students.

Ms. Childers then reviewed the projected revenue chart, which explains the projected revenue for the school by each fund source: LCFF funds with both supplemental and concentration grants, and local, state and federal funds. Ms. Childers discussed the estimated budgeted expenditures for the school and the corresponding actions and services in the LCAP.

Ms. Childers explained the school reflected on their progress and community partner input on the school's 2022-2023 LCAP goals when developing the 2023-2024 LCAP. Ms. Childers then shared the following school successes and needs identified during the reflection process:

- Reflection Successes: Student average attendance rate increased, decreased student drop-out rate, increased student retention rate, increased student participation rate in CTE courses, increased credit completion rate, increased 1-year graduation rate and the recent survey showed students feel extremely safe at the school.
- Reflection Needs Identified: English Learner reclassification has significantly decreased this year to 11%, NWEA showed student test scores decreasing, demonstrating a need to focus on core content, such as English and Math, completion and mastery. Finally, the school was identified for Comprehensive Support and Improvement as a result of the low 4-5 cohort graduation rate.

Next, Ms. Childers reviewed the school's proposed four LCAP goals for the 2023-2024 school year:

- Goal 1 – Increase Academic Progress: Actions will include support for English language learners, low-income and foster youth.
- Goal 2 – Students Will Gain Skills for College and Career Readiness: Actions will include providing college and career readiness for all students, including low-income, English learners and foster youth students.
- Goal 3 – Increase Student Retention: The school will continue addressing student disengagement from their schooling and supporting their decision to retransfer or graduate through the school's program. The school provides safe and welcoming facilities and a positive school climate.



- Goal 4 – Increase Educational Partner Engagement: The school will focus on increasing parent participation along with their student’s academic progress.

Ms. Childers then requested input from the board and public on the school’s BOP and LCAP plan for the 2023-2024 school year.

**C. Close Public Hearing**

Hearing no comments from the public, Board President Adams requested a motion to close the public hearing.

James Lott made a motion to close the public hearing.

Marvin D. Smith 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

Board President Adams announced the public hearing closed at 3:37 p.m.

**VI. Action Items**

- A. The Board will be asked to confirm its acknowledgement that Michael R. Adams, Ruth Escarcega Newell, Marvin D. Smith, Dana Clark and James Lott, have been reappointed as members of the Board of Directors by Educational Advancement Corporation, the sole member of Desert Sands Public Charter, Inc., for the term July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024**

Bill Thompson reported to the board that the Board of Directors of Educational Advancement Corporation (EAC), the sole member of Desert Sands Public Charter, Inc., has acted to reappoint Michael R. Adams, Ruth Escarcega Newell, Marvin D. Smith, Dana Clark and James Lott as members of the Desert Sands Board of Directors for the term of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. Mr. Thompson then recommended the board vote to confirm its acknowledgment of EAC’s action to reappoint the board members.

Ruth Escarcega Newell made a motion to confirm its acknowledgement that Michael R. Adams, Ruth Escarcega Newell, Marvin D. Smith, Dana Clark and James Lott, have been reappointed as members of the Board of Directors by Educational Advancement Corporation, the sole member of Desert Sands Public Charter, Inc., for the term July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

Dana Clark seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

James Lott	Aye
Ruth Escarcega Newell	Aye

**Roll Call**

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

**B. The Board will be asked to reauthorize the Corporate Officers and Senior Administration to make all reasonable and necessary business arrangements, and enter into all reasonable and necessary transactions, including but not limited to, contracts with vendors, employees, consultants and others**

Board President Adams requested a motion to re-authorize the Corporate Officers and Senior Administration to make all reasonable and necessary business arrangements, and enter into all reasonable and necessary transactions, including but not limited to, contracts with vendors, employees, consultants and others.

Marvin D. Smith made a motion to reauthorize the Corporate Officers and Senior Administration to make all reasonable and necessary business arrangements, and enter into all reasonable and necessary transactions, including but not limited to, contracts with vendors, employees, consultants and others.

Dana Clark 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

**C. The Board will be asked to re-authorize the officers of the corporation to award discretionary incentives to employees at various sundry times**

Board President Adams requested a motion to re-authorize the Corporate Officers to award discretionary incentives to employees at various sundry times.

James Lott made a motion to re-authorize the officers of the corporation to award discretionary incentives to employees at various sundry times.

Marvin D. Smith seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**D. The Board will be asked to approve the revised Charter School Accounting Manual**

Guita Sharifi directed the board to the summary page overview of the recommended changes to the Charter School Accounting Manual included in the board packet, and reviewed the following recommended revisions:

- Page 80: Adding passports for students as a covered expenditure.
- Pages 82 & 83: Establishing the Provision of Used Chromebooks to Graduating Seniors for \$1.00. Senior Director of Technology Services, Kimberly Souza, provided additional details on the process of this policy.
- Page 113: Adding the schools Capitalization Threshold

Ms. Sharifi then recommended the board approve the revised Charter School Accounting Manual.

Board Member Lott asked if the students will be able to use the passports for personal use outside of school trips. Ms. Childers informed the board the passports will belong to the students to use as they need.

Board President Adams thanked Ms. Sharifi for her presentation and requested a motion. Ruth Escarcega Newell made a motion to approve the revised Charter School Accounting Manual.

Dana Clark seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**E. The Board will be asked to approve the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) for school year 2023-2024, which drives the primary source of funding for the charter school**

Guita Sharifi explained that LCFF funding is the primary source of the school's revenue and determines the funding for charter schools, which has two primary components: a base rate component that applies to all schools that depends exclusively on Average Daily Attendance (ADA) by grade span, and a supplemental and concentration component that depends on the percentage of the school's English Learners, foster youth and low-income students. The LCFF calculation is the largest source of the school's unrestricted revenue and is essential to budget and LCAP development. Ms. Sharifi further explained the total LCFF revenue estimated to be received for the 2023-2024 school year, including the total supplemental and concentration funding. Ms. Sharifi recommended the board approve the LCFF for school year 2023-2024.

Board President Adams thanked Ms. Sharifi and asked for a motion.

Dana Clark made a motion to approve the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) for school year 2023-2024, which drives the primary source of funding for the charter school. James Lott seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**F. The Board will be asked to approve the Education Protection Account (EPA) spending determinations**

Guita Sharifi explained that the Education Protection Account (EPA) is a component of the LCFF funding that must be used only for instruction and be posted on the school's website every year. Ms. Sharifi discussed the total estimated EPA revenue to be received by the school for the 2023-2024 school year. Ms. Sharifi recommended the board take action to approve the EPA spending determinations.

Board President Adams thanked Ms. Sharifi and requested a motion.

Ruth Escarcega Newell made a motion to approve the Education Protection Account (EPA) spending determinations.

Marvin D. Smith seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**G. The Board will be asked to approve the Budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year**

Guita Sharifi informed the board the school's budget is based on funding information from the May revision to the state's budget and will be adjusted in the future if there are changes to the budget when it is signed in June or in subsequent revisions during the summer.

Ms. Sharifi then explained the funding projections for next fiscal year, including a COLA of 8.22% to the LCFF funding rate compared to the prior year. Ms. Sharifi further explained the May revision includes additional funding for Proposition 28 for Arts and Music Education funding and additional funds to close the opportunity gap through the equity multiplier that would be available through the LCFF funding. However, since there is no detail or clarity on how these additional funds and grants will be dispersed or the impact on the funding rate, these funding amounts are not included in the school's original budget and will be added in future revisions. In addition, the May revision also impacted the current year end projections

as it proposed a funding reduction of the Arts, Music and Instructional materials block grant (AMIM) and the Learning Recovery Emergency (LRE) Block grant in 22-23 to cover part of the cost of COLA for 23-24. This reduction is included in the current budget report.

Ms. Sharifi then discussed the school's projected ADA of 1,911 for the school year 2023-2024, which is an increase compared to the 2022-2023 school year.

Next, Ms. Sharifi reviewed the projected revenue for the school and explained the revenue amounts from LCFF sources, federal funds, and other state revenue, which includes lottery funds. Ms. Sharifi also noted the school is not projecting local revenue.

Ms. Sharifi then reviewed the school's expenditures and discussed the increase in salaries and benefits and a reduction in purchase spending as compared to the 2022-2023 school year. Ms. Sharifi also reviewed the increase in operating expenses compared to the current school year, with an increase in spending on professional services, communications and facilities.

Ms. Sharifi informed the board the school is projecting a positive net position and ratio of reserves to expenditures. Ms. Sharifi then recommended the board approve the school budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

Board President Adams thanked Ms. Sharifi for her presentation and requested a motion.

Marvin D. Smith made a motion to approve the Budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

Dana Clark seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

Marvin D. Smith           Aye

Ruth Escarcega Newell   Aye

Dana Clark                Aye

Michael R Adams         Aye

James Lott                Aye

**H. The Board will be asked to approve the Budget Overview for Parents and the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) with Comprehensive Support and Improvement Plan for the 2023-2024 school year**

Taera Childers invited questions and suggestions from the board on the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) for the 2023-2024 school year, which was shared during the public hearing. She then recommended the board approve the Budget Overview for Parents and the LCAP with Comprehensive Support and Improvement Plan for the 2023-2024 school year.

Board President Adams thanked Ms. Childers and requested a motion.

James Lott made a motion to approve the Budget Overview for Parents and the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) with Comprehensive Support and Improvement Plan for the 2023-2024 school year.

Ruth Escarcega Newell 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

**I. The Board will be asked to approve the school’s LCAP federal addendum, updated for comprehensive support and improvement status for the 2023-2024 school year**

Taera Childers explained the school receives additional funds through the Every Student Succeeds Act, commonly known as Title I funds. The exact amount that the school will receive next year will depend on the amount allotted to the state in the next few months. The federal addendum has been updated to include the school’s Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) status for the 2023-2024 school year. Ms. Childers reminded the board the CSI Plan is included in the LCAP as presented during the public hearing section of the board meeting. Ms. Childers recommended the board approve the school’s LCAP federal addendum, updated for CSI status for the 2023-2024 school year.

Board President Adams thanked Ms. Childers and asked for a motion.

Dana Clark made a motion to approve the school’s LCAP federal addendum, updated for comprehensive support and improvement status for the 2023-2024 school year.

Marvin D. Smith seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**J. The Board will be asked to approve the Consolidated Application process and submission for all reports required for the 2023-2024 school year**

Taera Childers explained the school will be requesting Title I, Part A, federal funds for a Schoolwide Program (SWP). Title I, Part A is a federal categorical program contained in the Consolidated Application (ConApp) and its purpose is to ensure that all children have a fair and equal opportunity to obtain a high quality education and reach, at a minimum, proficiency on the state content standards and assessments. The intent of this funding is to meet the educational needs of low-achieving students enrolled in the highest poverty schools. For each federal program entitlement, local educational agencies allocate funds for the program as indicated by the program requirements. For the 2023-2024 school year, the school is requesting Title 1 Part A, federal funds. Ms. Childers recommended the board

approve the ConApp process and submission of all reports required for the school for the 2023-2024 school year.

Board President Adams thanked Ms. Childers and asked for a motion.

Ruth Escarcega Newell made a motion to approve the Consolidated Application process and submission for all reports required for the 2023-2024 school year.

James Lott seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**K. The Board will be asked to renew a Revolving Line of Credit (RLOC) from Hanmi Bank for the 2023-2024 school year, as needed, to maintain adequate cash flow pursuant to the RLOC provisions**

Guita Sharifi reminded the board of the current Hanmi Bank agreement that provides a line of credit at a lower interest rate compared to other financing mechanisms to support the school's finances only when necessary to maintain adequate cash flow. Ms. Sharifi then explained the school has the opportunity to renew the Revolving Line of Credit (RLOC) with Hanmi Bank for the 2023-2024 school year in the amount of \$4,000,000 with the current interest rate of 8.75%. Ms. Sharifi reminded the board the interest rate is calculated at the greater of: (1) the prime rate plus 0.50%, or (2) 3.75%. Ms. Sharifi then recommended the board approve the Hanmi Bank RLOC.

Board President Adams thanked Ms. Sharifi and asked for a motion.

Ruth Escarcega Newell made a motion to renew a Revolving Line of Credit (RLOC) from Hanmi Bank for the 2023-2024 school year, as needed, to maintain adequate cash flow pursuant to the RLOC provisions.

Dana Clark seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**L. The Board will be asked to approve obtaining a loan from LLAC during the 2023-2024 fiscal year, as needed to maintain adequate cash flow, pursuant to promissory note provisions with applicable interest**

Guita Sharifi explained to the board that the Lifelong Learning Administration Corp. (LLAC), the school's vendor for administrative and educational services, offers a short-term

borrowing option to support the school when necessary for a maximum limit of \$2,000,000 at an interest rate of six percent (6%) and the note includes the lender's option to adjust the rate once during the fiscal year based on market rate changes.. Ms. Sharifi explained the amount is a maximum and the school may utilize it entirely, or not at all. Ms. Sharifi further emphasized this is an alternative financing option for the school to meet short-term cash flow needs only if needed for the 2023-2024 school year. Ms. Sharifi then recommended the board approve the LLAC promissory note.

Board Secretary Newell requested clarification of the interest rate. Ms. Sharifi reviewed the potential changes in interest rates with the board. Hearing no further questions or comments, Board President Adams thanked Ms. Sharifi and asked for a motion.

Marvin D. Smith made a motion to approve obtaining a loan from LLAC during the 2023-2024 fiscal year, as needed to maintain adequate cash flow, pursuant to promissory note provisions with applicable interest.

James Lott seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**M. The Board will be asked to approve the updated signers for all bank accounts**

Board President Adams recommended the board re-confirm bank account signers Jeff Brown, Jeri Vincent, Jeff Martineau and add Shellie Hanes as the school's authorized bank account signers.

Dana Clark made a motion to approve the updated signers for all bank accounts.

Marvin D. Smith seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

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

**A. Observations and Comments**

Jeff Brown praised the staff for all their hard work. He thanked everyone for their presentations and their continued support. Lastly, he thanked the board for their continued oversight.



## VIII. Closed Session

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

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL— EXISTING LITIGATION (Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1).) Name of Case: Selena Villegas vs. Desert Sands Public Charter, Inc. et al., Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 22STCV24453
2. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION, (Government 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

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

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

Dana Clark 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

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

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL— EXISTING LITIGATION (Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1).) Name of Case: Selena Villegas vs. Desert Sands Public Charter, Inc. et al., Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 22STCV24453

2. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION, (Government Code section 54957(b)(1).) Title: Area Superintendent

**IX. Closing Items**

**A. Next Regular Board Meeting Date: August 31, 2023, 3:30pm**

Board Member Smith informed the board he will not be in attendance at the next meeting.

**B. Adjourn Meeting**

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

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
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 4:34 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Michael R Adams

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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). Documents are also available for public inspection at the Meeting Location noted on this agenda.