

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

Tuesday February 18, 2025 at 3:30 PM

Location

Meeting Location: 177 Holston Drive, Lancaster, CA 93535

Microsoft Teams

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 215 857 697 859

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Phone conference ID: 517 783 988#

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. 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.

Directors Present

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

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 Tuesday Feb 18, 2025 at 3:30 PM.

B. Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum

Board President Adams performed a board member roll call, and a quorum was established.

Board President Adams then introduced Jillian Rojas, 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
Jeri Vincent, Corporate Secretary
Shellie Hanes, Superintendent
Darin Bower, COO
Victor Nardiello, Area Superintendent
Bill Thompson, Legal Counsel

E. Approve Agenda for the February 18, 2025, Regular Public Meeting of the Board of Directors

Ruth Escarcega Newell made a motion to approve Agenda for the February 18, 2025, 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
Dana Clark	Aye
Michael R Adams	Aye

Roll Call

James Lott	Aye
Marvin D. Smith	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. 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.

III. School Reports and Information

A. Mid-Year Local Control Accountability Plan Update

Victor Nardiello greeted the board and directed them to the 2024-2025 Mid-Year Local Control Accountability Plan ("LCAP") report located in the board packet. Mr. Nardiello updated the board on changes to the LCFF funds. He then reviewed the following LCAP data:

- **Goal #1 Increase Academic Progress:** Highlighted the school's one-year graduation cohort rate, EL classification rate, and increase in credit completion. Continuing to focus on increasing student reading Lexile and math quantile scores.
- **Goal #2 Students Will Gain Skills for College and Career-Readiness:** Highlighted the increase in CA Dashboard ELA and math scores, as well as an increase in students completing CTE credits. Continuing to focus on dual enrollment classes.
- **Goal #3 Increase Student Retention:** Highlighted the exemplary conditions of the facilities and their 0% expulsion rate. Continuing to focus on attendance rates.
- **Goal #4 Increase Educational Partners' Engagement:** Highlighted that 100% of students feel safe at school and 100% of teachers feel connected to the school. Continuing to focus on increasing parent participation. All LCAP actions for goal #4 have been fully implemented.

Mr. Nardiello thanked the board for their support and asked if they had any questions or feedback

Board President Adams thanked Mr. Nardiello for his presentation.

Board Secretary Newell asked for additional information on tracking parent engagement. Specifically, how to handle adult students and their parents' engagement. Mr. Nardiello informed the board they encourage the parents of adult students to participate but only parents of minor children are included in the report.

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

A. Observations and Comments

Jeff Brown thanked Mr. Nardiello and congratulated him on the school's success.

Board Secretary Newell encouraged Mr. Nardiello to keep up the good work.

V. Closing Items

A. Next Regular Board Meeting Date: March 4, 2025, 3:30pm

B. Adjourn Meeting

Dana Clark made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Ruth Escarcega Newell seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

Ruth Escarcega Newell Aye

Dana Clark Aye

Marvin D. Smith Aye

Michael R Adams 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 3:43 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. Documents are also available for public inspection at the Meeting Location noted on this agenda.