

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

Thursday June 4, 2026 at 2:30 PM

#### Location

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

#### Microsoft Teams

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 239 802 460 123 5

Passcode: 62vK9gc9

#### Dial in by phone

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Phone conference ID: 639 220 668#

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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

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

**Directors Absent**

*None*

**Directors who arrived after the meeting opened**

Ruth Escarcega Newell

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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 Adams called a meeting of the board of directors of Desert Sands Charter High School to order on Thursday Jun 4, 2026 at 2:30 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

Shellie Hanes, Superintendent

Darin Bower, COO

Jenny Bonilla, Principal

Alex Morris, State and Federal Programs Coordinator

Victor Nardiello, Area Superintendent

Bill Thompson, Legal Counsel

Claudio Wohl, Sr. VP of Finance, LLAC

**E. Approve Agenda for the June 4, 2026, Regular Public Meeting of the Board of Directors**

Dana Clark made a motion to approve Agenda for the June 4, 2026, Regular Public Meeting of the Board of Directors.

Marvin D. Smith seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

|                       |        |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Ruth Escarcega Newell | Absent |
| Michael Adams         | Aye    |
| Marvin D. Smith       | Aye    |
| James Lott            | Aye    |
| Dana Clark            | Aye    |

**F. Approve Minutes of the April 21, 2026, Regular Public Meeting of the Board of Directors**

James Lott made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Board Meeting on 04-21-26.

Dana Clark seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

|                       |        |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Michael Adams         | Aye    |
| Dana Clark            | Aye    |
| Ruth Escarcega Newell | Absent |
| James Lott            | Aye    |
| Marvin D. Smith       | Aye    |

**II. Consent Agenda**

**A. Consent Agenda Items**

Board President Adams announced the following consent agenda items:

1. The Student Smartphones and Other Private Devices Policy
2. The Uniform Complaints Report for the 2025-2026 school year: 0 Complaints Received
3. The revised Suspension and Expulsion Policy and Procedure
4. Revisions to the Parent-Student Handbook regarding Involuntary Removal Procedures
5. The revised School Safety Plan

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

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

Dana Clark seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

|               |     |
|---------------|-----|
| Michael Adams | Aye |
|---------------|-----|

#### **Roll Call**

|                       |        |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Marvin D. Smith       | Aye    |
| Ruth Escarcega Newell | Absent |
| James Lott            | Aye    |
| Dana Clark            | 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. Finance Update**

Claudio Wohl directed the board to the Hanmi Bank Revolving Line of Credit (RLOC) financial update included in the board packet and reviewed the school's credit amount, including the current interest rate of 7.25%, which is lower than the previous RLOC update provided to the board. Mr. Wohl then reviewed the expiration date, the current RLOC withdrawal amount, and the RLOC covenants ratios.

Mr. Wohl also provided the board with an update on the school's line of credit with LLAC, including the current interest rate of 6% and the current balance.

Board President Adams thanked Mr. Wohl for his update.

#### **B. Area Superintendent Update**

Victor Nardiello greeted the board and discussed the school's enrollment, overall credit completion, and Average Daily Attendance (ADA).

Board President Adams thanked Mr. Nardiello.

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

Victor Nardiello reminded the board that the California Mathematics Placement Act of 2015 required the board to adopt “a fair, objective, and transparent mathematics placement policy.” The policy addresses students entering ninth grade and includes multiple academic measures, an early-year placement checkpoint, annual data review to prevent bias, an appeals process, and public posting on each school’s website.

Mr. Nardiello reviewed the placement results and reported that all 9th grade students who took math progressed in their courses, and none were held back.

Board President Adams thanked Mr. Nardiello.

**D. LCFF Local Indicators Report**

Alex Morris informed the board that all schools in California are required to measure and report their performance on the 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.

Mr. Morris then informed the board that the school met all applicable indicators.

Board President Adams thanked Mr. Morris.

**E. The Board will be advised of additional efforts by Lifelong Learning Administrative Corporation to assist the school in advancing the goals of independent study**

Darin Bower greeted the board and discussed additional efforts by Lifelong Learning Administrative Corporation to assist the school in advancing the goals of independent study.

Board President Adams thanked Mr. Bower.

**F. Annual IRS Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax and the California return for 2024, as filed**

Claudio Wohl informed the board that the corporation's annual 990 federal tax return and the California return for 2024, which was provided to each board member, was filed timely.

Board President Adams thanked Mr. Wohl.

**G. 2026-2027 Board Meeting Dates**

Board President Adams directed the board to the 2026-2027 regular board meeting calendar located in their board packet and requested the board to review the meeting dates and times.

**V. Public Hearings**

**A. Open Public Hearings**

Board President Adams requested a motion to open the public hearing.

Marvin D. Smith made a motion to open the public hearing.

Dana Clark seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

|                       |        |
|-----------------------|--------|
| James Lott            | Aye    |
| Ruth Escarcega Newell | Absent |
| Dana Clark            | Aye    |
| Marvin D. Smith       | Aye    |
| Michael Adams         | Aye    |

Board President Adams announced the public hearing opened at 2:43 p.m.

**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**

Victor Nardiello directed the board to the redlined copy of the revised Personalized Learning Policy in their board packet. He then reviewed the proposed changes and asked for questions or comments from members of the public and board members.

Board President Adams thanked Mr. Nardiello for his presentation and asked if there were any members of the public who wished to offer any comments.

There were no members of the public who offered public comment or submitted any written comments.

**C. The Board will hold a public hearing to solicit the recommendations and comments of members of the public regarding the Budget Overview for Parents (BOP) and the Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) for the 2026-2027 school year**

Alex Morris provided a presentation on the Budget Overview for Parents and Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) Annual Update. Mr. Morris reviewed the school's proposed four LCAP goals and actions for the 2026-2027 school year.

- Goal 1 – Increase Academic Progress.
- Goal 2 – Students Will Gain Skills for College and Career Readiness.
- Goal 3 – Increase Student Retention.
- Goal 4 – Increase Educational Partner Engagement.

He concluded his presentation and asked for questions or comments from members of the public and the board members.

Board President Adams thanked Mr. Morris for his presentation and asked if there were any members of the public who wished to offer any comments.

There were no members of the public who offered public comment or submitted any written comments.

**D. Close Public Hearings**

Hearing no further questions or comments, President Adams requested a motion to close the public hearing.

James Lott made a motion to close the public hearing.

Dana Clark seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

|                       |        |
|-----------------------|--------|
| James Lott            | Aye    |
| Ruth Escarcega Newell | Absent |
| Michael Adams         | Aye    |
| Dana Clark            | Aye    |
| Marvin D. Smith       | Aye    |

Board President Adams announced the public hearing closed at 2:50 p.m.

Ruth Escarcega Newell arrived.

**VI. Action Items**

**A. The Board will be asked to approve the revised Personalized Learning Policy**

Victor Nardiello recommended the board approve the revised personalized learning policy that was shared during the public hearing.

Board President Adams thanked Mr. Nardiello and asked for a motion.

Dana Clark made a motion to approve the revised Personalized Learning Policy.

Ruth Escarcega Newell seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**B. The Board will be asked to approve the 2026-2027 Budget Overview for Parents (BOP) and Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) for the 2026-2027 school year**

Victor Nardiello recommended the board approve the 2026-2027 Budget Overview for Parents (BOP) and the Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) for the 2026-2027 school year that was shared during the Public Hearing.

Board President Adams thanked Mr. Nardiello and asked for a motion.

Marvin D. Smith made a motion to approve the 2026-2027 Budget Overview for Parents (BOP) and Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) for the 2026-2027 school year.

James Lott seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

|               |     |
|---------------|-----|
| Michael Adams | Aye |
|---------------|-----|

**Roll Call**

|                       |     |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Dana Clark            | Aye |
| James Lott            | Aye |
| Ruth Escarcega Newell | Aye |
| Marvin D. Smith       | Aye |

- C. The Board will be asked to confirm its acknowledgment that Michael Adams, Ruth Escarcega Newell, Marvin 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, 2026 through June 30, 2027**

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 Charter High School Board of Directors for the term of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027. Mr. Thompson then recommended the board vote to confirm its acknowledgment of EAC's action to reappoint the board members.

Board President Adams thanked Mr. Thompson and asked for a motion.

Dana Clark made a motion to confirm its acknowledgment that Michael Adams, Ruth Escarcega Newell, Marvin 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, 2026 through June 30, 2027.

Ruth Escarcega Newell seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

- D. The Board will be asked to reappoint the Corporate Officers to serve at the pleasure of the Board**

Board President Adams reminded the Board that Jeff Brown is the current Chief Executive Officer and Jeri Vincent is the Chief Financial Officer and Secretary. He then asked the board to reaffirm both corporate officers, allowing them to continue to serve the corporation and school.

James Lott made a motion to reappoint the Corporate Officers to serve at the pleasure of the Board.

Dana Clark seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**E. The Board will be asked to approve entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Antelope Valley Union High School District to provide instruction to students**

Victor Nardiello directed the board to the MOU with Antelope Valley Union High School District located in their board package. Mr. Nardiello reminded the board that the school has established a very successful partnership with Antelope Valley Union High School District, and with the 2026 Student Enrichment and Credit Recovery Program agreement, the program will continue to provide opportunities for students. The district and the school will work cooperatively to ensure that the classes offered through the program meet district and state academic credit requirements, and that all eligible students who enroll and participate in the program meet state requirements for charter school attendance accounting purposes. Board President Adams thanked Mr. Nardiello and asked for his motion.

Marvin D. Smith made a motion to approve entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Antelope Valley Union High School District to provide instruction to students.

Dana Clark seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**F. The Board will be asked to approve entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Paraclete High School to provide instruction to students**

Victor Nardiello directed the board to the MOU with Paraclete High School located in their board package. Mr. Nardiello reminded the board that the school has established a very successful partnership with Paraclete High School and with the 2026 Student Enrichment and Credit Recovery Program agreement the program will continue to provide opportunities for students. The district and the school will work cooperatively to ensure that the classes offered through the program meet district and state academic credit requirements, and that all eligible students who enroll and participate in the program meet state requirements for charter school attendance accounting purposes.

Board President Adams thanked Mr. Nardiello and asked for his motion.

Ruth Escarcega Newell made a motion to approve entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Paraclete High School to provide instruction to students.

James Lott seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**G. The Board will be asked to approve the Proposition 28: Arts and Music in Schools Funding Annual Report for fiscal year 2025-26**

Alex Morris informed the board as a condition of receipt of the Arts and Music in Schools (AMS) funds, the school annually submits a report for board approval on the details of the type of arts education programs funded by the program, the number of full-time equivalent teachers, classified personnel, and teaching aides, the number of pupils served, and the number of school sites providing arts education programs with those funds. Mr. Morris then provided the board with a summary of the AMS annual report included in the board packet and recommended the board approve the annual report for the 2025-2026 school year.

Board President Adams thanked Mr. Morris and asked for his motion.

Dana Clark made a motion to approve the Proposition 28: Arts and Music in Schools Funding Annual Report for fiscal year 2025-26.

Ruth Escarcega Newell seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

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

Victor Nardiello requested the board to reauthorize the Corporate Officers to award discretionary incentives to employees at various sundry times.

Board President Adams thanked Mr. Nardiello and asked for his motion.

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**

|               |     |
|---------------|-----|
| Michael Adams | Aye |
|---------------|-----|

**Roll Call**

|                       |     |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Dana Clark            | Aye |
| James Lott            | Aye |
| Ruth Escarcega Newell | Aye |
| Marvin D. Smith       | Aye |

- I. 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 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.

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.

James Lott seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

- J. The Board will be asked to approve the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) for school year 2026-2027, which drives the primary source of funding for the charter school**

Claudio Wohl 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. Mr. Wohl reviewed the total LCFF revenue estimated to be received for the 2026-2027 school year, including the total supplemental and concentration funding. He then recommended the board approve the LCFF for the school year 2026-2027.

Board President Adams thanked Mr. Wohl and asked for his motion.

Ruth Escarcega Newell made a motion to approve the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) for school year 2026-2027.

Marvin D. Smith seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

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

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

Claudio Wohl 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. Mr. Wohl then discussed the total estimated EPA revenue to be received by the school for the 2026-2027 school year and recommended the board approve the EPA spending determinations.

Board President Adams thanked Mr. Wohl and asked for his motion.

Dana Clark made a motion to approve the Education Protection Account (EPA) spending determinations.

James Lott seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**L. The Board will be asked to approve the Budget for the 2026-2027 fiscal year**

Claudio Wohl informed the board that the school's budget is based on funding information from the Governor's May Revision to the state 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.

Mr. Wohl explained the May Revision is materially stronger than the January Governor's Budget, but it should be read as cautiously positive, not structurally secure.

Mr. Wohl then reviewed the ADA, expenditures, revenue, and projected reserves, and highlighted the following areas:

- The school's projected ADA for school year 2026-2027 is 1,622, which is a slight decrease compared to the current school year.

- The total revenue budgeted for school year 2026-2027 is \$34.2M, which is an increase compared to the current school year.
- LCFF projected revenue is \$38.7M.
- Federal Revenue is budgeted at \$97K.
- Other State revenue is \$5.2M, coming from an increase in the State SPED funding rate and an increase in Student Support and Professional Development Block Grant funding, as well as mental health, arts and music, mandate block grant, and lottery funding.
- The school is projecting local revenue of \$175K from cost reimbursements.
- Total expenditures are budgeted at \$34M, which is an increase compared to the current school year.

Mr. Wohl reviewed the school's current year-end projected net position and recommended the board approve the school budget for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

Board President Adams thanked Mr. Wohl and asked for his motion.

Dana Clark made a motion to approve the Budget for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

Marvin D. Smith 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 Adams         | Aye |

**M. The Board will be asked to approve the Consolidated Application process and submission for all reports required for the 2026-2027 school year**

Victor Nardiello greeted the board and reminded the board that the California Department of Education (CDE) uses the Consolidated Application, or ConApp, to distribute categorical funds from various federal programs to schools throughout California. Annually, each local educational agency submits the spring release of the ConApp to document participation in certain categorical programs and provide assurances to comply with the legal requirements of each program. Mr. Nardiello informed the board that after careful consideration, the school has decided not to accept Title I funds. This decision allows the school to maintain the resources, flexibility, and autonomy necessary to best serve its students. Mr. Nardiello then thanked the board and asked if there were any questions.

Board President Adams thanked Mr. Nardiello and asked for his motion.

Ruth Escarcega Newell made a motion to approve the Consolidated Application process and submission for all reports required for the 2026-2027 school year.

Marvin D. Smith seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

|            |     |
|------------|-----|
| Dana Clark | Aye |
|------------|-----|

**Roll Call**

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

**N. The Board will be requested to renew the Revolving Line of Credit (RLOC) with Hanmi Bank for the 2026-2027 school year, as necessary, to ensure sufficient cash flow in accordance with the RLOC terms and applicable interest rates**

Claudio Wohl reminded the board of the current Hanmi Bank agreement, which provides a line of credit at a lower interest rate and financial support to the school only when necessary to maintain adequate cash flow. Mr. Wohl then explained that the school has the opportunity to renew the Revolving Line of Credit (RLOC) with Hanmi Bank for the 2026-2027 school year in the amount of \$4M at the current interest rate of 7.25%. Mr. Wohl reminded the board that the interest rate will be determined as the higher of either a fixed 3.75% or the prime rate plus 0.5%. At present, the applicable rate is 7.25%, based on the current prime rate of 6.75% plus the 0.5% margin. Mr. Wohl then recommended the board approve the Hanmi Bank RLOC.

Board President Adams thanked Mr. Wohl and asked for his motion.

Dana Clark made a motion to renew the Revolving Line of Credit (RLOC) with Hanmi Bank for the 2026-2027 school year.

James Lott seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**O. The Board will be requested to approve securing a loan from Lifelong Learning Administration Corporation (LLAC) for the 2026-2027 school year, as necessary, to ensure sufficient cash flow, in accordance with the promissory note terms and applicable interest rates**

Claudio Wohl explained to the board that 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. The note provides a maximum borrowing limit of \$2M, with an interest rate of 6%, and includes an option for the lender to adjust the rate once during the fiscal year based on market rate changes. Mr. Wohl explained the amount is a maximum and the school may utilize it entirely, or not at all. Mr. Wohl further emphasized this is an alternative financing option for the school to meet short-term cash flow needs and only if needed for the 2026-2027 school year. He then recommended the board approve the LLAC promissory note.

Board President Adams thanked Mr. Wohl and asked for his motion.

Ruth Escarcega Newell made a motion to approve securing a loan from Lifelong Learning Administration Corporation (LLAC) for the 2026-2027 school year.

James Lott seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

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

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

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

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 Adams         | Aye |

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

**A. Observations and Comments**

Jeff Brown reflected on the past school year and commented on credit completion and ADA. He expressed his appreciation to Ms. Vincent and the staff for their dedication and contributions to the school. He shared his gratitude towards the board members and their willingness to serve another year.

Jeri Vincent also thanked the board for agreeing to serve the school for another year. She commended Mr. Nardiello for his efforts and recognized the significant progress the students have made. She thanked everyone for their participation in the board meeting process.

Shellie Hanes thanked the board for their ongoing support.

Victor Nardiello thanked the board for their commitment to the school. He complemented the hard work of the staff.

Board Secretary Newell expressed her gratitude to everyone for their ongoing commitment and all they do to support the students.

### **VIII. Closed Session**

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

Upon the advice of legal counsel, the board did not meet in closed session.

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

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

### **IX. Closing Items**

#### **A. Next Regular Board Meeting Date: September 1, 2026, 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**

James Lott Aye

Marvin D. Smith Aye

Michael Adams Aye

Dana Clark 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 3:16 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). Documents are also available for public inspection at the Meeting Location noted on this agenda.