

Western Sierra Charter School
Board of Directors Special Meeting
Tuesday, December 14, 2021
Open Session Board Meeting – 2:00 PM

The Western Sierra Charter Schools (WSCS) Board of Directors (Board) and employees of WSCS shall meet via the Zoom meeting platform. Members of the public who wish to access this Board meeting may do so at:

<https://www.facebook.com/wscsfamily/live>

Members of the public who wish to make written comment to the Board for this meeting should make their written request at least 24 hours prior to the meeting at:

<http://www.wscsfamily.org/board-request.html>

Members of the public who wish to make live, spoken comment during this meeting should make their written request at least 24 hours prior to the meeting at: <http://www.wscsfamily.org/board-request.html>. Public will remain muted until appropriate time. Individual comments will be limited to three (3) minutes. If an interpreter is needed for comments, they will be translated to English and the time limit shall be six (6) minutes. The Board of Directors may limit the total time for public comment to a reasonable time. The Board reserves the right to mute or remove a member of the public if comments or actions disrupts the Board meeting.

Access to Board Materials: A copy of the written materials which will be submitted to the WSCS Board may be reviewed by any interested persons on <http://www.wscsfamily.org/board-agenda-and-minutes.html> website along with this agenda following the posting of the agenda at least 72 hours in advance of this meeting.

Disability Access: Requests for disability-related modifications or accommodations to participate in this public meeting should be made 24 hours prior to the meeting at <http://www.wscsfamily.org/board-request.html>. All efforts will be made for reasonable accommodations. The agenda and public documents can be modified upon request as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call to Establish Quorum
3. *Action: Board findings pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)

The Charter School Board of Directors determines, in accordance with Government Code Section 54953(e)(1)(B), that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)(3), the Board has also reconsidered the circumstances of the State of Emergency declared by the Governor on March 4, 2020, and finds that State of Emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the Directors to meet safely in person and/or that State or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.

4. *Action: Board Meeting Agenda for December 14, 2021
5. *Action: Minutes from November 9, 2021
6. Hearing of Persons Wishing to Address the Board
7. *Action: Educator Effectiveness Block Grant
8. First Read of the new Visitor Policy
9. Executive Directors Report – Michael Cox

- 10.** Recognition and Gratitude for Cheryl Wilhite on Her Retirement
- 11.** Next Scheduled Board Meeting Tuesday, January 11, 2022.
- 12.** *Adjournment

**Western Sierra Charter School
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 9, 2021, 2:00 PM**

Meeting was conducted via Zoom and streamed via Facebook Live.

1. Call to Order

Brian Fulce called the meeting to order at 2:01 PM

2. Roll Call to Establish Quorum

Quorum established.

Board Members Present: Tamara Dent, Shantal Fossee, Brian Fulce, Lyndsay Haussler, Monika Moulin, Tiffany Schutz, and Darin Soukup

Absent: None

WSCS Staff Present: Phil Blas, Michael Cox, Eric Hagen, Jody Jeffers, Nancy Garcia, Mindy Klang, and Diane Neulinger

Liaisons Present: Margaret Den Hartog and Joyce Vind

3. *Action: Board findings pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)

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Approved

Motion: Darin Soukup

Second: Tamara Dent

Vote: 7 yes, 0 no

4. *Action: Board Meeting Agenda for November 9, 2021.

Approved

Motion: Monika Moulin

Second: Darin Soukup

Vote: 7 yes, 0 no

5. *Action: Board Minutes from September 14, 2021 Board Meeting

Approved

Motion: Tamara Dent

Second: Tiffany Schutz

Vote: 7 yes, 0 no

6. Hearing of Persons Wishing to Address the Board

None

7. Written Communications (if any)

None

8. *Action: warrant reports for 9/8/21 through 11/2/21.

Approved

All deferrals have been paid back to date. The large line item on page 3 is the new Chromebooks approved by the board last year. See printout.

Motion: Tiffany Schutz

Second: Darin Soukup

Vote: 7 yes, 0 no

9. Public Hearing: Independent Study Policy for all WSCS Schools – Open 2:16 PM, Closed 2:20 PM

Open Public Hearing: No earlier than: 2:00 PM

In accordance with Section 11701 of Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations, setting policy pursuant to Education Code section 51747, the Board shall consider, in a public hearing, the scope of its existing or prospective use of independent study as an instructional strategy, its purposes in authorizing independent study, and factors bearing specifically on the maximum realistic lengths of assignments and acceptable number of missed assignments for specific populations of pupils or adult education students. This policy shall reflect an awareness that excessive leniency in its terms can result in pupils falling so far behind their age peers as to increase, rather than decrease, the risk of their dropping out of school

10. *Action: Amendment to the Independent Study Policy 21/22-001-A for all WSCS Schools

See amended policy with mark ups

Approved

Motion: Tamara Dent

Second: Shantal Fossee

Vote: 7 yes, 0 no

11. *Action: Expenditure of Federal Grand Funds Policy

Jody Jeffers – no new changes

Approved

Motion: Monika Moulin

Second: Darin Soukup

Vote: 7 yes, 0 no

12. *Action: Approval of Endeavor Parent Isaac Ostos to Serve as Representative on the Fresno County Charter SELPA Community Advisory Committee

Endeavor Charter is a member of the Fresno County SELPA.

Approved

Motion: Tiffany Schutz

Second: Monika Moulin

Vote: 7 yes, 0 no

13. *Action: Board Resolution #2021-2022-07 for Charter Term Extension DRAFT

Michael Cox – See resolution printout

Approved

Motion: Darin Soukup

Second: Lyndsay Hausler

Vote: 7 yes, 0 no

14. Info: Educator Effectiveness Block Grant Plan

Jody Jeffers – This is a first read for the board. We will need to approve by the end of the year. This will be on December's agenda. Please see provided document.

15. Discussion: Future Board Meetings Format – virtual or in person

We will continue for now with Zoom meetings due to health cautions.

16. Reports

a). Executive Directors Report – Michael Cox

1) Tiered Reengagement Plan – See Handout

2). Update on Staff Vaccination and COVID-19 Testing – See Handout

3). Invitation to CCSA Conference on March 14-17, 2022

b). CBO Report – Jody Jeffers

1). Budget update

See hand out

c). Endeavor Principal's Report – Eric Hagen/Nancy Garcia

See power point print out

d). Mountain Home School/Glacier High Principal's Report – Mindy Klang

See power point print out

17. Next Scheduled Special Board Meeting Tuesday, December 14, 2021 @ 2:00 PM

Confirmed

18. *Adjournment @ 4:19 PM

CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY

I certify that I am the duly elected Secretary of the Western Sierra Charter Schools, a California nonprofit public benefits corporation;
that these minutes are of the special meeting of the Board of Directors held on November 9, 2021.

Diane Neulinger

Minutes prepared and submitted by: Diane Neulinger

Educator Effectiveness Block Grant 2021–26 Plan For Mountain Home School Charter, Glacier High School Charter, and Endeavor Charter School

Requirements to Receive Grant Funds:

The local plan for the Educator Effectiveness funds will be heard in a public meeting of the WSCS governing board before its adoption in a subsequent public meeting. This will take place on or before December 30, 2021.

Use of Funds:

The funds from this grant will be used only for any of the following:

1. Coaching and mentoring of staff serving in an instructional setting and beginning teacher or administrator induction, including, but not limited to, coaching and mentoring solutions that address a local need for teachers that can serve all pupil populations with a focus on retaining teachers, and offering structured feedback and coaching systems organized around social-emotional learning, including, but not limited to, promoting teacher self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationships, and responsible decision making skills, improving teacher attitudes and beliefs about one's self and others, and supporting learning communities for educators to engage in a meaningful classroom teaching experience.
2. Programs that lead to effective, standards-aligned instruction and improve instruction in literacy across all subject areas, including English language arts, history-social science, science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and computer science.
3. Practices and strategies that reengage pupils and lead to accelerated learning.
4. Strategies to implement social-emotional learning, trauma-informed practices, suicide prevention, access to mental health services, and other approaches that improve pupil well-being.
5. Practices to create a positive school climate, including, but not limited to, restorative justice, training around implicit bias, providing positive behavioral supports, multitiered systems of support, transforming a school's culture to one that values diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds, and preventing discrimination, harassment, bullying, and intimidation based on actual or perceived characteristics, including disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, language, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, or sexual orientation.
6. Strategies to improve inclusive practices, including, but not limited to, universal design for learning, best practices for early identification, and development of individualized education programs for individuals with exceptional needs.
7. Instruction and education to support implementing effective language acquisition programs for English learners, which may include integrated language development within and across content areas and building and strengthening capacity to increase bilingual and biliterate proficiency.

8. New professional learning networks for educators not already engaged in an education-related professional learning network to support the requirements of subdivision (c).
9. Instruction, education, and strategies to incorporate ethnic studies curricula adopted pursuant to Section 51226.7 into pupil instruction for grades 7 to 12, inclusive.
10. Instruction, education, and strategies for certificated and classified educators in early childhood education, or childhood development.

Reporting:

Each school will submit an annual data report and an annual expenditure report detailing information to the California Department of Education (CDE), including, but not limited to, specific purchases made and the number of teachers, administrators, paraprofessional educators or classified staff that received professional development on or before September 30 of each year. In addition, as a condition of apportionment, a final data and expenditure report is also required to be submitted to the CDE on or before September 30, 2026.

Period of Use of Funds:

Funds may be expended during the 2021–22, 2022–23, 2023–24, 2024–25 and 2025–26 fiscal years. An annual data and expenditure report will be due each year on or before September 30. A final data and expenditure report will be due on or before September 30, 2026. Any funds not expended by June 30, 2026, must be returned to the California Department of Education.

Discussed in Public Board Meeting on:

Approved in Public Board Meeting on:

CLASSROOM AND SCHOOL VOLUNTEER, VISITATION, AND REMOVAL POLICY

While Western Sierra Charter Schools (“WSCS” or the “Charter School”) encourages parents/guardians and interested members of the community to visit the Charter School and view the educational program, WSCS also endeavors to create a safe environment for students and staff. Additionally, parents volunteering in the classroom can be extremely helpful to our teachers and valuable to our students. We thank all parents for their willingness to volunteer in this manner.

Nevertheless, to ensure the safety of students and staff as well as to minimize interruption of the instructional program, the WSCS Board of Directors has established the following procedures, to facilitate volunteering and visitations during regular school days:

Definitions

- A “*visitor*” is defined as any person seeking to enter the school building who is:
 - not an employee of the Charter School
 - not a student currently enrolled in the Charter School
 - not a parent, guardian or sibling of a student currently enrolled in the Charter School.

All visitors who are not parents or guardians of a student must have a specific and educationally relevant purpose for their visit.

- A “*volunteer*” is defined as any person who voluntarily offers and provides a service to the Charter School with Charter School approval without receiving compensation.

Volunteering

Parents or guardians who are interested in volunteering in the classroom must adhere to the following guidelines:

1. Volunteers who will volunteer outside of the direct supervision of a credentialed employee shall be (1) fingerprinted and (2) receive background clearance prior to volunteering without the direct supervision of a credentialed employee.
2. Volunteering must be arranged with the classroom teacher and Principal or designee, at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance.
3. Prior to volunteering in the classroom, the volunteer should communicate with the teacher to discuss the expectations for volunteering needs. Classroom volunteers are there to benefit the entire class and are not in class solely for the benefit of their own child. Classroom volunteers must follow the instructions provided by the classroom teacher or aide. Classroom rules also apply to volunteers to ensure minimal distraction to the teacher. If a volunteer is uncomfortable following the direction of the teacher or aide, the volunteer may leave their volunteer position for that day.

4. Information gained by volunteers regarding students (e.g. academic performance or behavior) is to be maintained in strict confidentiality.
5. Volunteers shall follow and be governed by all other guidelines indicated elsewhere in this Policy. This includes, but is not limited to, the process of registering and signing out of the campus at the main office as indicated below.
6. Volunteerism by parents is encouraged but not mandatory.
7. This Policy does not authorize WSCS to permit a parent/guardian to volunteer or visit the campus if doing so conflicts with a valid restraining order, protective order, or order for custody or visitation issued by a court of competent jurisdiction.

Visitation

1. Parents/guardians seeking to visit a classroom during school hours must first obtain the approval of the classroom teacher and the Principal or designee.
2. All visitors (see definition above) shall register in the Visitors Log Book and complete a Visitor's Permit in the main office immediately upon entering any school building or grounds when during regular school hours. When registering, the visitor is required to provide his/her name, address, age (if under 21), his/her purpose for entering school grounds, and proof of identity.
3. All visitors are asked to comply with current mandated and recommended health and safety protocols. Visitors (including volunteers) who demonstrate signs of a contagious disease (e.g. fever, coughing) may be denied registration. When recommended or requested by the Department of Public Health, visitors will be required to wear personal protective equipment, such as masks, and practice social distancing. WSCS reserves the right to implement additional measures for the protection of its school community, such as requiring forehead temperature checks before entry to the same extent being utilized for students and employees.
4. If the visitor is a government officer/official (including but not limited to local law enforcement officers, immigration enforcement officers, social workers, district attorneys, or U.S. attorneys) the officer/official will also be asked to produce any documentation that authorizes school access. WSCS shall make reasonable efforts to notify parents or guardians prior to permitting a student to be interviewed or searched, consistent with the law and/or any court order, warrant or instructions from the officer/official. A copy of the documentation provided by the officer and notes from the encounter may be maintained by WSCS, consistent with the law. The WSCS Board of Directors and Bureau of Children's Justice in the California Department of Justice, at BCJ@doj.ca.gov, will be timely informed regarding any attempt by a law-enforcement officer to access a school site or a student for immigration-enforcement purposes, as recommended by the Attorney General.
5. For purposes of school safety and security, the Principal or designee may design a visible means of identification for visitors while on school premises.

6. While on campus, visitors are to enter and leave classrooms as quietly as possible, not converse with any student, teacher, or other instructional assistant unless permitted, and not interfere with any school activity. No electronic listening or recording device may be used in a classroom without the teacher's and Principal's written permission.
7. Before leaving campus, the visitor shall return the Visitor's Permit and sign out of the Visitors Log Book in the main office.
8. The Principal, or designee, may refuse to register a visitor or volunteer if it is believed that the presence of the visitor or volunteer would cause a threat of disruption or physical injury to teachers, other employees, or students.
9. The Principal may direct a visitor without lawful business on campus to leave campus when the visitor's presence or acts interfere with the peaceful conduct of the activities of the school or disrupt the school or its pupils or school activities. Any visitor who is directed to leave by the Principal or designee will not be permitted to return to the Charter School campus for at least seven (7) days.
10. The Principal or designee may request that a visitor who has failed to register, or whose registration privileges have been denied or withdrawn, promptly leave school grounds. When a visitor is directed to leave, the Principal or designee shall inform the visitor that if the visitor reenters the school without following the posted requirements the visitor will be guilty of a misdemeanor.
11. The Principal or designee may seek the assistance of the police in managing or reporting any visitor in violation of this Policy.

Penalties

1. Pursuant to Education Code Section 44811, any parent, guardian, or other person whose conduct materially disrupts classwork or extracurricular activities or involves substantial disorder is guilty of a misdemeanor and is punishable, upon the first conviction, by a fine of no less than \$500.00 (five hundred dollars) and no more than \$1,000.00 (one thousand dollars) or by imprisonment in a County jail for no more than one (1) year, or both, the fine and imprisonment.
2. Disruptive conduct may lead to WSCS's pursuit of a restraining order against a visitor, which would prohibit him/her from coming onto school grounds or attending school activities for any purpose for a period of up to three (3) years.
3. Pursuant to Penal Code Section 626.81, a person who is required to register as a sex offender who comes into any school building or upon any school ground without lawful business thereon and written permission indicating the date or dates and times for which permission has been granted from the Principal is guilty of a misdemeanor.