

**Western Sierra Charter School
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 11 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 2:05 PM

2. Roll Call to Establish Quorum

Quorum established.

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

Absent: None

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

WSCS Staff Liaison Present: Margaret Den Hartog and Joyce Vind

3. *Action: Special Board Meeting Agenda for August 11, 2021.

Approved

Motion: Darin Soukup

Second: Monika Moulin

Vote: 4 yes, 0 no, 1 absent

4. *Approve Board Minutes from June 15, 2021 Board Meeting

Approved

Motion: Tiffany Schutz

Second: Darin Soukup

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

5. Hearing of Persons Wishing to Address the Board

None

6. Written Communications (if any)

None

7. Public Hearing: Independent Study Policy - Open to public @ 2:09 PM. Closed public hearing @ 2:27 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.

Michael Cox read the policy into the record. This policy requires board approval as we are looking to meet new mandates.

AB 130 requires additional elements of school engagement on a daily basis. Daily Synchronous Instruction for TK-3 by the Advising Teacher, weekly for 4-8 with live interaction and weekly 9-12 by the teacher of record.

Teacher of record has to be able to monitor the student's weekly attendance. If there are 3 or more missed days, they must start a three-tiered re-engagement plan. Step one: reach out via phone call or

email, step two: ask the parent if they need any help recording attendance or with instruction, step three: begin an evaluation process. Our IS already answers all of these issues.

Changes made to the policy:

Item 1: max time – 20 days for assignments

Item 2: number of assignments missed before re-engagement

Item 2b: (new) evaluate student progress

Item 3: (new) curriculum aligned with courses

Item 4: Tiered re-engagement

Item 4 (a,b,c,d): requirement of re-engagement

Item 5: (new) Live Instruction. TK-3 we must offer the “opportunity” for daily instruction by their Advising Teacher. This can be in-person, via internet or on the phone. This is voluntary for the student and will not affect their attendance record. Grades 4-8 must be offered the “opportunity” for weekly instruction by their Advising Teacher and daily interaction by school staff and grades 9-12 must be offered the “opportunity” for weekly instruction by the teacher of record. We will implement this by having all the TK-8 Advising Teachers offer daily instruction for 30 minutes a day via Zoom, from 8:15-8:45 AM on all school days. All 9-12 Advising Teachers will offer weekly instruction for 30 minutes via Zoom, from 8:15-8:45 AM, GHS on Tuesdays and ECS on Wednesdays.

Item 6: (new) We will help the student transition back to a seat-based instruction if this better meets the needs of the student.

Item 7: addresses the Master Agreement

Item 8: remains the same

Item 9: remains the same

8. *Action: Independent Study Policy

The Board shall consider adoption of an Independent Study Policy in accordance with the requirements of Education Code Section 51747.

Questions/Comments:

Tamara – Commendation on the new plan

Michael – We have an additional 30 days to get the Master Agreements signed by the parents. We are moving to electronic attendance through our SIS program (School Pathways). Teacher will follow-up on 3 or more absences via phone.

Approved

Motion: Darin Soukup

Second: Tiffany Schutz

Vote: 5 yes, 0 no

9. Reports

a). Executive Directors Report – Michael Cox

1) Update on school opening

As per the new IS Policy, daily instruction will happen via Zoom by each Advising teacher for students TK-8 and weekly for students 9-12. The Advising Teacher has discretion to do whatever they feel most meets the needs of their students. Attendance will be taken but this is not mandatory to the students.

This year attendance will be taken electronically on a weekly bases and signed by the parent every 20 school days.

Masks will be required in all indoor spaces as per the CDPH guidelines. Exemptions can only be obtained through a medical waver filled out and signed by a medical doctor. Forms are available on the school's websites.

10. **Next Scheduled Board Meeting Tuesday, September 14, 2021 @ 2:00 PM**
Confirmed

11. ***Adjournment @ 2:44 PM**

Motion: Monika Moulin

Second: Tiffany Schutz

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 August 11 2021.


Joyce Vind

Minutes prepared and submitted by: Diane Neulinger