

APPROVED



The Cottonwood School

Minutes

Regular Scheduled Board Meeting

Date and Time

Tuesday January 19, 2021 at 6:00 PM

Location

7006 Rossmore Lane
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/98782057497>

Meeting ID: 987 8205 7497

Join by Phone: (669) 900-6833

Directors Present

Adina Caskey (remote), Christine Cordero (remote), Deb Hibbard (remote), Dr. Norman Lorenz (remote), Teresa Lyday Selby (remote)

Directors Absent

None

Guests Present

Amy Freydenlund (remote), Cindy Garcia (remote), Darlington Ahaiwe (remote), Dianne Curtis (remote), Dr. Amanda Johnson (remote), Elaine Alexandres (remote), Jodiann Beeson (remote), Kathy Fagundo (remote), Kirsten Graat (remote), Melissa Calles (remote), Spencer Styles (remote), Tom Conwell (remote), Tracy Callanan (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

Dr. Norman Lorenz called a meeting of the board of directors of The Cottonwood School to order on Tuesday Jan 19, 2021 at 6:01 PM.

C. Public Comments

No public comments

D. Closed Session

Teresa Lyday Selby made a motion to move to closed session at 6:04pm.

Deb Hibbard seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

Deb Hibbard Aye

Dr. Norman Lorenz Aye

Christine Cordero Aye

Adina Caskey Aye

Teresa Lyday Selby Aye

Dr. Norman Lorenz made a motion to move out of closed session at 7:03pm.

Adina Caskey seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

Christine Cordero Aye

Teresa Lyday Selby Aye

Deb Hibbard Aye

Dr. Norman Lorenz Aye

Adina Caskey Aye

E. Announcement of Any Action Taken in Closed Session

The board announced that they voted to finalize the lease for 3921 Sandstone Drive, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762.

Board members request a brief recess to 7:10pm.

II. Open Session - Opening Items

A. Approval of the Agenda

Christine Cordero made a motion to approve the agenda.

Teresa Lyday Selby seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

Christine Cordero Aye

Dr. Norman Lorenz Aye

Deb Hibbard Aye

Teresa Lyday Selby Aye

Adina Caskey Aye

B. Public Comments

No public comments.

C. Executive Director's Report

Cindy Garcia presented the Executive Director's report. Highlights included:

- Homestudy students shared why they are grateful for TCS
- Sight-based High School student highlighted for growth of her leadership skills and encouraging others to grow
- Stacey Close reported on Multilingual Learners (ELL)
 - Live, direct instruction, grades 1-12, twice a week

- Bridging Classes 4th-12th grade – new to school, new to country, bridge gaps for students
- ELPAC – practice tests, technology and testing strategies, comfort and familiarity with testers
- 200 multilingual students within the 5 schools.
- Introduction of New Directors:
 - Eric Sweivin – Director of Curriculum
 - Amy Freydenlund – Director of Instruction and Assessment
 - Dianne Curtis – Director of Community
- Due To/From
 - Inspire Charter Schools/ Provenance name change to ThinkSuite
 - ThinkSuite working on outstanding balance due to TCS
 - Watching developments of Granite Mountain lawsuit
- Form 700 due back by 2/15, explanation of timing and reason why new forms were needed
- STAR Assessment window 1/26-2/19
- Free access to Moby Max, offer to K-8
 - Learning loss mitigation
 - Intervention
- Professional Development – Keith Hawkins, “GO MAD” (Go Out and Make A Difference)
- COVID 19 vaccines
 - All information re: vaccines comes from the county.
 - Roll out is a work in progress.
 - County is being transparent.
 - CSDC info: be prepared to encounter resistance from stakeholders.
 - We might not see as quick a reopening as we thought.
- COLA 3.84%
- New draft for LCAP, July 1, 2021 with no extension of “hold harmless” which applied during COVID.

D. Approve Minutes

Deb Hibbard made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Scheduled Board Meeting on 12-08-20.

Christine Cordero seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

Deb Hibbard	Aye
Christine Cordero	Aye
Dr. Norman Lorenz	Aye
Teresa Lyday Selby	Aye
Adina Caskey	Aye

III. Finance

A. December Financials

Deb Hibbard made a motion to approve the December Financials.

Dr. Norman Lorenz seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

Adina Caskey	Aye
Christine Cordero	Aye
Dr. Norman Lorenz	Aye
Deb Hibbard	Aye
Teresa Lyday Selby	Aye

B. Student Allotments Review

Spencer Styles presented the student allotments review.

- Explanation of 40/80 Expense Ration
- School receives 100% of Allotments only if they maintain thresholds
- We must be cautious about “roll over” funds.
 - Allotments can only be accounted for as expense when goods and services are received; cannot be saved for future year.
 - If allotments are not used, the next year they are reduced
 - Do we have the financial flexibility to continue the practice of “roll over” funds?

IV. Academic Excellence

A. Policy on Differential Graduation and Competency Standards and Certificates of Educational Achievement for Students with Disabilities

Christine Cordero made a motion to approve the Policy on Differential Graduation and Competency Standards and Certificates of Educational Achievement for Students with Disabilities.

Adina Caskey seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

Deb Hibbard Aye
Teresa Lyday Selby Aye
Adina Caskey Aye
Christine Cordero Aye
Dr. Norman Lorenz Aye

B. 2021-2022 School Calendar

Dr. Norman Lorenz made a motion to approve the 2021-2022 School Calendar.

Deb Hibbard seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

Teresa Lyday Selby Aye
Adina Caskey Aye
Dr. Norman Lorenz Aye
Deb Hibbard Aye
Christine Cordero Aye

V. Operations

A. Publication of the School Accountability Report Card (SARC) Report

Ann Buxton presented on the Publication of the School Accountability Report Card (SARC) Report. The board discussed the effects statewide of COVID and distance learning.

Adina Caskey made a motion to approve the publication of the School Accountability Report Card (SARC) Report.

Dr. Norman Lorenz seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

Adina Caskey Aye
Teresa Lyday Selby Aye
Christine Cordero Aye
Dr. Norman Lorenz Aye

Roll Call

Deb Hibbard Aye

B. Employee Handbook

Dr. Norman Lorenz made a motion to approve the Employee Handbook.

Adina Caskey seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

Christine Cordero Aye

Teresa Lyday Selby Aye

Dr. Norman Lorenz Aye

Adina Caskey Aye

Deb Hibbard Aye

C. COVID-19 Reporting Process

Teresa Lyday Selby made a motion to approve the COVID-19 Reporting Process.

Christine Cordero seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

Deb Hibbard Aye

Dr. Norman Lorenz Aye

Adina Caskey Aye

Christine Cordero Aye

Teresa Lyday Selby Aye

VI. Closing Items

A. Board of Directors Comments & Requests

Thanks to Board and Admin team for being a cohesive team. No requests were made.

B. Announcement of Next Regular Scheduled Board Meeting

February 16, 2021

• Closed Session: 6:00 p.m.

• Open Session: 7:00 p.m.

C. Adjourn Meeting

Deb Hibbard made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:34pm.

Adina Caskey seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

Deb Hibbard Aye

Teresa Lyday Selby Aye

Adina Caskey Aye

Christine Cordero Aye

Dr. Norman Lorenz Aye

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:34 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Deb Hibbard

Prepared by:
Kathy Fagundo

Noted by:

Board Secretary

Public comment rules: Members of the public may address the Board on agenda or non-agenda items through the teleconference platform, Zoom. Zoom does not require the members of the public to have an account or login. Please either utilize the chat option to communicate with the administrative team your desire to address the board or simply communicate orally your desire to address the board when the board asks for public comments. Members of the public are permitted to comment on both non-agenda item matters and agenda item matters when public comment is called. Speakers may be called in the order that requests are received. We ask that comments are limited to 2 minutes each, with no more than 15 minutes per single topic so that as many people as possible may be heard. If a member of the public utilizes a translator to address the board, those individuals are allotted 4 minutes each. If the board utilizes simultaneous translation equipment in a manner that allows the board to hear the translated public testimony simultaneously, those individuals are allotted 2 minutes each. By law, the Board is allowed to take action only on items on the agenda. The Board may, at its discretion, refer a matter to school staff or calendar the issue for future discussion.

Note: The Governing Board encourages those with disabilities to participate fully in the public meeting process. If you need a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, to participate in the public meeting, please contact the Governing Board Office at (562) 584-0427 at least 48 hours before the scheduled board meeting so every reasonable effort can be made to accommodate you. (Government Code § 54954.2; Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, § 202 (42 U.S.C. § 12132)).