

APPROVED



The Cottonwood School

Minutes

Regular Scheduled Board Meeting

Date and Time

Tuesday April 20, 2021 at 6:00 PM

Location

7006 Rossmore Lane
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/95747874461>

Meeting ID: 957 4787 4461

Join by Phone: (669) 900-6833

Directors Present

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

Directors Absent

None

Guests Present

Ann Buxton (remote), Christie Thomas (remote), Cindy Garcia (remote), Dianne Curtis (remote), Dr. Amanda Johnson (remote), Jodiann Beeson (remote), Kathy Fagundo (remote), Kirsten Graat (remote), Lisa Corr (remote), Magan Nelson (remote), Maria Obolonchnik (remote), Paul Minney (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 Apr 20, 2021 at 6:01 PM.

C. Public Comments

No public comments

D. Closed Session Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing & Anticipated Litigation

Teresa Lyday Selby made a motion to recess to closed session at 6:05pm.

Christine Cordero seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

Deb Hibbard Aye

Teresa Lyday Selby Aye

Dr. Norman Lorenz Aye

Christine Cordero Aye

E. Announcement of Any Action Taken in Closed Session

The board returned from closed session at 7:34 pm. No action taken but direction given to counsel. Board will reconvene at 7:40.

II. Open Session - Opening Items

A. Approval of the Agenda

Deb Hibbard made a motion to approve the agenda.

Christine Cordero seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

Christine Cordero Aye

Dr. Norman Lorenz Aye

Teresa Lyday Selby Aye

Deb Hibbard Aye

B. Public Comments

No public comments.

C. Approve Minutes

Christine Cordero made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Scheduled Board Meeting on 03-16-21.

Dr. Norman Lorenz seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

Teresa Lyday Selby Aye

Dr. Norman Lorenz Aye

Deb Hibbard Aye

Christine Cordero Aye

D. Executive Director's Report

Cindy Garcia presented the Executive Director's report.

1. Student Spotlight

- Kennedy (Kindergarten, Homeschool) – Koala Report
- Ruben (1st grade, Homeschool) – Excavator Model and Hydraulics Report
- Kylie Peason (10th grade, Site-based High School)

2. Thanks to Elaine, Melissa, Jodiann

3. Hiring 42 new staff

4. Kara Parkins
5. Sarah Turoid – SpEd nearly fully staffed for next year
 - New Director of Special Education – Holly Phillips
6. Dianne Curtis – Community Updates
7. Homeschool High School and Jr. High School program – BOOST
 - In process of hiring coordinator
8. Recruiting teachers
9. BOOST – designed to go along side curriculum that families are using, give extension activities
10. Amy Frydenland – Curriculum
 - Hiring 5 new staff
 - Procurify training
 - Refining vendor lists for 21-22
 - IT coming in house – 7th Dimension
11. LCAP survey 95% positive feedback
12. Testing Update
 - Granted permission to use local assessment – STAR assessment
 - Hoping for 95% participation
13. Stacy Close – English Learner Reclassification Criteria Change

III. Finance

A. Discussion and Potential Action on the 2019-2020 Audit

Deb Hibbard made a motion to approve the 2019-2020 Audit as presented by Kevin Sproul.

Christine Cordero seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

B. Discussion and Potential Action on the March Financials

Deb Hibbard made a motion to approve the March financials as presented by Darlington Ahaiwe,.

Christine Cordero seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

C. Discussion and Potential Action on the 2021-2022 Salary Schedule

Christine Cordero made a motion to approve the 2021-2022 Salary Schedule as revised and presented by Cindy Garcia.

Dr. Norman Lorenz seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

IV. Operations

A. Presentation by Gallagher: 2021 Employee Benefits Proposal Updates

Sarah Galbraith from Gallagher presented the 2021 Employee Benefits Proposal.

B. Discussion and Potential Action on a New 2021-2022 Vendor Contract

Deb Hibbard made a motion to approve the new 2021-2022 Vendor Contract.

Teresa Lyday Selby seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

Deb Hibbard Aye

Dr. Norman Lorenz Aye

Teresa Lyday Selby Aye

Christine Cordero Aye

V. Academic Excellence

A. Discussion and Potential Action on the English Language Learner

Reclassification Plan

Dr. Norman Lorenz made a motion to approve the updated English Language Learner Reclassification Plan.

Deb Hibbard seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

Deb Hibbard Aye

Christine Cordero Aye

Teresa Lyday Selby Aye

Dr. Norman Lorenz Aye

VI. Governance

A. Discussion and Potential Action Interview & Selection of New Board Member

Dr. Lorenz explained the system that would be used to interview and select a new board member. The Board then interviewed the candidates one at a time.

Christine Cordero made a motion to thank Donna and Selima for interviewing and going through the process and to nominate Donna Huckleby to serve as the next Board Member of the Cottonwood School.

Teresa Lyday Selby seconded the motion.

Donna Huckleby stated she was humbled and honored to accept the position.

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

Roll Call

Dr. Norman Lorenz Aye

Deb Hibbard Aye

Christine Cordero Aye

Teresa Lyday Selby Aye

Donna Huckleby took the Board Oath as administered by Cindy Garcia.

VII. Closing Items

A. Board of Directors Comments & Requests

Thanks to Cindy Garcia and Jodiann Beeson for positive growth and change from Spring of 2020 to Spring of 2021.

B. Announcement of the Next Regular Scheduled Board Meeting

Next Board Meeting is May 18, 2021

- Closed Session: 6:00 p.m.
- Open Session: 7:00 p.m.

C. Adjourn Meeting

Dr. Norman Lorenz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:00pm.

Teresa Lyday Selby seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

Teresa Lyday Selby Aye

Dr. Norman Lorenz Aye

Deb Hibbard Aye

Christine Cordero Aye

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Norman Lorenz

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.

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