



**B.E.S.T. ACADEMY MINUTES:
REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
DIRECTORS February 28, 2024**

A meeting of the Board of Directors (the “**Board**”) of Brookfield Engineering Science and Technology Academy Charter School (“**B.E.S.T.**” or the “**School**”) was held on Wednesday, February 28, 2024

VIDEO LINK:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/6eUNWoG9AhjptvZ3GozERzh5MemxXbnGzN1M4cMOon_S4bL4-M_jbtuuRW33m5Po.x7izW8JaV_6AMceP

Directors Present in Person: Joseph Cipres, Chad Leptich, Marcella Nino, Debra Webb, and Gary McCloskey

LOCATION: **Barker Blue Dog Office
6360 El Cajon Blvd #101
San Diego, CA 92115**

Directors Present Via Video Conference: None

Directors Absent: None

Also Present: Alex Soriano, Cory Cavanah, Adrian Zavala, Yhanseck Cervantez, Adrian Zavala, Joel Manwarren, Joshua Goyer, James Mays

1. CALL TO ORDER: Board President Joseph Cipres called the meeting to order at 10::35 AM A quorum of the directors was present, and the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with business.

Present: Marcella Nino, Joseph Cipres, Debra Webb, Chad Leptich, Gary McCloskey, James Mays, Alex Soriano, Joshua Goyer, Joel Manwar

2. Approval of Agenda: *Motion to approve the February 28, 2024 Regular Board Meeting agenda.*

Approval Motion: Debra Webb

Second: Gary Mccloskey

Ayes: All

Roll Call

Marcella Nino - *aye*

Joseph Cipres - *aye*

Debra Webb - *aye*

Chad Leptich - *aye*

Gary McCloskey - *aye*

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Leads Pledge: *Marcella Nino*

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS / RECOGNITION / REPORTS

None

5. CORRESPONDENCE/PROPOSALS/REPORTS/INFORMATION

a. *Joshua Goyer presents LCAP Mid Year Review. The midyear LCAP informs the board of the school's progress and plans to address deficiencies. The data presented is based on NWEA data. Most grades show growth, except for 4th and 5th grades. Repeat reading will continue to be a strategy to increase growth for all students. We will introduce reading and writing labs. We have not seen the same amount of growth in writing. Joshua also presents the growth in the supplementary applications.*

Joshua presents the CAASPP results and the current standing of the dashboard. He explains the action steps. The CAASPP goals are embedded with the NWEA goals. The school will introduce Reading, Writing, and Math labs aligned with the CAASPP.

Gary McCloskey asks for data to measure how accurate the predictability was based on the current presentation.

b. *Cory Cavanaugh presents the 2nd interim narrative before approval in action items. The COLA is projected to be 0.76, less than one percent, for the upcoming year.*

BEST Academy ends with one-time funds: ESSER II, III, and Prop 28. BEST has allocated the funds to free up LCFF funds. We aim to spend these funds and not worry about them in upcoming years. Our increasing enrollment also puts us in a safe position with our funding. We have a projected ending fund balance of over 4 million dollars.

Marcella Nino asks if expenditures have increased or remained the same. Cory responds to this with the actual interim report.

Cory explains that we must be conservative to continue educating students. James Mays explains that Julian expects six months of cash in the bank. BEST is over

six months at this point. Gary appreciates the conservative approach.

c. Salary Discussion 23-24. Alex explains that this is a proposal for a salary. The school is proposing a 9% raise. The schools realize that it must be competitive but also understand that remote working is a benefit. The 9% does involve an added five days to the contracted calendar and duties as assigned.

d. Form 700 has been completed by all.

7. APPROVAL OF CONSOLIDATED MOTION FOR CONSENT CALENDAR

The Board considers all matters under the consent agenda to be routine and will be approved, ratified, and enacted in one motion in the form listed below. Unless specifically requested by a board member for further discussion or removed from the agenda, there will be no more discussion on these items prior to the Board vote. Comments by the Board may be made at the discretion of the Chairperson.

Debra Webb - noticed there are a good amount of typos. I

Approval Motion: Gary McCloskey **Second:** Marcella Nino **Ayes:** 4/5

Roll Call

Marcella Nino - aye

Joseph Cipres - aye

Debra Webb - aye

Chad Leptich - aye

Gary McCloskey - absent

a. Approval of the Minutes: *Board Meeting of December 6, 2023*

b. Check Register: *Check Registers*

c. Expense Reports: *Reimbursements*

d. Routine Contract Renewals: *Routine Contract Renewal*

8. ACTION ITEMS

a. 2023-24 2nd Interim Budget Report [LINK](#)

- i. Approval establishes the second report on the status of the school’s financial health. The second report is due March 17 the date ending January 31, 2024.**

No questions

Approval Motion: Marcella Nino

Second: Debra Webb **Ayes:** 4/5

Roll Call

Marcella Nino - aye
Joseph Cipres - Aye
Debra Webb - aye
Chad Leptich - absent
Gary McCloskey - aye

b. School Calendar 2024-2025 [LINK](#)

Alex Soriano presents that the calendar was presented with the proposed calendar at the February 7, 2024 meeting. The difference between this calendar and this year’s calendar is the five new school days added to the staff calendar.

Approval Motion: Debra Webb

Second: Gary Mccloskey **Ayes:** 4/5

Roll Call

Marcella Nino - aye
Joseph Cipres - Aye
Debra Webb - aye
Chad Leptich - absent
Gary McCloskey - aye

c. Updated At Will Employment Agreement [LINK](#)

- i. Approval updates the At-Will employment agreement after legal counsel recommendations.**

Alex Soriano presents the updated At Will agreement based on legal counsel recommendations.

Approval Motion: Gary McCloskey **Second:** Debra Webb **Ayes:** All

Roll Call

Marcella Nino - aye

Joseph Cipres - aye
Debra Webb - aye
Chad Leptich - aye
Gary McCloskey - aye

d. School Safety Plan 23-24 [LINK](#)

i. Approval updates the school safety plan after legal counsel recommendations.

Alex Soriano explains the adjustment based on legal counsel's recommendation. Debra Webb mentions that the dress code policy is mentioned. James Mays mentions that the student handbook may have it. The school safety plan will be pushed to the next meeting.

e. Outside of Credential Consent Forms [LINK](#)

i. Approval acknowledges the teacher's consent to teach classes outside of their credential.

Alex Soriano explains that the science teacher needs to be credentialed in all the science we are offering. The county wants to prepare for audits, and teachers must consent to teach outside of the credential. All teachers have consented to teach electives outside of their credentials. Total teaching staff of 19 teachers, with ten teachers teaching outside their credentials. All electives are digital programs, so there is minimal instruction.

Approval Motion: Marcella Nino

Second: Debra Webb **Ayes:** 4/5

Roll Call

Marcella Nino - aye
Joseph Cipres - aye
Debra Webb - aye
Chad Leptich - absent
Gary McCloskey - aye

f. Salary Table 2024-2025 [LINK](#)

- i. Approval establishes salary schedules for all employees for the 2024 -2025 school year.**

The salary table was presented earlier and now asking for approval. Alex Soriano states that we may need to re-approve after the May revise. No Questions.

Approval Motion: Debra Webb

Second: Marcella Nino **Ayes:** 4/5

Roll Call

Marcella Nino - aye

Joseph Cipres - aye

Debra Webb - aye

Chad Leptich - absent

Gary McCloskey - aye

- g. New Job Descriptions [LINK](#)**

- i. Approval establishes new positions that may be filled during the 2023-2024 school year or later.**

Alex Soriano presents the four proposed job descriptions. Every new position states enrollment support to ensure we streamline enrollment during the summer. These new positions will dissolve the Success Coach position. There will also be a counseling position coming in the near future. Marcella Nino explains that it is a good idea to get them approved this early in case some changes need to be made.

Approval Motion: Gary McCloskey

Second: Debra Webb **Ayes:** 4/5

8.1ai Roll Call

Marcella Nino - aye

Joseph Cipres - aye

Debra Webb - aye

Chad Leptich - absent

Gary McCloskey - aye

9. BOARD COMMENTS:

[Joseph Cipres](#) appreciates the input given by board members during hte board meeting.

10. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S COMMENTS:

James Mays updates the board on a state meeting on independent study charter schools. It was mentioned that charter school board many times are not elected. It was mentioned that charters are also run by out of state management groups. Statndardized testing is bring pushed byt the state to test 95 percent, but charter schools are still held accountable to 95 percent testing.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

Upcoming BEST Academy Board Meetings:

- October 4, 2023, Brown Act Training
- November 1, 2023
- December 6, 2023
- February 7, 2024
- *February 28, 2024, added*
- March 6, 2024 Cancelled
- April 3, 2024
- May 1, 2024
- June 5, 2024
- June TBD

Approval Motion: Debra Webb **Second:** Gary Mccloskey **Ayes:** 4/5

Meeting Adjourns at 12:37 pm.

Marcella Nino - aye
Joseph Cipres - absent
Debra Webb - aye
Chad Leptich - aye
Gary McCloskey - aye

The meeting adjourned 12:37 pm