



**B.E.S.T. ACADEMY MINUTES:
REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
DIRECTORS April 3, 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, April 3, 2024

VIDEO LINK:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/ew9aaBEoy1Glib_oLptbQ6sRxOPW0XVpW-SwciogkuoNrF-DyR3KRHK5ud6f5R4.wECDZMrdPRVehVdK

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, Yhanseck Cervantez, Adrian Zavala, Joel Manwarren, Joshua Goyer, James Mays, Reynalda Lopez

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Board President Joseph Cipres called the meeting to order at 10::30 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

2. **Approval of Agenda:** *Motion to approve the April 3, 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: *Chad Leptich*

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS / RECOGNITION / REPORTS

None

5. CORRESPONDENCE/PROPOSALS/REPORTS/INFORMATION

- a. *Budget Update - Vendor Expectations: James Mays reports on the proposal to create accountability with our vendors. This included capping enrollment until academic expectations are met for students being serviced by the vendor.*
 - i. *James Mays reports that the vendor units for each enrolled student will be increased to include the Prop. 28 funds received.*
- b. *Salary Proposal - Alex Soriano reports that our of region employees will receive a 15% pay difference form in region CA employees. Out of state employees will have the option to receive the full CA compensation if they agree to provide in person field trips and assessment support to students on their roster.*
- c. *Director Positions - Alex Soriano reports that coordinator positions will be moved to the Director salary table and calendar. The need to prepare for BEST Academy's renewal required for all support staff to be available more days of the school year.*
 - i. *A Program Director position is necessary to oversee all special programs and data analysis for the school. This position will focus on data and measuring effectiveness of programs based on data.*
 - ii. *3 part time positions are proposed to support enrollment and needs in different regions of our student population. One position would be housed in Julian, one in La Mesa, and one in Indio.*
- d. *Audit Report - Alex Soriano that there are no findings in the annual report. Debra Webb asks for clarification on page 10 regarding the bank account being at risk for having a balance over 250,000 dollars. Chad Leptich states that most funds are in the county treasury and that funds are used for payroll. James Mays agrees with Chad Leptich. Cory will be asked to clarify our risk regarding the statement on the audit report.*

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.

Approval Motion: Gary McCloskey **Second:** Marcella Nino **Ayes:** All

Roll Call

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

a. Approval of the Minutes: *February 28 Board Meeting*

b. Check Register:

c. Expense Reports:

d. Routine Contract Renewals:

8. ACTION ITEMS

a. Transportation Agreement [LINK](#)

- i. Approval establishes an MOU between Julian USD and BEST Academy for the school year 23-24. The agreement provides transportation services for BEST Academy.**

Alex Soriano presents the MOU that will provide transportation for various student activities. Marcello Nino asks who covers the insurance and who employs the bus drivers. Alex Soriano states that Julian USD covers the insurance and hires the bus drivers.

Approval Motion: Debra Webb

Second: Marcella Nino

Ayes: 4/5

Roll Call

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

b. Declaration of Need - 2024-2025 [LINK](#)

- i. Approval estimates the number of limited teaching assignments for the upcoming school year. This form is to be submitted to the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing.**

Alex Soriano presents that we have Biology and Physics being taught by a teacher not credentialed in those subjects. There is a need in those subjects. The teacher is working to become credentialed in those subjects.

Approval Motion: Gary Mccloskey **Second:** Chad Leptich **Ayes:** All

Roll Call

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

c. New Job Description for Academic and College Counselor [LINK](#)

- i. Approval establishes a counseling position to be hired for the 24-25 school year.**

Alex Soriano presents the job description for a counseling position. This will be a full time position.

Approval Motion: Marcella Nino **Second:** Debra Webb **Ayes:** All

Roll Call

Marcella Nino - aye
Joseph Cipres - aye

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

d. Summit K12 Renewal [LINK](#)

i. Approval renews English Language Learner digital curriculum

James Mays presents information on Summit K12. The data provided by Summit K12 and our NWEA data is showing that most kids are performing at 40% or higher in Reading and Language.

Approval Motion: Gary McCloskey **Second:** Marcella Nino **Ayes:** All

Roll Call

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

e. PARSEC data analysis contract renewal [LINK](#)

i. Approval continues quantitative and qualitative data analysis support

James Mays presents the purpose of PARSEC and its role in disaggregating data for the renewal preparation. The contract includes professional development to develop a deep understanding of the data and the tools provided. The program was initially used by the administration, but now will be moved to the teachers. The program manager would be the manager of this program and use the tools to drive our efforts.

Approval Motion: Debra Webb

Second: Chad Leptich **Ayes:** All

Roll Call

Marcella Nino - aye

Joseph Cipres - aye

Debra Webb - aye

Chad Leptich - aye

Gary McCloskey - aye

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

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

Alex Soriano presents the addition of the dress code policy to the safety plan. The piece on appropriate shoes depends on the activity.

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

9. BOARD COMMENTS:

Chad Leptich states that he is impressed with the accountability expectations for vendors. Marcella Nino appreciates the school being proactive and understands that things change in the schools. Gary McCloskey appreciates the preparation of the presentations and agendas. Joseph Cipres appreciates the explanation of the rationale for the literacy coordinator being attached to the English learning position.

10. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS:

Alex Soriano is happy to see the growth of the school and the topics of the agenda maturing and improving. Excited for next school year.

James Mays had a smile for the counseling position coming in. We have a goal for a 5 year renewal and appreciate the support from the board towards that goal.

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 Canceled
- April 3, 2024
- May 1, 2024
- June 5, 2024
- June TBD

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

Meeting Adjourns at 11:49 pm.

Marcella Nino - aye

Joseph Cipres - aye

Debra Webb - aye

Chad Leptich - absent

Gary McCloskey - aye

The meeting adjourned 11:49 pm