

BlueSky Charter School  
2051 Killebrew Drive, Suite 500  
Bloomington, MN 55425  
Regular Board Meeting  
Wednesday, March 20, 2024  
2:00pm

*BlueSky School Board commits to Student Centered Decision making and improving the culture of the district by focusing on the following goals; finance, strategic planning, internal Board operations, and district planning.*

**BlueSky Vision:** *BlueSky is defining education for the 21st century by creating an individualized, dynamic education for all students. We are committed to empowering our community by facilitating relevant learning, skills, hopes and relationships.*

**BlueSky Mission:** *Bringing quality online education and diverse learners together.*

Public can watch/listen to the meeting by joining:

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://zoom.us/j/632473021>

Password: **flexible**

**Meeting ID: 632 473 021**

**One tap mobile**

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**+13017158592,,632473021# US (Germantown)**

**1. Call to Order @ 2**

**2. Roll Call**

*Allen Charles, Seat A: Community Member 2023-2025 present arrived @ 2:36pm*

*Matthew Schempp, Seat B: Vice Chair, Teacher Member 2023-2025 present*

*Sandra Meinerts, Seat C: Required Parent Member 2022-2024 absent*

*Heidi Kelbel, Seat D: Teacher Member 2022-2024 present*

*Judy Pekarek, Treasurer, Seat E: Community member 2023-2025 present*

*Julie Johnson, Secretary, Seat F: Required Teacher member 2022-2024 present*

*Jim Stocco, Chair Seat G: Required Community Member 2022-2024 present*

**3. Notice of Any Conflict of Interest**

**None**

**4. Approval of Agenda**

**Pekarek/Schempp motion to approve**

5-0 motion passes

**5. Approval of Previous Board Minutes**

5.1 Action - Approve [board meeting minutes, February 28, 2024](#)

**Schempp/Kelbel motion to approve**

5-0 motion passes

## **6. [Filing of Finance Claims](#) - EdFin, Scott Brown**

The highlights from the income statement are:

Percent of fiscal year completed: 58%

YTD revenue as a percent of budget: 59%, based on estimated enrollment of 580ADM

YTD expenses as a percent of budget: 60% as compared to prior month of 51%

Enrollment: Budgeted at 580ADM for adopted and revised. Monitor enrollment through the Fall.

Kelbel/Johnson motion to approve

5-0 motion passes

## **7. Reports**

### 7.1 Information- [Finance Committee](#) – Pekarek

The money market report indicates \$8,480.50 of interest has been earned in the month of February. Brown reported that we are 67% of the budget year complete with 68% of our revenue received and 69% of our expenses paid. We currently have no cash flow concerns and are maintaining budgeted areas as expected. A couple of clarifying questions related to the detailed check register were addressed related to:

Swank Motion Pictures - video library used as curriculum in some courses

Mileage reimbursement for Perkins meetings - yes, paid by Perkins grant funds

ArcStone - invoice was paid for additional work on our website redesign, not quite complete yet but was paid in advance

#### A. [Salary schedule budget scenarios](#) (last tab on spreadsheet “proposal scenarios”)

The committee reviewed all 5 scenarios presented related to the teacher salaries (steps and lanes). The committee was not comfortable with the scenarios that increased our expenses over and above the additional revenue we will be projected to receive from the State. This would require that we spend money from our fund balance and would not be sustainable without making large changes to either our current student enrollment numbers or staffing numbers. The only scenario that was closest to projected revenue was scenario 5. Even this scenario will create somewhat of a deficit spending situation as the calculations do not include the additional benefits that would need to be included. In addition, it will use all additional revenue for staffing which could create deficit spending in other areas that may see an increase (such as curriculum and technology contracts).

The committee recommends moving forward with scenario 5 which provides a 3% salary increase FY25 and FY26 but does not include the added lane changes. This puts us into a small deficit that we can handle.

### 7.2 Information- [Curriculum Committee](#) – Schempp

Social Studies CAC update, HMH is being tested, found that most of the curriculum hasn't been updated upon deeper review and doesn't have features, resources we really liked (ex: note taking), and some of it doesn't mesh well with our systems

- Exploring ABC-CLIO, Savvas, Cengage to see if another curriculum would be a better fit
- Full implementation in 26-27 school year, so there is still time

Looking to continue Perkins consortium membership, which was tabled.

End of Course Survey results - it was requested board review.

### 7.3 Information- [HR Committee](#) – Egener

Discussed changes and edits to the 24/25 employee handbook. Paid time off section was thoroughly reviewed.

#### 1) Review of Employee Handbook

a) [Link](#) to copy of handbook

b) Sections to discuss:

i) **Section 3.2 Employee Classification** pg 14

(1) Committee decided employee classifications made sense as is.

ii) **Section 3.6 Compensation** pg 16

(1) This section will be edited once an updated steps and lanes pay scale has officially been approved

iii) **Section 4.1 Paid Time Off** pg 18

(1) Clean up section

(2) Add another table that outlines the different holiday packages for staff

(3) Include one section of sick and volunteer time information at the top and then have a breakdown of vacation/personal day packages for different employee types.

(a) Bold and make heading for employee types more noticeable

(4) Committee recommends to give holiday pay for 181-191 day hourly staff starting the FY25 school year

(a) Holiday pay will include Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, and Memorial Day (5 days in total)

iv) **Section 5.6 Attendance** pg 45

(1) Review of the hours required by staff to work during the school business hours. Right now the handbook says:

“Monday-Friday: Employees should be available for correspondence for a minimum of 4 hours between the hours of 8:30 am – 4:30 pm and should respond accordingly.”

(a) This verbiage insinuates that staff only needs to work a consistent schedule of 4 hours each day Monday - Friday during the school business hours. Is this too lenient? Do we want to edit so that all staff are on the same page for expectations.

(b) Comments: Staff like the flexibility that working at BlueSky gives, it is a major benefit. However, some staff will take this statement very literally.

(c) Recommendation from committee was to remove this verbiage in the handbook and add it to job expectation documents.

v) Any other sections to review?

(1) There were not any other sections the committee wanted to review at this time

#### 7.4 Information- Director's Report – Larsen

Enrollment is on track. Still at our cap for the year. We are enrolling students from the waitlist weekly. April 1st is the last week we will enroll middle school students. Seniors are no longer being enrolled. The Supplemental is still going well, also. Four seats are open for the Board. We have a few applications for teachers but have no parent interest at the moment. Election ballot will be April 29- May 3. Leah Sickman has some names for Amy. Looking ahead to the calendar year 25/26 & 27/28. Surveys went out to staff and parents. We will have 2 calendar options to review at the next board meeting. Virtual conferences and not starting before labor day and the day before thanksgiving off were highly voted. March 13 was the day at the capital for charter schools. Bonnie Jude represented BlueSky!

#### 7.5 Information- [Student Activity/Updates](#) – Miner

The water color club has disbanded. Discussed switching up clubs during the semesters to keep students engaged.

#### Esports

- a. Very difficult Esports spring season so far but no NEW updates
- b. Working on varsity lettering
  - i. Eligibility has been determined
  - ii. Working on last steps - Danielle has reached out to Jostens for a sample
  - iii. A banquet is in the works since lettering has come into play.

#### Lunch Bunch

1. [Staff Sign Up](#)
2. Would like to continue next year
  - a. Possibly not sending out Moodle reminders, some students send snarky replies.

#### March 22nd

- c. Student Activity Day on 03/22 - Speakers
  - i. [Career & College Day program](#)
- d. MN History Museum - Amy Loney

#### 7.6 Information- Assessment Updates/ [IQS Goal Progress](#) - Ondich

Attendance numbers slightly increased. 6 grade attendance appears low as we have only 22 students and we had a few unenroll and when it's confirmed they have enrolled elsewhere those numbers will be cleaned up.

#### 7.7 Information - [Student Services Report](#) - Parker/Kasowicz

154 SPED Students - 16.9% state average. 84 504 students.

The March retreat was great. Student services talked about homeless students and how to identify them and how to help them. There is a student service website where all the forms are located. Summer school applications have been opened. We currently have 10. \$325 per semester credit for non bluesky students. Current Bluesky students are free. We have about 10 different elective options this summer. Julie Johnson will be teaching Science so we are all set for core classes. No update from Mandy.

Pekarek/Kelbel motion to approve

6-0 motion passes

#### 8. Consent Items

8.1 Action -

8.2 Action -

**9. Unfinished Business**

10.1 Action -

**10. New Business**

10.1 Action - Approve revised [Policy 7.2.2 Bidding Services from Authorizer](#)

BlueSky Charter School's authorizer must not enter into a contract to provide management and financial services unless the school documents receiving at least two competitive bids.

Kelbel/Johnson motion to approve

6-0 motion passes

**11. Public Input**

none

**12. Adjourn @ 2:52pm**

Pekarek/Kelbel motion to adjourn

6-0 motion passes

**13. Board Working Session** - Long range planning discussion of middle school enrollment options; 5th grade

**Future Meetings/Events Below:**

April 24, 2024

May 29, 2024

June 26, 2024 - Annual Meeting

**Other:** Next Board Election: May 2024

**Alternate Meeting Locations:**

In addition to 2051 Killebrew Drive, Suite 500, Board members may be joining virtually from the following locations:

N/A