

# BlueSky Charter School

2051 Killebrew Drive, Suite 500

Bloomington, MN 55425

Regular Board Meeting

Wednesday, January 29, 2025

2:00 pm

*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

+19294362866,,632473021# US (New York)

+13017158592,,632473021# US (Germantown)

## 1. Call to Order @ 2:00pm

## 2. Roll Call

Allen Charles, *Seat A: Community Member 2023-2025 - present virtually @2:02pm*

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

Kelsey Waits, *Seat C: Required Parent Member 2024-2026 - absent*

Heidi Kelbel, *Seat D: Teacher Member 2024-2026 - present*

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

Julie Johnson, *Secretary, Seat F: Required Teacher member 2024-2026 - present virtually*

Jim Stocco, *Chair Seat G: Required Community Member 2024-2026 - present virtually*

## 3. Notice of Any Conflict of Interest

none

## 4. Approval of Agenda

**Kelbel/Pekarek motion to approve**

Heidi Kelbel - aye

Judy Pekarek - aye

Julie Johnson - aye

Jim Stocco - aye

4-0 motion passes

**5. Approval of Previous Board Minutes**

5.1 Action - Approve [board meeting minutes, December 18, 2024](#)

**Pekarek/Charles motion to approve**

Allen Charles - aye  
Heidi Kelbel - aye  
Judy Pekarek - aye  
Julie Johnson - aye  
Jim Stocco - aye

5-0 motion passes

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

Half way through the year! Nothing has changed too much from last month. The highlights from the income statement are:

- Percent of fiscal year completed: 50%
- YTD revenue as a percent of budget: 50%, based on estimated enrollment of 580ADM
- YTD expenses as a percent of budget: 47% as compared to prior month of 38%

We expect the state to owe us 650,000

**Kelbel/Johnson motion to approve**

Allen Charles - aye  
Heidi Kelbel - aye  
Judy Pekarek - aye  
Julie Johnson - aye  
Jim Stocco - aye

5-0 motion passes

**7. Reports**

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

C&G, Sam's Club credit card expense - \$367.30; This was a Sam's Club purchase of food items for student activities and Crisp and Green for staff lunch combined into one line item. Health Equity - this company has taken over for Further as our HSA vendor. We held money in BlueSky's account with Further. Now, with Health Equity, we prefund the account and employees are able to earn interest on the funds.  
AIE - speaker for staff meeting, American Indian Education grant funds paid for this

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

Journalism & Library Policy - Brief discussion that the policy committee would go over it and make sure it's up to date.

Language Art Book selection. Some complaints about one poem in a book of many poems. We want to make sure we are proactive and not reactive to that one poem. The teacher has removed the poem from the PDF version of the book. We have an alternative text to give students if they want. We would like to identify more formal criteria rather than rely on criteria determined at the point of adoption through the curriculum advisory committee

Course revision proposal Coding for Comets (could have a different name)

- Needed for realignment of the middle school schedule and to align with staffing licensure

Will sunset FACS 7 and FACS 8

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- Due to staffing and schedule changes and high amount of content overlap with our current Health courses

Changing Honor English to a my pace class next school year. Honor english is not an AP class it's just a more rigorous coursework and more in depth literature. No college credit is earned. They could be a PSEO student for that.

### 7.3 Information- HR Committee – Egner

First semester incentive drawing was last week. 10 employees were chosen and will receive \$100 pay on their 1/31 paycheck. If you were nominated and didn't win you received an email. We switched from Mutual of Omaha to Lincoln Financial for Dental, Vision, and life insurance We are moving our time off tracking system through Smarter our payroll system. 3 departments ran a test group and the rest of the staff will have training on this new system in February.

### 7.4 Information- [Director's Report](#) – Larsen

Enrollment is looking good and consistent. Sarah Miner highlighted our Winter graduates on Social Media and it looks great.

We'll drop off a little for seniors in our ADM but should still end the year slightly over budget for

ADM.

Supplemental is going strong as well. Some other supplemental programs have said their enrollments have been shrinking since the law changed. We're having the opposite effect and our program is growing!

No real updates on Marketing. We will have a 25th anniversary logo debuting in March. MS held an open house but attendance was not great.

New office space updates - meeting Jan 30 to go over some plans and see how we can make our current plan more useful for staff and students. Possibility for a different L shaped space. Once we decide we'll get the architects moving forward!

Star Tribune reporter that has been doing a lot of negative reporting on Charter Schools. He has sent out at least monthly stories about charter schools closing and not being held accountable. He has sent data requests to all charter schools wanting communications related to corrective actions now moving forward. An attorney has gotten involved on behalf of all charters and the opinion is that is not the intent of the law and we are not required to respond to "standing" data requests. MACCS is also involved in supporting charter schools.

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

Semester 1 clubs have been finished. Looking at restructuring how we do clubs. We'll be polling staff at the next all staff meeting on what they'd like to do for clubs and participate. Maybe do a club a month or change it up every quarter. Semester 2 clubs have been chosen based on the student interest poll.

Lunch bunch on pause due to low participation and staff not wanting to host.

Esports survey went out to students before break. Only 10 students have taken the survey thus far. Grant is pushing for a Valorant team and only 4 students currently interested need 5 students, could open that to middle school but need to look into the rules.

We will have a spring team for Esports.

Ojibwe shoulder bag was yesterday and 22 students signed up but only 7 attended. We could host this during American Heritage month next year.

Field trips - January was CanCan Wonderland and it was a hit. February is Paletines Day - lots of crafts for this event. 22 students signed up at the moment. In March, we will be having 3 field trips in March due to no field trips in April. We will be going to Forestview Planetarium in Baxter,

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Mill City Museum and for HS students' trip: to the State Capital. May is packed with Middle school meetup, prom and graduation.

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

Questions regarding cyber security - its ongoing, Ben and Benoit are constantly monitoring Partnering with MSIAC. Powerschool recently had a security breach. We don't keep unnecessary information including SSN in our systems like some other state schools do.

Renaissance Star Scores - Goal is 50% which is average. Math is 46% Language Arts is at MCA projection based on Renaissance Star scores 47% are projected to pass the Math test, Reading 54% are projected to pass the reading test.

Based on Last years attendance for the MCA  
Reading 6th 17students 7th 32students 8th 40students 10th 57students  
6th 70% did not meet standards 29% met partial  
7th 65% did not meet standards 34.4% met partial  
8th 80% did not meet 20% met partial  
10 52% did not meet 47% met partial

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

We're staying pretty consistent between Special Ed and 504.

We have a student intern for the counselors. She'll be with us for 5 weeks and Carla will oversee her. Welcome Taylor Perrine.

PSEO information session is February 6th. It's recorded and sent out to students interested.

MS is starting a small group called Comet Connections this week. Have 4-5 students interested.

Beth and Cathy met with advisors for early intervention and how important it is to look at the attendance and academics of those students.

Implemented a transcript request form and it's working very well so far.

Summer school is in the works already!

Monitoring & Compliance report received and no findings were found!

Currently completing interviews with MDE for our programming

Submitted self review for Fiscal Monitoring this morning 1/29.

ADSIS grant is being updated for the next two years.

### **Pekarek/Kelbel motion to approve**

Allen Charles - aye

Heidi Kelbel - aye

Judy Pekarek - aye

Julie Johnson - aye

Jim Stocco - aye

5-0 motion passes

### **8. Consent Items**

8.1 Action -

### **9. Unfinished Business**

9.1 Action -

### **10. New Business**

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10.1 Action - Approve [Meal & Mileage Reimbursement Rates 2025](#)

### **Johnson/Kelbel motion to approve**

Allen Charles - aye  
Heidi Kelbel - aye  
Judy Pekarek - aye  
Julie Johnson - aye  
Jim Stocco - aye

5-0 motion passes

10.2 Action - Approve revised [Policy 5.7.3 Students Free Speech](#)

### **Kelbel/Pekarek motion to approve**

Allen Charles - aye  
Heidi Kelbel - aye  
Judy Pekarek - aye  
Julie Johnson - aye  
Jim Stocco - aye

5-0 motion passes

10.3 Action - Approve revised [Policy 5.2.1 Online Attendance and Absences](#)

### **Johnson/Charles motion to approve**

Allen Charles - aye  
Heidi Kelbel - aye  
Judy Pekarek - aye  
Julie Johnson - aye  
Jim Stocco - aye

5-0 motion passes

## **11. Public Input**

none

## **12. Adjourn @ 3:28pm**

### **Kelbel/Pekarek motion to approve**

Allen Charles - aye  
Heidi Kelbel - aye  
Judy Pekarek - aye  
Julie Johnson - aye  
Jim Stocco - aye

5-0 motion passes

## **Future Meetings/Events Below:**

February 26, 2025

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March 26, 2025

April 30, 2025

May 28, 2025

June 25, 2025

**Other:** Next Board Election: May 2025

### **Alternate Meeting Locations:**

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

24400 Perdido Beach, Orange Beach, AL

Lake Pleasant Regional Park, 41835 N. Castle Hot Springs Rd., Morristown, AZ 85342