

BlueSky Charter School
2051 Killebrew Drive, Suite 500
Bloomington, MN 55425
Regular Board Meeting
Wednesday, October 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

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1. Call to Order @ 2pm on 10/29/2025

2. Roll Call

Allen Charles, *Seat A: Community Member 2025-2027 - present @ 2:04pm*

Matthew Schempp, *Seat B: Vice Chair, Teacher Member 2025-2027 - present*

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 2025-2027 - present*

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

Jim Stocco, *Chair Seat G: Required Community Member 2024-2026 - 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, September 24, 2025](#)

Kelbel/Johnson motion to approve

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5-0 motion passes

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

Highlights from the income statement:

- Percent of fiscal year completed: 25%
- Year-to-date (YTD) revenue as a percent of budget: 24%, based on an estimated enrollment of 590 ADM
- YTD expenses as a percent of budget: 22%, compared to the prior month of 13%

Highlights from the balance sheet:

- Cash and Investments: \$1.339m, \$2.675m; respectively- a net increase of almost \$500k
- Estimated due from MDE: \$478k
- Estimated fund balance: \$4.3m beginning, ending projected overstated at this point until salaries start.

Other Items:

- HoldBack First payment received, online learning aid loaded at \$309k for FY2025.
- Enrollment: Budgeted at 590 ADM for adopted and revised.

Kelbel/Johnson motion to approve

6-0 motion passes

7. Reports

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

Brown reported we are 25% of the budget year complete with 24% of revenue received and 22% of expenses paid. We are starting to see expenses catch up to revenues while cash continues to grow. Our FY25 audit should be wrapping up soon, then we can close out federal aids from last year and begin drawing on the current year.

We are expecting one more hold back this month but for the most part we are caught up with revenue payments.

Questions:

-Building up fund balance - a portion will be used for moving; starting in 2028 State is cutting special education reimbursements and we need to be sure to have this amount in our fund balance to cover expenses along with other unknowns

-SPED LTS - where do these subs come from; this time we did get SPED subs from a contracted vendor however we post for the LTS submission, also, to try for a non vendor first

-eDynamic - why do we have multiple billings; invoice is paid up front for a certain number of course enrollments. Then at the end of year they bill us for any overage; this is curriculum for some of our elective courses

-What is SWIFT - it is the system that pays us from federal deposits and IDEAS - system that pays us state deposits

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

MnMTSS - completed training.

Summer school English revised their curriculum from this past summer and it had better passing rates. Moving on to Phase 2.

Leverage AI - want 5 members in this committee including one SPED Teacher.

Questions to determine if we need to revise what a group pace and my pace class is on our website, create a break out session to discuss.

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

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Discussed staff recognition. Look at the weekly newsletter on Friday for that spotlight.
New Health Insurance Plan - a couple of the plans had an 8% increase but we will be going with HealthPartners which was a decrease to our current policy.

- i) [HealthPartners Proposal](#): **11.3%** premium decrease from current premium costs
 - (1) Similar set-up to BCBS
 - (a) There are 2 co-pay and 2 HSA plans.
 - (b) 2 Network Options: Achieve (High Value for BCBS) and Open Access (Achieve for BCBS)
 - (2) For co-pay plans once deductible is met employees are responsible for paying 25% of the co-pay whereas with BCBS employees are responsible for paying 20% of the co-pay.
- ii) The Committee recommends moving forward with the HealthPartners proposal.
- iii) Leslie will reach out to Kraus-Anderson to see when we will get the 2026 benefit manual. Should have the manual this week.

Additional funds for Benefits what would BlueSky like to see done with those funds. Discussed possible contributions towards HSA or 403(b) has the most impact for the most people.

-Around 50% of staff participate in BlueSky's health insurance. That may increase depending upon their current insurance plans premiums.

-Discussed sharing sick time with other employees, this could be an equity issue. We'll be looking to revisit this after our time off is reevaluated.

-Leslie will be meeting with Nationwide to discuss matching. This would change our contract since it is August 1-July 31. Hoping to start this January 1. Will bring this to the Finance committee once she knows more.

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

ADM is 626 students with our budgeted ADM 590. Waitlist for 7, 10, 11 and 12th. Immediate enrollment for 6, 8 and 9th. Retention is very good. Supplemental - 220 was the goal with 299 attending.

No new changes in marketing.

Update on new office space. Working with 1 individual from the building. Our general contractor has been hired. The office is all framed, working on electrical. Vendor for technology has been coordinating with the general contractor. Hiring a moving company with the end of December as the goal. Requested moving bins at the beginning of December for staff to get their offices packed. Considering purchasing new furniture for the board room specifically.

Cognia Mid-cycle report and documentation has been completed with the IQS improvement plan submitted.

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

EA sports tryouts last week for Marvel and Fortnite. We'll have 4 teams. Preseason starts in November. Scott Polly will be joining as an assistant coach for Fortnite. Scott is a BlueSky Alumni.

Halloween Party this Friday. With tons of different activities to participate in. Online activities include a scavenger hunt for students to do at home and a slideshow of the scavenger hunt photos.

November is the robotic trip to Central Lakes College. 15 spots with 10 filled.

December will be the Great Big Game Show at MOA. Includes meal vouchers.

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January we're looking into an outdoor activity, possibly snow shoeing. Tentative information since there currently is no snow. Looking to do this outside the metro, possibly near Mankato. Prom theme ballots have been sent out as of 10/29. Prom will be May 8th from 5-9pm

Touring a new location for Graduation this year on Nov. 5th. This will be at Jefferson High School in Bloomington as a possible graduation location. More seating possibilities, plenty of free parking.

[Current Budget](#) for students activities

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

MCA goal for IQS. BlueSky's % change was 4.1 higher than the state change for reading. The goal was met. For Math the % change was 4.8 lower than state change. The goal was not met. This could be a poor representation of students participating in the MCA's. If a student does not test it's considered a fail.

Attendance is at 75.5%! We improved by more than 1%. Early intervention and pacing is helping with that. I hope to help avoid the slide at the end of the school year, which impacted our attendance quite a bit.

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

179 SPED students but this is the most SPED students we've had at one time with 63 504 students.

Cathy:

Testing - ASVAB Test is Arms Service Vocational Aptitude Battery test. Only 2 students attended this year. Looking to market this more next year. This is a free test.

Act Test - 18 signed up with 11 attending. This test is at a cost.

Direct admissions - 2nd year with MN Office of Higher Ed. Counselors went through their graduating 12th graders to see where they'd get direct admission into a college.

Potential grades have been shared with the support team. 8 students on support plans and we've had 4 new graduates since the summer.

Tier 1 - 98 support plans and 52 Dean referrals. She did something a little different this year to get these students earlier. 16-17 students have been referred due to slow starts, specifically in orientation. Working with Ben H. on a report to determine students failing a specific course more than 2 times at a previous school to work with the department earlier.

Mandy:

Working on how we can support students with special needs. Working on feedback from Monitoring - Gen ed support and training and looking for inclusive offerings.

Staffing shifts in our social work department, hired a long term sub. MTSS Tier 1 Focus specifically focusing on slow to start and attendance needs.

Compassionate school training started this month for new hires.

Record Destruction happened over the summer on physical records and now we're moving on to electronic records.

Schempp/Pekarek motion to approve

6-0 motion passes

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8. Consent Items

8.1 Action -

9. Unfinished Business

none

10. New Business

10.1 Action - Approve revised [Policy 2.3 Board Committees](#)
Schempp/Charles motion to approve

6-0 motion passes

10.2 Action - Approve revised [Policy 2.4.2 Harassment and Violence](#)
Kelbel/Pekarek motion to approve

6-0 motion passes

10.3 Action - Approve revised [Policy 2.4.3 Gifts to Employees and Board Members](#)
Kelbel/Schempp motion to approve

6-0 motion passes

10.4 Action - Approve revised [Policy 2.5 Open and Closed Meetings](#)
Pekarek/Schempp motion to approve

6-0 motion passes

11. Public Input

Question regarding how big the waitlist is and if we should consider increasing enrollment and hiring more staff.

12. Adjourn @ 3:26pm on Oct 29, 2025

Schempp/Pekarek motion to approve

6-0 motion passes

Future Meetings/Events Below:

November 19, 2025

December 17, 2025

January 28, 2026

February 25, 2026

March 25, 2026

April 29, 2026

May 27, 2026

June 24, 2026

Other: Next Board Election: May 2026