



# Colorado Springs Charter Academy

Board Meeting Minutes | May 11, 2022 | 6:30 Computer lab CSCA

**Vision:** We kindle enthusiasm to craft bold and effective citizen-scholars

**Mission:** Colorado Springs Charter Academy is love for community expressed in action. We are entrusted with dear purchase, to bind our students' days of innocence and joy with structure, content and character. To accomplish this, we cultivate the individual potential of all our students by: providing academically rigorous, proven, content-rich educational programs; developing incisive analytical skills and well-stocked minds; fostering self-advocacy, passion, citizenship, and exemplary character; holding individualized high expectations; involving and welcoming parents and community members.

**EPIC** - Excellence/Positivity/Integrity with Respect/Citizenship

## Preliminaries

Call to order – Breck Merkle @ 6:40pm

Board Members Present: Breck Merkle, Anna Mitchell, Gary Laxson, Najah Lamborn, McCrea Andersen, Summer Groubert

Guests: Zoe Ann Holmes, Dustin Sparks, Tom Pesavento, Kristen Ross, Deanna Shrewsbury, Kevin Shrewsbury, Jeremy Goodall, Shannon Larson, Charlie Bobbit

Public Comments (2 minutes) – Kelly Miller – Board needs to talk more about teachers and our students, concerned about Bylaws Article 4 Section 2, last section and last point – will not participate in any political campaign for public office. Appears that we have a board member who is running for public office and candidate site mentions school name. Requested a response in writing has been requested. Kristen Ross – concerned that there has been no positive or proactive response to the negative media. Are we moving under D-11? If this is the case, there has been no mention to teachers and staff. Concerned about employment in the Fall, Response – the D-11 information was a misquote taken out of context, all communication from CSI is being taken seriously and is the focus of responses, Deanna Shrewsbury – concerned about how the board is managing public statements prior to release, concerned about how individual board members are speaking on behalf of the board without full board support, deeply concerned about statements regarding D-11, we need to focus on working together as a board and a school community, request to be given dates/times for an open meeting so that can share concerns, Kevin Shrewsbury – 2 students currently enrolled in CSCA, community, being board-driven and parent run are why they selected this school, why was a board member allowed to stay on the board after pulling their child out of the school? Why is a board member recruiting family members to be on our board? Response – removed children because of mask mandate and other safety concerns, discussion around bylaws and needed involvement of board in hiring and termination of staff and teachers, Charlie Bobbit – What is the commitment, the action? Will anything be changing? Why aren't there 7 members on the board? Response – we are working through the Breach prior to addressing additional board members, Kevin Dolley – currently have own children enrolled at two schools because no one knows what will happen, there is a staff survey and suggests looking at the results of the survey, staff is hurt, trust is lost, Laura Easley – via Zoom, typed questions, Why is the board not following the code of conduct? We are working through this as part of addressing the breach, Did new members sign the code of conduct before voting? Not aware,

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Was the lawyer consulted prior to Summer's interview on the news? The attorney was consulted for a statement, Summers comments were not approved via attorney and board. Melissa Peltier – what is the reference about a sexual predator? Response - An incident occurred in October 2021, statements were given by those impacted, video of person implicated was shared with CSPD, predator is still permitted on school premises, this was a portion of the grievance that was submitted against CSI, HOS Response – there is a plan in place to address the concern, staff is aware, driveline specific staff is aware and follows protocols as needed, what has been allowed is that if picking up child, person implicated remains in vehicle and checkout sheet is taken to the vehicle, driving through is the only option available to this person, also concerned about lack of communication from the board throughout the year. Alison Brown – who is the person implicated in the October event? This is a safety concern for our students. HOS Response – we don't know of a conviction and will consult with legal for how to respond, Kristie Khem – What legal document is in place to keep the person implicated in October off of our property? HOS Response - We do not currently have a legal document to keep him off of campus, Aster Kline – concerned about the safety of children walking home from school, could we at least know the vehicle so that can watch for it?

## Executive Session

Motion made to enter into executive session - According to statutory CRS 24-6-402(4)(b), conference with attorney held for the public entity for the purposes of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions, related to the CSI Notice of Breach, grievance complaints, and building corporation. Motion seconded, motion passed unanimously, entering into Executive Session at 7:34pm Attendees – Breck Merkle, Gary Laxson, Anna Mitchell, Summer Groubert, McCrea Andersen, Tom Pesavento, Jenny Pesavento, Mike McAffrey, Zoe Ann Holmes, Jeremy Goodall, Dustin Sparks

Per attorney instructed to stop recording at 7:35pm to receive legal advice.

Recording started again at 10:39pm by Dustin Sparks to end receipt of legal advice

Motion to exit executive session, motion seconded, motion passes unanimously

## Action Items

1. Board vote on directing legal counsel to respond to CSI's Notice of Breach
  - a. Motion made to have Dustin Sparks legal council draft a response to the CSI Notice of Breach to be reviewed on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> – motion seconded, motion passed unanimously
2. Board vote on directing legal counsel regarding grievance complaints
  - a. Motion made to have Board President respond to grievances received to date – motion seconded, motion passed unanimously
3. Board vote on building Corp
  - a. Motion made to move forward with Board of Directors assigning Building Corporation Board. Those members are Summer Groubert, Anna Mitchell, Breckenridge Merkle – motion seconded, motion passed unanimously

Motion made to close board meeting at 10:45pm

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