

**Barona Indian Charter School  
Board of Directors Regular Meeting  
November 7, 2022**



1. **Call to Order:** Tawnya Phoenix, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:37AM.  
**Roll Call:** Tawnya Phoenix- Vice Chair, Danthia Gil- Secretary/Treasurer, Darla Boller- Member, & Melanie Villa- Member  
**Members Absent:** Chairman Raymond Welch  
**Others in attendance:** Julie Cushman, Director/Principal, Kathy Clenney, Legal Counsel, Beverly Jimenez – LUSD, Samantha Orahoad - LUSD
2. **Approval of Agenda**  
**Motion** by Darla, Second by Melanie to approve the agenda. Carried 4, 0, 0.
3. **Approval of Minutes** for September 19, 2022
4. **Public Comment** – There was no request for public comment for Agenda.
5. **Action Items -**
  - a. **Approval of the Education Protection Account Resolution #22-11-01-** The Education Protection Account (EPA) provides LEAs with general purpose state aid funding. The EPA funding is a component of an LEA's total LCFF entitlement as calculated in the Principal Apportionment. This fund is earmarked for salaries.  
**Motion** by Danthia, Second by Darla to approve the Education Protection Account Resolution #22-11-01. Carried 4, 0, 0.
  - b. **Approval of English Learner Policies and Procedures Handbook-** The plan contains Federal and State compliance guidelines; the emphasis is placed on student learning and achievement. Committed, motivated and knowledgeable staff assists the school, students, and parents with implementing program and policies for support EL students. Currently we have two EL students; however, the policy is designed to accommodate a larger EL population of students.  
**Motion** by Danthia, Second by Melanie to approve the English Learner Policies and Procedures Handbook. Carried 4, 0, 0.
  - c. **BICS Special Education Procedural Handbook-** This will serve as a guide for all policies and procedures regarding special education at Barona Indian Charter School. It includes policies regarding referrals, initial assessments, parent communication, and multiple other items. It follows current IDEA policy and state law for all legal matters regarding special education. Any reference to the Education Code is current and up to date. The BICS SPED department was selected for an audit. There will be an audit on December 5 and in March 2023. Krystal Hoffman has worked with East County SELPA to finalize this handbook.  
**Motion** by Danthia, Second by Darla to approve the BICS Special Education Procedural Handbook. Carried 4, 0, 0.
  - d. **Approve the Purchase of Education Modify-** This is an excellent program to serve as a bridge between special education and general education programs/teachers. It allows general education teachers to have access to all of the IEP information for their students with special needs. It gives general education teachers quick access to their accommodations, goals, and service minutes. It also provides general education teachers with a variety of different resources to help them support their students with

special needs in the general education classroom. The communication piece also allows for easy communication between general and special education teachers along with constant documentation. Currently our SPED population is at approximately 25%, much higher than average. The cost of this program is approximately \$12,000 and will be paid with ADR funds. Krystal Hoffman, SPED Director, will be the administrator of this program.

**Motion** by Danthia, Second by Darla to approve the Purchase of Education Modify. Carried 4, 0, 0.

- e. **Approve Curriculum Development and Modification Policy** – The Board approved a new policy that will assist the Board with providing a comprehensive instructional program to serve the educational needs of students and fulfill the Board responsibility for establishing what students should learn. This policy will establish a process for adopting a curriculum which reflects the goals and objectives of the community to the greatest extent possible and which is compliant with State-adopted curriculum standards and the requirements of the law.
- f. **Approve Assessments and Examinations Policy** – The Board approved a new policy that mandates the Principal/Director to follow State and Federal Government rules to implement all required examinations and assessments in every school year on the dates required by law. Special Education students shall participate in state and federal examinations according to their Individualized Education Program. Parents/guardians would be notified of deficiencies in their student’s educational program based upon these assessments as well as local or formative assessments.
- g. **Approve Curriculum Assessment Policy** – The Board approved a new policy that establishes a process for the Board to conduct an ongoing evaluation of the curriculum and educational program. Based on these evaluations, the Board can maintain the effectiveness of programs and improve the quality of education for all students.
- h. **Approve Promotion/Acceleration/Retention Requirements Policy** – The Board approved a new policy that confirms their desire for all students to progress through each grade level within one school year by demonstrating growth in learning and meeting grade-level standards of expected student achievement. To accomplish this, the Principal/Director must ensure that instruction accommodates the variety of ways that students learn and includes strategies for addressing academic deficiencies.
- i. **Approve Education for English Learners Policy** – Per Education Code 306, the Board approved a new policy that follows the State and Federal Government rules for assessing the English language development of each English learner student in order to determine the student’s level of proficiency. The process begins upon enrollment in the charter when the parent/guardian completes a home language survey.
- j. **Approve School Calendar Policy** – The Board approved a new policy that directs the Principal/Director to annually present a proposed school calendar for the following school year. This calendar shall maximize the number of school days at high attendance levels in order to increase funding.
- k. **Approve Personnel Certification Policy** – The Board approved a new policy that instructs the Principal/Director to only employ certificated staff who are adequately prepared and have demonstrated proficiency in basic skills and in the subject matter to

be taught. Persons employed to fill positions requiring certification qualifications must possess the appropriate credential, permit, or other certification document from the Commission on Teacher Credentialing and fulfill any additional state, federal, or charter requirements for the position.

#### **Agenda Items E-K Approved By Consent**

**Motion** by Danthia, Second by Melanie to approve the policies outlined in Agenda Items E-K. Carried 4, 0, 0.

#### **6. Principal's Reports – Julie Cushman**

- **Movie Night** was a success. Many families joined in to watch “Space Jam” in September
- **Fire Prevention Week** – The Barona Fire Department came to our school on October 12 to talk to all of our classes about fire prevention. As always, Sparky the Dog was a big hit with all the students.
- **Red Ribbon Week** was October 24-28. Classes were given drug prevention curriculum. The students had a great time with our theme days. One new theme day this year was “Anything But a Backpack” Day.
- **Pumpkin Patch** – Thank you to the Barona Casino for providing shuttles, pumpkins and treats for our school. The kids had a great time.
- **Trick-Or-Treating** – Our students participated in the annual Trick-or-Treating. Students visited Tribal Enforcement, Barona Fire Department, Tribal Government Building and Cultural Museum. Thank you to everyone that made the day so special.
- **Thank You Native America** event will be held in the gym on November 29. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students will present information about the food contributions Native Americans have made to the continent. We will celebrate with an Indian Taco lunch. Board members are invited.
- **Garden Expansion** – The fencing is complete for the expansion of the Native Garden. Next step is to add a concrete pad and finally a greenhouse.
- **Parent's Night Out** – This is planned for the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> week of December. Parents can drop their kids and do some holiday shopping while the BICS staff leads some fun, holiday activities on campus.
- **Leader In Me Assembly** – We held our first assembly on November 4. We looked at Habit 1, Be Proactive. Students received attendance awards. Our WIG (Wildly Important Goal) this year is “Hawk attendance will SOAR from 89% to 91.5% by June 2023”
- **Afterschool Clubs** – Clubs will be starting soon. We will have Yearbook Club, Leadership Club and a variety of other clubs, including, Robotics, Arts and Garden. They will be offered on a rotational basis.
- **Coffee With Cushman** – There have been two “Coffee with Cushman” meetings for parents to meet with the principal to discuss school-related topics or concerns. These meetings are held monthly, alternating from morning to afternoon meetings, to make this accessible to as many parents as possible.
- **Lunch Program** – The lunch program is a great success. Right now we are serving 65 breakfasts and lunches daily. One issue brought up by several parents is the desire for a cafeteria. Tawnya commented that the Board and Tribe would have to look into the possibility. Kathy Clenney suggested putting a cement pad with a giant tent as a temporary measure. Melanie suggested using the MPR as a cafeteria or adding an additional bungalow.

**7. Discussion Items**

- a. **Discussion about Board member attendance at the Charter Schools Development Center (CSDC) Leadership Conference on November 13-15, 2022 in Sacramento.** The information on specific sessions is available for the conference. Board Members are encouraged to decide on their sessions. All are looking forward to attending the conference.

**8. Organizational Business**

- a. **Future agenda items and/or Board member comments** – No future agenda items or comments were discussed.
- b. **Upcoming meetings December 12, January 23, March 13 (4:00PM), April 24**

No further business, by **Motion** of Danthia and Second by Darla.  
The meeting was adjourned at 9:48 AM. Motion carried 4, 0, 0.

*Respectfully submitted by Kristi Johnson, Recording Secretary*