



Lotus School for Excellence

Mission: Lotus School for Excellence provides a safe learning environment and a rigorous college preparatory curriculum supported by a diverse, dedicated community.

Vision: Our vision is to create well-rounded and global-minded citizens who are prepared for a college education in order to pursue careers in S.T.E.A.M. fields and become contributing members of the community.

[ZOOM LINK](#)

Board Meeting Agenda 12.12.2024 6:00pm  
11001 E Alameda Ave. Aurora, CO 80012

1. Preliminary

Agenda Item	Action	Who	Materials/Documents for Review	Time
1.1 Welcome and Call Meeting to Order		Board President	Kara, Nalcaci, Ermek Bakyt, Arslan, Skidmore, Burhanov.	1 min
1.2 Pledge of Allegiance		Board President	6:02pm	1 min
1.3 Roll Call (Establish Quorum)		Board Secretary	Arslan-present Angela- remote Kavi -remote Timur Mangliyev-remote Elchin- remote	1 min
1.4 Edits to Agenda		Any Member	none	2 mins
1.5 Adopt Agenda	Vote	Any Member	Motion- Arslan 2nd - Angela Kavi - Yes Time -Yes Elchin-Yes vote- 5 yeses	3-5 mins
1.6 Approval of Minutes 11.14.2024 Board Meeting Minutes	Vote	Any Member	Motion - Arslan 2nd Kavi Unanimously approved	3-5 mins

2. Public Comment – The Board is desirous to hear the comments of the community. We invite you to address the Board concerning relevant, school-related issues. Public comment is not designed to be a two-way conversation, and members of the board will generally not respond to comments or questions. However, follow-up will take place as deemed appropriate. No charges or complaints against individuals shall be made. Such concerns are better handled through the school’s grievance process. Defamatory or

abusive remarks or profanity shall be considered out of order and shall not be tolerated. If a large group of participants wish to give the same opinion or speak to the same topic, the board may ask that a representative be appointed to share said opinion. The school board may choose to limit the Public Comment to 20 minutes for sake of time. Thank you for participating in our Public Comment.

Name	Comment
Soo Mathews and Terrie Benton	<p>6:10p -Arts            Benton- Elementary Music Teacher            Question proposed, meant to start a conversation. . .            Are we a STEM school (offering some classes) or are we a STEAM school who offers a robust curriculum?            “Last year, I was able to build performances and develop a curriculum. Students are able to watch each other and perform in front of each other. The students have improved tremendously over the years. We also performed a play. Are we a school who recognizes the value of the arts or is it for fun and exposure? This is a great time to start a schoolwide conversation about performing arts as well as what role it play in Lotus’ future. Kinder kid never speaks a word but is enthusiastically willing to sing. An autistic child repositioned herself to participate in looking for Dracula. Kids build self confidence and build skills”.</p> <p>Ms. Mathews-6th grade math teacher/department chair/Head Coach of Speech and Debate/The Wizard of Oz production            -Supporting Miss Benton in engaging in this dialogue. Elementary admin stated, one of them would always be present at events.            -This year has been a breath of fresh air. Appreciative of the support teachers are getting. There is a lot more positivity. There are still gaps that need to be filled.            -Need to redefine what a team means to be here for our students, we need to go above the hours we are contracted to work. (Systems and structures need to be in place). Culture isn’t built on one person.</p>

	<p>Even as people come and go, the culture of Lotus remains. Those who remain, understand what it means to be a team and show up for kids.</p> <p>-Also here to champion the arts as well. We are an all year program and we work hard. (One of our students is here tonight). We are grateful but we need to start a dialogue and make it equitable for all teachers to contribute to our students.</p> <p>Angela: Has been part of APS for 30 years. She referenced a team at Hinkley High School who did some amazing things for IB. The arts are her passion. Seen amazing things with kids building sets and participating in theater productions.</p> <p>Nalcaci: Wanted to thank two of their most dedicated teachers for sharing their feedback and concern and “we definitely need to build our culture and support our programs, definitely the arts”.</p>

3. Consent Agenda

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Materials/Documents for Review</b>	<b>Time</b>
N/A	Vote			1 min

4. Reports

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Materials/Documents for Review</b>	<b>Time</b>
4.1 Financial Report		B. Skidmore	Budget- Expenditures through Nov 30th were 40.08% of budget compared to 34.37 in the prior year. Revenues through 11/30 were 44.44% of budget compared with 48.71% in the prior year. Currently	10 min

		<p>we are projecting a surplus of \$653k. This would bring the ending fund balance to \$4.12 M or an 18.8% increase on 6/30/25. The increase is being driven by enrollment. We anticipate enrollment to land on 1,003 students or a 6.14% increase over the budgeted 945 students.</p> <p>FY 24-25 Balance Sheet Analysis: The school's current cash position at 11/30/24 was \$68.5k more than the same period last year. On Nov 30th, 2024, Lotus held approximately \$4,019,461 in cash compared with \$3,950,942 on Nov 30th, 2023. YOY, other current assets increase approximately \$167.7K (Grant Accounts Receivable). Current liabilities decreased \$122.2K over the prior year due to unearned revenue.</p> <p>FY 24-25 Financial Reporting Compliance: The next financial due date is: 12/25/24 -November Financial Statements</p> <p>FY 24-25 Debt Covenant Compliance: LSE's FY25 spend rate is projected at \$43,942 per day (adjusted for Capital Spend and Appropriations to</p>	
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			<p>Reserves).\$2,636,528 in cash is required to be on account at 6/30/25 or 60 days of unrestricted operating cash at the current rate spend. As noted, above, LSE's 11/30/24 cash balance was \$4,019,461 which includes restricted cash of \$55,443.70. The balance less the restricted cash is \$3,964,017, reflecting a margin of \$1,327,490 which is 33.49% of the current net available/unrestricted cash. Currently LSE is cash compliant and is projected to be at year end.</p> <p>The second covenant is the debt service coverage ratio (DSCR). LSE receives the benefit of capital improvements by adding the amount back to the change in Fund Balance. Currently the DSCR requirement is \$62,590 and LSE is projected to increase Fund Balance by \$653,342. This results in a 2.06 times coverage compared with the required 1.1 times coverage. LSE is compliant and projected to be compliant with the metric as well.</p>	
4.2 School Report:		Mr. Nalcaci	<p>Hired a new secondary principal. He is here and we would like to introduce him. Ernek Bakyt helped</p>	10 min

		<p>students in the counseling capacity, certified through the state of Texas. He also completed the principal track and earned his administrative license. He has STEM experience as well. Short term goals-find his way around this maze but really it is about creating a positive work environment so in turn they can create a positive learning experience for students.</p> <p>Nalcacli wanted to thank John Kara for his principal role. He is bringing ingenuity to the table.</p> <p>We are at the end of 2nd semester. Next Wednesday (Dec 18th) is the last day for students. Climate is very positive.</p> <p>Right after Thanksgiving break an application was submitted to work on a growth plan (short term and long term). Working with a non-profit developer and working to increase capacity to accommodate another 300 students. We applied for the</p>	
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		<p>Charter school growth fund. We are very hopeful to get approved. (It is a Nationwide pool). They will announce the winners in 3-4 months.</p> <p>Last week, I had a meeting with Colorado School Fund where the growth plan was shared.</p> <p>Last 2-3 weeks, I-ready testing administered and the data is being analyzed. Majority of students are showing positive growth.</p> <p>Yesterday, APS Superintendents visited Lotus. It was a very positive visit. We had a school tour and answered questions about Lotus.</p> <p>Benton and Mathews played a major role in hosting the Missoula Theater Group/performance. The show was presented on Friday and Saturday. It was an exciting experience for Elementary and Secondary.</p>	
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			<p>The Elementary Robotics team started and is getting ready for competitions. Multiple concerts run after school this week (k,1,2).</p> <p>Athletic Program: Basketball season started.</p> <p>A current LSE student got accepted at Northwestern University. (Ranked top 6 in the nation). The student got a 400k financial aid package. Hopefully she will accept it and it becomes official Dec 17th. 😊</p> <p>Kara: Want to shoot back to having 100% college acceptance.</p> <p>Nalcaci/Kara: Math Bee completed by Dr. Yarrow. (Working towards Math Counts).</p> <p>APS visited and reviewed the GT program. (ASVAB test).-34 High schoolers wanted to take it.</p> <p>Nalcaci: Collaborating with Ms. Citrino and Mr. Yalency on Robotics (FTCs)programming.</p>	
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			<p>Kara: Still negotiating on how to have the former music teacher contribute (CHASA).</p> <p>Our school was mentioned again in the APS Charter Newsletter that students participated in the APS internship.</p> <p>Student: Medical Career Collaborative Program. (3 Students) interned at Children's Hospital.</p> <p>Nalcaci: Current enrollment 989.</p> <p>Angela thanks Kara for reaching out and taking on the Missoula Theater program.</p>	
4.3 School Board Reports		Any Board Member	<p>6:55pm</p> <p>Arslan: Last month spoke to legal counsel to get board training for the new members. He will push for February or March. Training is an important component of being part of the Lotus board.</p>	10 min

6. Action Items

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Materials/Documents for Review</b>	<b>Time</b>
6.1 PCSD Project Management Agreement	Vote	Mr.Nalcaci	<p>Recommended to us by the Colorado School Fund. Working on an extension on the back of the available adjoining to the current/existing building to accommodate all of the middle school classes.</p> <p>Consulting company would support us to find funding for the project as well as to control the construction so that everything is properly done.</p> <p>Next week I will meet with 2 representatives from the city. (Architect, Civil Engineer and the city).</p> <p>Agreement was reviewed by the attorney. He came back with some feedback. Some concerns, but nothing major. (Change of language and some additions).</p> <p>(Document shared)</p> <p>Arslan: Motion to approve the proposal and authorize Mr. Nalcaci to lead the project.  Angela: 2nd  Vote:  Arslan -yes  Reyes-yes  Kavi-yes  Mangliyev-yes  Alibayli-yes</p> <p>Approved the proposal.</p>	5 min
6.2				10 min

7. Discussion

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Materials/Documents for Review</b>	<b>Time</b>
7.1 Charter League Conference	Discuss	Reyes	Angela: Charter League Conference coming up February 27th/28th	5 min
7.2	Discuss			5 min

8. Next Steps

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Materials/Documents for Review</b>	<b>Time</b>
8.1 Scheduling next board meeting		Board President	Jan. 16th 6-8pm	2 mins
8.2 Requests for agenda at next board meeting		Board President	Email any additional items	3 mins

9. Adjourn the meeting

Motion: Arslan

2nd: Kavi

All yeses. (Reyes, Kavi, Mangliyev, Alibayli )

Concluded 7:07 pm