



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 02.13.2025 6:00pm

1. Preliminary

Agenda Item	Action	Who	Materials/Documents for Review	Time
1.1 Welcome and Call Meeting to Order		Board President	Robey, Arslan, Nalcaci, Nasir, Angela, Bart, Kavi, Citrino, Lennartz, Gamela, Flores, Mangliyev, Abrar, Safa, Rachelle	1 min
1.2 Pledge of Allegiance		Board President		1 min
1.3 Roll Call (Establish Quorum)		Board Secretary	Arslan-present Reyes-present Kavi-present Mangliyev-present Alibayli-absent	1 min
1.4 Edits to Agenda		Any Member	none	2 mins
1.5 Adopt Agenda	Vote	Any Member	Kavi-Motion Angela- 2nd Vote - 3 yeses	3-5 mins
1.6 Approval of Minutes 01.16.2025 Board Meeting Minutes	Vote	Any Member	https://docs.google.com/document/d/1IUA9o1DXgG_rgtp73CdeURasbVXssGxS/edit?usp=drive_link&oid=107678858046613347169&rtpof=true&sd=true Motion-Angela 2nd- Kavi 3 yeses unanimously accepted	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

3. Consent Agenda

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

4. Reports

Agenda Item	Action	Who	Materials/Documents for Review	Time
4.1 Financial Report		B. Skidmore	January Financials: Sent to the finance team and the board and have been posted. Budget: 7 months into fiscal year. Expenditures: 52% of budget Revenue: Surplus 970k -4.4 M Cash 4m+ 248k less than the same time last year.	10 min

			<p>Current assets have increased. 211k received in grants.</p> <p>Debt Covenants: In great shape. Spending 44k per month. Projected cash we will be compliant with cash on hand, (99 days), excess cash with 365 margin.</p> <p>In compliance.</p> <p>The Governor's budget was revised.</p> <p>PPR- anticipating per pupil revenue 12k+ 3.35% increase</p> <p>Kelly Hamm working on staffing plan for 25-26 FY.</p> <p>The March meeting will have a draft budget.</p> <p>Best grant was submitted.</p> <p>Budget looks really good!</p>	
4.2 School Report:		Mr. Nalcaci	<p>Update: Feb 2nd during a friendship game between our H.S. team against DAT basketball team. 2 of the coaches (head coach and assistant head coach) displayed Palestinian attire and flag which led to verbal altercations between staff/parents/etc. After the incident we got a lot of complaints, and we don't accept any religious or political</p>	10 min

		<p>displays at school activities. Swift disciplinary action was taken and the coaches were suspended during the investigation. After thorough investigation the coaches' contracts were terminated as of Feb 24, 2025. We received negative calls, emails, threats, etc. We posted on SM and visited DAT and some community members and parents expressed their thoughts accusing us of being antisemitic group. At LSE we promote inclusion (ADL) “No Place for Hate” and we are extending this program to the middle school. We are a public school committed to respect and won’t tolerate anything that undermines our values. Interview granted to CBS, channel 9, and some other organizations. Statement sent to NY Post reporter and Intermountain Jewish News reporter and we also met with ADL to explore additional ways to de-escalate tensions and reaffirm our commitments to combatting</p>	
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		<p>discrimination. We reached out to our attorney to make sure we are in alignment with ethical and legal standards and also received recommendations from APS. We also consulted with a PR specialist in addressing this situation and concerns proactively. This was shared at a school staff meeting. We also contacted additional law enforcement. Met called an FBI agent as well in regards to threats received. We will visit with local officials to better explain our values. The tension has significantly escalated. We are fostering a safe, inclusive and safe environment for staff, students, and community members. All respected board members got thousands of emails in regards to this issue and I feel sorry about that.</p> <p>Another update: We signed an agreement with a security guard 715-415 full time. In addition coverage will be</p>	
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		<p>provided at sports games.</p> <p>Bellwether meetings will continue another 6 weeks and we plan to get a result and our growth plan. We hold weekly meetings with PCSD (Charter School development), PCSD financial team, and contacted CFO Mr Bart for a new building extension project. We already took some steps to target finishing this project by summer 2026.</p> <p>As Mr. Bart mentioned we applied for the BEST grant to renovate HVAC.</p> <p>Official October Count released number 1004 students. 69 more students than what budgeted enrollment was (945).</p> <p>Past three weeks have been very hectic. Undocumented Immigration situation, there is no safe haven. (Hospitals, Churches, Schools). We used a parent newsletter to share the information to parents and how we can properly address this issue</p>	
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		<p>with our attorney. We shared with our school community their rights and our procedure if something happened. We set our procedures in case something happened.</p> <p>We also presented the staff with the PPT from APS. In this meeting APS shared with district leaders regarding immigration.</p> <p>Here is an update from Elementary:</p> <p>Used the parent newsletter to share information about the Immigration situation.</p> <p>Provided the staff with a PowerPoint presentation from the APS meeting held with the district leaders regarding Immigration and parents' rights.</p> <p>Having discussions about Science and Social Studies adoption for the upcoming school year.</p> <p>Introduced the staff to AI resources provided by APS - MagicSchool AI.</p> <p>We have finished our first draft of the master schedule for the 25-26 SY.</p> <p>Previous staff development</p>	
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		<p>focused on vertical alignment with the Colorado Standards; grade levels vertically met to discuss standards and lessons (i-Ready and Wonders).</p> <p>3rd-5th grades are reviewing the Amplify Science and IMPACT and TCI Social Studies curriculum.</p> <p>We are ensuring students are using i-Ready Math and Reading with fidelity by accessing their MyPaths during instructional hours and at home.</p> <p>We are currently preparing for Spring Teacher-Parent Conferences held on March 7th.</p> <p>Angela Reyes complimented Mr. Nalcaci for taking the situation so seriously and also asked some clarifying questions. -Sharing the presentation with the Board</p> <p>Nalcaci-we all go to SECURE protocol and no one is outside the building. We directly call the attorney and try to reach them. We will meet with ICE outside to make sure they have a proper warrant and then provide updates from there.</p>	
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		<p>Nalcaci: Not only us but this has affected the students' attendance at multiple schools.</p> <p>Some parents have been contacted to encourage them to attend. We decided to freeze transit.</p> <p>Angela: My understanding is that they aren't targeting children.</p> <p>Nalcaci: They are targeting everyone. Schools in Chicago didn't let ICE into the school, they rejected it.</p> <p>Arslan: Thank you Mr. Nalcaci for resolving the situation and responding as quickly as possible. This has been a challenging 3 weeks. You and your team had a good take out of this one and we appreciate it. One thing I want to say is that this is an opportunity for Lotus-it is probably the most diverse school in the district and we need to get this publicized on the website and in the newspapers. (35 languages represented). This is</p>	
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		<p>an opportunity to get more publicity.</p> <p>Our job is to diligently work against hate, anti-semitism.</p> <p>Nalcaci: Thank you for your support. Thank you for being present for the ADL meeting. I appreciate your support.</p> <p>Arslan shared a comment in the chat. Abrar: She reached out to the school board and doesn't have trust in the board and the school in protecting the school.</p> <p>Arslan reiterates that the school is working hard to keep the school safe. The board members are voluntary members. Mr. Nalcaci is the executive director and I would suggest reaching out to him.</p> <p>Arslan received over 2k emails and is still getting them and we need to reach out to the parents and the community. We are not as they presented us to the media.</p> <p>These are tough days. We get trained as we meet the difficulties</p>	
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			and obstacles and deal with obstacles we have never seen. We need to publicize ourselves more strongly than before. We are the most diverse school in the district. We stand up for anti-discrimination, anti-semitism and we need to educate the people.	
4.3 School Board Reports		Any Board Member		10 min

5. Action Items

Agenda Item	Action	Who	Materials/Documents for Review	Time
5.1	Vote	M.Nalcaci		5 min
5.2	Vote			10 min
5.3				

6. Discussion

Agenda Item	Action	Who	Materials/Documents for Review	Time
6.1 HVAC maintenance agreement	Discuss		Arslan: We didn't have a sufficient amount of proposals from vendors. Nalcaci: Offers 2 quotes for more comprehensive maintenance to extend the life term of the units. Both over 50k. We got 2 more quotes, below 50k. The scope of	5 min

		<p>the work is not matching the first 2 proposals.</p> <p>This is for informative purposes. We got 37k-77k annual maintenance quotes with more frequency visits and filter changes.</p> <p>This will be on hold right now, non urgent, and will circle back on this as an action item at a later date.</p> <p>Arslan: Will we look at proposals at the next meeting?</p> <p>Nalcaci: Most likely</p> <p>Robey: We will have to make a decision because the current contract with Long Mechanical is due to auto-renew to a new contract come April. We will need to give a presentation to give them adequate notice. They need a 30 day notice in writing.</p> <p>Arslan: We may need to make a decision at the end of this month or early in March.</p> <p>Robey: The discussion we are having is mainly in regards to frequency and the new plans have a more robust plan for preventative maintenance. Trying to align the bids, getting pretty close, do we perhaps need a greater frequency to preserve the life of the units especially with putting together a</p>	
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			<p>5-10 year replacement plan. Keeping our HVAC preserved is a high priority. Have a little more research ready to go.</p> <p>Arslan: Get the bargaining done down to the cost you are targeting and try to get all the services that you need. We don't want to pay the money if it isn't worth it. We need to get quality service.</p> <p>Angela: Is the current HVAC the ones who installed the system itself and have they put in a bid for a new system?</p> <p>Robey: No. Only one new unit that had to be replaced over the PAC. Current vendor did some finalization work on that specific unit.</p>	
6.2	Discuss			5 min

7. Executive Session

Agenda Item	Action	Who	Materials/Documents for Review	Time
7.1 LSE Foundation Board Update	Discuss		<p>Current LSE Foundation Board members are Dr. Allen, Dr. Arslan and Ms Angela Reyes. Dr. Allen is no longer affiliated with LSE.</p> <p>-Motion to remove Dr. Bobby Allen from LSE Foundation Board and appoint Mr. Nalcaci to the Foundation Board.</p> <p>Motion: Arslan</p>	5 min

			Angela Reyes: 2nd. Unanimously approved.	
7.2 Update about New Salary Schedule	Discuss		There are certain concerns about the current salary schedule that include 1st year teacher salary, licensed teacher salary, and contributions for Master and doctorate degrees. Mr. Nalcaci is authorized by the board to prepare a new salary schedule to increase competitiveness with APS and to adjust pay rates for MS and PhD, and licensed teachers and admin.	5 min
7.3 Board President and Executive Director Updates				
7.4 New Charter Application			New Charter application to 27J district is placed on hold for now as it requires early preparation and securing community support. Mr. Nalcaci is to proceed with the current school expansion project.	
7.5 End executive session			Motion to exit Executive session: 8:00 pm Motion Ms. Reyes, Arslan seconded. Votes three yeses.	

8. Next Steps

Agenda Item	Action	Who	Materials/Documents for Review	Time
8.1 Scheduling next board meeting		Board President	Motion made to end Public Session-6:55p Motion: Arslan Angela Reyes-2nd Three yeses Motion to go to executive session: 6:55pm	2 mins

8.2 Requests for agenda at the next board meeting		Board President	March 20, 2025 6pm	2 mins
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9. Adjourn the meeting
Back to public session 8:02 pm
Motion to end meeting - Arslan, Reyes 2nd.
Meeting adjourned 8:04pm.