



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 02.12.2026 6:00pm

1. Preliminary

Agenda Item	Action	Who	Materials/Documents for Review	Time
1.1 Welcome and Call Meeting to Order		Board President	Kara, Ermek, Nalcaci, Arslan, Kavi, Angela Johnson, Skidmore, Matossian, Burhonov	1 min
1.2 Pledge of Allegiance		Board President		1 min
1.3 Roll Call (Establish Quorum)		Board Secretary	Arslan-present Kavi-present Angela-present remote Albayli-absent (joined remotely later) Timur-present remote	1 min
1.4 Edits to Agenda		Any Member	no	2 mins
1.5 Adopt Agenda	Vote	Any Member	Arslan motion Kavi 2nd 4 yeses	3-5 mins
1.6 Approval of Minutes 12.11.2025 Board Meeting Minutes	Vote	Any Member No edits Motion-Arslan 2nd-Kavi 4 yeses	LSE Board Meeting Agenda - 12.11.2025 minutes.docx	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
Ms. Mathews/Hudgeons	<p>Good news! Speech and Debate Coach. The team went to the 3A division competition. One student qualified for Nationals in Richmond, VA this summer. Abdulahi Adan. Started a tutoring company and has been in the news. Wonderful student. Thanks for the support of the administration, and Angela (Purchasing Agent) works with them to make sure they have all of the resources.</p> <p>Angela-fantastic that the Speech and Debate team is doing so wonderfully.</p> <p>Nalcaci-thanks, Ms. Matthews/Hudgeons. She works with students in a very dedicated way.</p>

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	<p>Budget: Expenditures through Jan 31st were 52.9% of the budget compared to 52.26% in the prior year. Revenues through Jan 31st were 50.8% of the budget compared with 57.38% in the prior year. Currently, we are projecting a surplus of \$492,050. This would bring the ending fund balance to \$5,470,822 or a 9.88% increase. The increase is being driven primarily by enrollment. Budgeted enrollment was 970 students, and certified enrollment at 1,077 or a 11.03% increase over budget. In addition, MLO revenue is coming in at \$522/student over budget. FY26 total labor is estimated at \$10,463,595 or a 12.4% increase over FY25 actual labor expense of \$9,312,230. FY24 total labor was \$7,582,493.</p> <p>Balance Sheet Analysis: The school's current cash position at 1/31/26 was \$1,499,911, more than the same period last year. At Jan 31, 2026, Lotus held approximately \$5,678,839 in cash compared with \$4,178,928 on Jan 31, 2025. YOY, other current assets increased approximately \$438.9K (Grants account Receivable and Prepaid Expenses). Current liabilities increased \$1,814,516 over the prior year due to unearned TECH FUNDING revenue.</p>	5 min

			<p>Financial Reporting Compliance: The next financial due date is Reportwell is 2/25/26 - January Financial Statements</p> <p>Governor's Budget: The Governor's Budget was released in November. The projected LSE PPR for FY27 is \$13,313.53 or a 3.68% increase over the current PPR of \$12,840.34. Detailed work will begin in March on the FY27 Budget.</p> <p>Debt Covenant Compliance: LSE's FY26 spend rate is projected at \$54,892 per day (adjusted for Capital Spend and Appropriations to Reserves). \$3,293,514 in cash is required to be on account at 6/30/26 or 60 days of unrestricted operating cash at the current rate of spend. As noted above, LSE's 1/31/26 cash balance was \$5,678,839 which includes restricted cash of \$58,148.32. The cash balance less the restricted cash is \$5,620,691 reflecting a margin of \$2,327,177 which is 41.4% 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 projected DSCR requirement is \$91,421 and LSE is projected to increase FUND Balance by \$492,050. After adjusting for CAP EX and Reserves, the result is 4.98 time coverage compared with the required 1.1 times coverage. LSE is compliant and projected to be compliant with this metric as well.</p>	
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			<p>New PK-3 Facility General Fund Project Commitment: 1). The School General FUnd equity contribution for the new facility is \$1,500,000 and matched by Blueprint.</p> <p>2). LSE spent \$338,377 in FY25; primary vendors were Adragna Architecture and Blueprint</p> <p>3). LSE’s current year budget commitment \$1,161,523. Through 12/31 LSE has fulfilled its commitment.</p> <p>4).Financing closing costs totaling \$178,085 were also covered by the General Fund.</p> <p>5). Blueprint’s equity contributions have begun. \$525,870 has been drawn and \$974,130 remains.</p>	
4.2 School Report		M. Nalcaci	<p>Nalcaci: In the 2nd week of February. The intervention team and support team are working very hard with afterschool and weekend tutoring. We are excited to see the results come CMAS testing.</p> <p>Construction Schedule staying on schedule. Concrete being poured and steel beams being delivered. Anticipated Delivery Date is the 21st of August.</p> <p>We applied with APS to increase from 1200 to 1425 students. The APS board will vote on Tuesday Feb 17th. Feb 25th lottery scheduled. We have close to 400 applications. Enrollment will continue until school starts.</p> <p>We submitted a letter of intent, letter to APS and one to Douglas County. Should finalize by the 4th of March to complete the package.</p>	5 min

		<p>We launched dedicated PSAT support courses. Teachers hired to strengthen reading readiness to increase SAT scores.</p> <p>Science Fair- 60 different projects submitted. (Feb 20th).</p> <p>Speech and Debate Team: participated in a 3A state tournament. They got 3rd place in debate. One student placed 1st.</p> <p>Yesterday we had an African American Night and the turnout was great.</p> <p>Secondary Principal: Lots of exciting activities are taking place. First Robotic Competition Jan 10th and 17th. (This is the 1st in 5 years).</p> <p>Interventions: Building students up. Based on diagnostic assessments. The platform used is I-ready. We provide support -2 for middle school and 2 for high school. We are providing extra support and resources this year. (90% of students in one grade level were below). We are currently designing the Lotus Family Engagement Program from a doctor at Harvard.</p> <p>Mr. Osman is leading the Robotic Program.</p> <p>Elementary Principal:</p> <p>Underwood thanks the board. Happenings. 2nd and 5th grade teachers will start conducting tutoring sessions 1-2 times a week. Intervention happens during the day for 30 minutes since August. We want to make sure to close the gap.</p> <p>3-5th grade students participating</p>	
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			<p>in MOCK CMAS and then a 10 day boot camp to learn test taking strategies.</p> <p>Sneakball is tomorrow after school.</p> <p>Steam Day March 3rd and Science Fair in the afternoon. Ms. Hoffmeister and Ms. Kayla for working on the book barn. Thank you for your help. Books are organized and students can check them out. It can print library cards for students. Feb 20th Ribbon Cutting ceremony. Coffee Talk Feb 27th with Parents and Suha. Talking to parents about strategies and how to support at home. Volunteer opportunities at Lotus.</p> <p>Ms. Terrie hosted STEAM performances the past couple weeks which were wonderful.</p> <p>Nalcaci: Referenced Phone Policy implemented in January. There will be a positive effect from this.</p> <p>Arslan: We expected some reaction from students but having families behind us helps.</p>	
4.3 School Board Reports		Any member	<p>Arslan- recognized the Lotus personnel who have been listed among the finalists for the Colorado League of Charter Schools' 2026 Hall of Fame. Mr. Nalcaci is on the finalist list of the Leader of the Year. Ms. Hoffmeister-Advocate of the Year. Mr. Huerta-AP (Most valuable Charter Contributor); Emma Zimmer-Educator of the Year. (Charter Network)</p>	5 min

		<p>Thank you all of you for your hardwork. Admin and teachers are the backbone of the school.</p> <p>Timur-appreciates all of your help as a parent and we thank you for all of your efforts.</p> <p>Kavi-thanks everyone for the goodiebags and it made his day.</p>	
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5. Discussion Items

Agenda Item	Action	Who	Materials/Documents for Review	Time												
5.1 Discussion of the Revised FY26 Budget	Discuss		<p>Handout Jan 31, 2026 Revised Appropriating Resolution 2025/26 Be it resolved by the Lotus School for Excellence in Arapahoe County that the amounts shown in the following schedule be appropriated to the fund as specified in the “Revised Budget” for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>General Fund</th> <th>Original Budget</th> <th>Newly Proposed Budget</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>\$17,979,553</td> <td>\$23,401,439</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Building Fund</td> <td>\$12,629,101</td> <td>\$13,886,520</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Appropriation:</td> <td>\$30,608,654</td> <td>\$37,287,959</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Signed this 31st day of January, 2026 Signed by- LSE President</p>	General Fund	Original Budget	Newly Proposed Budget		\$17,979,553	\$23,401,439	Building Fund	\$12,629,101	\$13,886,520	Total Appropriation:	\$30,608,654	\$37,287,959	15 min
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			LSE Treasure *reference signed document	
5.2 2026-27 School Calendar		Kara	<p>Mr. Kara shares about the modifications. Last year school started Aug 12th. Next year we have 3 starting points. Prek-5, 6-8, 9-12. Hours are different for each. 6-12 start Aug 17th (Total days for them at the top of the calendar).</p> <p>Nalcaci: Compared to the current year we will start 1 week late for secondary and 2 weeks late to elementary. Starting dates are close to Cherry Creek and Denver. APS already released their 26-27 calendar starting the 1st week of August. We can't go lower than 160 contact days.</p> <p>We will only have 2 days for fall break (Oct 15/16) same as APS and then thanksgiving will be a full week. The majority of Staff Members prefer this.</p> <p>Kara: Oct 18th Remote.</p> <p>The 1st semester will end a little later. (2nd quarter grades due 8th of January). March Spring break will be the same as APS and Cherry Creek.</p> <p>Good Friday off. May is the end of the school for students. One teacher workday to wrap up. Some students and staff will come back for summer school.</p> <p>Nalcaci: Elementary will start at 7: 45, pre-k 8am. Secondary will start 810/815.</p>	5 min

5.3				5 min
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6. Action Items

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Agenda Item	Action	Who	Materials/Documents for Review	Time
6.1 Approve the FY26 Budget	Vote		Arslan: Make a motion to approve the Revised Appropriation Resolution. Alibayli-2nd Yeses-5	5 min
6.2 Approve the 2026-2027 School Calendar	Vote		Kavi-Motion Arslan-2nd yeeses-5	5 min

7. Discussion/ Closed Session

Agenda Item	Action	Who	Materials/Documents for Review	Time
7.1	Discuss			15 min
7.2	Discuss			5 min

8. Next Steps

Agenda Item	Action	Who	Materials/Documents for Review	Time
7.1 Scheduling next board meeting		Board President	March 12th, 2026	2 min
7.2 Requests for agenda at the next board meeting		Board President		5 min

9. Adjourn the meeting

Arslan-motion

Kavi-2nd

5 yesses

Adjourned: 6:58pm