

**Barona Indian Charter School  
Board of Directors Regular Meeting  
Minutes - August 16, 2021**



*The e phone line has been established for public to join the meeting. Public can call 877-336-1829 Code 9750849#*

**I. Call to Order/Roll Call:** Chairman Raymond Welch called the meeting to order at 8:32 am. Members in attendance: Tawnya Phoenix, Vice-Chair, Mandy Curo Quintero, Secretary/Treasurer, Danthia Gil, and Shirley Ruis. Others in attendance: Dr. Jeff Felix, Interim Principal, Julie Cushman, Teacher on Assignment, Kathy Clenney, Legal Counsel, and Yvonne LaChappa, Recording Secretary.

**II. Approval of Agenda**

**Motion** by Danthia to approve the agenda. Second by Mandy. Carried 5, 0, 0.

**III. Approval of Minutes – June 2, 2021 and June 21, 2021**

**Motion** by Mandy to approve the minutes of June 21, 2020 (Annual and Regular) and July 2, 2021.

**IV. Public Comment** - No public comment request for this meeting.

**V. Action Items**

**A. Changes to Corporate By-laws** – The Board reviewed final changes made to BICS by-laws of incorporation. Kathy Clenney discussed the changes of the By-laws with the Board. Changes made to Section 4, Section 6, Section 9, Section 15, and Section 3 Article VIII, Officers of the Corporation.

**Motion** by Mandy to approve the changes made to the By-Laws of Barona Indian Charter School. Second by Danthia. Carried 5, 0, 0.

**B. State of the Charter – Presentation by Julie Cushman.**

- Julie thanked Kristi Johnson for all her hard work helping in the office.
- Julie introduced all the new and, returning staff
- History of the Indigenous Garden was discussed and who will be responsible for the up-keep.
- Backboards have been installed for the new basketball court. Thank you to Chairman Welch and Wanda for providing labor.
- Julie gave a report on all the additional work that staff was involved in getting the school up and running.

**C. Summer Maintenance** - New blinds installed, Kindergarten room changed location, new filing cabinets in the staff workroom, and all work equipment moved into the workroom. Changes were made to the staff lounge. Former second grade classroom has been changed to a multipurpose room. A new entrance for parents and visitors to encourage them to come directly to the office. This includes a sidewalk, fence and gates.

**D. Extending the Charter Renewal Process** – Charters will not have to go through charter renewal this cycle. According to a bill that was approved by the Governor, Barona’s charter term will be extended by two years if the Board wishes to do so.

**Motion** by Mandy to approve to agree to extend the BICS Charter Renewal. Second by Danthia. Carried 5, 0, 0.

**E. Approval of Hiring of Nicolette Montano** – staff is recommending the Board approve the hiring of Nicolette Montano as a Special Education Instructional Aide. This position has been approved and after a long search, the position was offered to Ms. Montano, who previously worked for BICS. Board member commented that at least two members used to be involved in the interview/hiring of staff and would like to be involved in the future.

**Motion** by Danthia to approve the hiring of Nicolette Montano as Teacher Aide. Second by Tawnya. Carried 4 for, and 1 abstention.

**F. Health Code of Conduct** - Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, BICS has been taking several extraordinary precautions to minimize health risks during the 2021 school year. If parents choose to attend in-person or enter the school grounds, students, parents, and staff agree to follow these health standards:

- Do not attend or enter school grounds if you feel sick
- If offered, take the health screening survey prior to entering the campus
- Use provided PPE and hand sanitizing stations
- Follow social distancing guidelines and traffic flow signs
- Always wear a mask inside any building or classroom
- Wash your hands frequently
- Be considerate and kind

Each person attending or entering the campus will be asked to agree to and abide by this Health Code of Conduct. Anyone choosing not to observe these terms is encouraged to participate in an independent study program.

**Motion** by Mandy to approve the Health Code of Conduct. Second by Danthia. Carried 5, 0, 0.

**G. New Staff Salary Schedule** – Dr. Felix presented new salary schedules for certificated and classified staff for board approval. When combined with other benefits, this new schedule will retain and motivate employees.

**Motion** by Mandy to approve the new classified and certificated staff salary schedule effective July 1, 2021.

Second by Danthia. Carried 5, 0, 0.

**H. Approve an Increase in Pay for Substitute Teachers** – To remain competitive; staff urges the Board increase pay for substitute teachers. Staff recommends that regular substitutes who fill in on a short-term basis, the pay be increased from m \$120 to \$195 a day. For long-term substitutes, staff recommends the pay for increased from \$130 to \$235 a day.

**Motion** by Danthia to approve sub-pay increase from \$120 to \$195 per day and increase long-term substitutes from \$130 to \$235 a day. Second by Tawnya. Carried 5, 0, 0.

**I. Approve Master Contract with Steve Oas** – Mr. Oas, Specialized Therapy has been a long time provider for Special Education services has a master contract that needs board approval. STS are approved by the CA Department of Education as a provider of services for IEP and 504 students.

**Motion** by Danthia to approve the Master Contract for Specialized Therapy Services. Second by Mandy. Carried 5, 0, 0.

**J. Ratify New Asphalt Repair Proposal** – The price will now include the concrete and fencing needed to create a new entrance to the school office that handicap accessible and perimeter safety approved. This new project shall not exceed \$45K, which is \$5000 over the original proposal.

**Motion** by Mandy to approve the increase in price for the Asphalt Repair Proposal not to exceed \$45K. Second by Tawnya. Carried 5, 0, 0.

**K. Approve Invoice for CalPADS Contractor** – Need Board approval of invoice from independent contractor Whitney Woodard for work performed on CalPADS from February to July 2021 for \$3,550.

**Motion** by Mandy to approve the invoice for Whitney Woodard for work performed on CalPADS from February to July 2021 for \$3,550. Second by Danthia. Carried 5, 0, 0.

**L. Approval of the Homeless Education Board Policy** – The McKinney-Vento Homeless Act was passed by Congress to ensure that each homeless student has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as other students. All charter schools should adopt a homeless student education policy, regardless of whether they receive MVHA funds.

**Motion** by Mandy to approve the McKinney-Vento Homeless Act policy. Second by Shirley. Carried 5, 0, 0.

**M. Approval of Independent Study Policy** – By law, the required board-adopted independent study policies must include a growing list of specific elements, including several new ones added by AB 130. This status requires that boards adopt independent study policies containing specified elements as one of many conditions that must be met to generate funded average daily attendance for independent study.

**Motion** by Danthia to adopt the Independent Study Board Policy. Second by Mandy. Carried 5, 0, 0.

**N. Approve Board Attendance at State Conference** – the Charter Schools Development Center will present the 2021 Annual Leadership Update Conference, held on December 6-7 in San Diego. The conference program will feature over 50 interactive sessions including in-depth workshops on charter school policy, accountability, governance, finance, operations, and law. Cost will be approximately \$600 per participant not including hotel rooms. Staff asks for approval of the budget for this conference not to exceed \$8,000. **Motion** by Danthia to approve Board Attendance at State Conference on December 6-7, workshops in San Diego, not to exceed \$8,000. Second by Mandy. Carried 5, 0, 0. Interested Board members that will attend, Mandy Curo Quintero, Danthia Gil, Tawnya Phoenix, Jeff Felix and Ray Welch.

**VI. Discussion Items**

**A. Brown Act training by Dr. Felix** – discussed important Brown Act information that need to be followed.

**B. Fiscal Responsibility training** –SB 126 requires charter schools and charter management organizations to adhere to public records and open meeting laws such as the Brown or Bagley Keene Acts, Public Records Act, conflict of interest provision and the Political Records Act, conflict of interest provisions and the Political Reform Act, just as public school districts do. Taxpayers, parents and ultimately kids deserve to know how schools are using their tax dollars.

**VII. Organizational Business**

- A.** Future agenda items and/or Board member comments
- B.** Upcoming meetings
  1. August 16
  2. September 20
  3. October 18
  4. November 15 at 4:00 pm
  5. December 13

**VIII. Adjournment**

Motion by Mandy to adjourn the meeting at 11:55. Second by Danthia. Carried 5, 0, 0.

The Board members will walk around the campus to see the results of the summer maintenance and refurbishment.

Respectfully Submitted,

Yvonne Lachappa  
Recording Secretary