

# Barona Indian Charter School Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes – September 20, 2021



*The 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 Welch called the meeting to order at 8:36 am.  
Board members in attendance: Raymond Welch, Tawnya Phoenix, Shirley Ruis and Danthia Gil.  
Absent member: Mandy Curo de Quintero. Others in attendance: Dr. Jeff Felix, Interim Principal, Julie Cushman, TOSA, Legal Counsel, Kathy Clenney, and Yvonne Lachappa Recording Secretary.
- II. Approval of Agenda**
- Motion** by Danthia to approve the agenda. Second by Tawnya. Carried 4, 0, 0.
- III. Approval of Minutes**
- Motion** by Shirley to approve the minutes of August 16, 2021. Second by Shirley. Carried 4, 0, 0.
- IV. Public Comment** – There was no public comment requested for this meeting,
- V. Reports – Nina Drammissi, and Kathy Gerstenberg**
- A. Students Services** – Nina Drammissi was unable to attend. She planned to report on her work regarding chronic absenteeism and student culture. She will attend next month’s board meeting.
- B. Special Education** – Kathy Gerstenberg (Special Education Director) gave a report regarding the status of special needs students, testing/assessment, and behavior issues/concerns. She reported that she now has a case-load of twenty- one students.  
Question asked, does teacher or parent request testing for student. Kathy stated that it could be both and that there is an SST (Student Support Team) to determine what the student needs are.
- C. Principal** – Julie Cushman (for Jeff Felix, Interim Principal).
- The sand was removed from the blacktop area, and the company plans to come back next week to do a sealant. Gate construction near the school office is progressing well, there is still more work to be done.
  - Back to School Night went well, a good turn- out of parents. Question ask from a parent, what are the requirements for parent volunteer. Jeff responded, masks and proof of vaccines or proof of a negative test is required.
  - NWEA (MAPS) testing is complete, third through eighth grade. Scores look good.
  - DRA (Diagnostic Reading Assessment) program testing was implemented to assess students reading capabilities. Further testing is planned.
  - Infinite Campus is our new attendance company. There are many good features. Parents and students can log on to their portal and view homework, missing work, and digital report cards.
  - Learning Center students are walking across the campus, Learning Center personnel are asking for academic information on their students that attend BICS. Tawnya suggested that we work with the learning center and help them. Tawnya will check if they have an extension or phone number in their classroom.
- VI. Action Items**
- A. Approval of Unaudited Actuals** - Board members reviewed the Unaudited Actuals.  
**Motion** by Shirley to approve the Unaudited Actuals 2020-2021. Second by Danthia. Carried 4, 0, 0.

**B. Approval Family Resource Coordinator Contract** – Barona Charter would like to employ a consultant to look at broad family issues and provide recommendations in respect to school culture, student absenteeism, student socio-emotional needs, and recommendations for the charter renewal document. This position will be funded by the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER Fund).

**Motion** by Danthia to approve the Family Resource Coordinator contract. Second by Shirley. Carried 4, 0, 0.

**C. Ratify New Fencing Repair Proposal** – A new fence will be added to the area surrounding the Native American Garden. Repair and replacement of fencing will be performed at the new school entrance next to the garden. Grading for rainfall runoff behind the office through the Garden will be performed. This new project shall not exceed \$12K.

**Motion** by Danthia to ratify the New Fencing & Repair Proposal not to exceed \$12K. Second by Shirley. Carried 4, 0, 0.

**VII. Discussion Items**

**A. Work on the Form 700** – Yvonne reported that the board members have filled out the Form 700. Additional information is needed regarding the Conflict of Interest Code from the San Diego Clerk of the Board of Supervisors. Kathy asked Yvonne to send her a copy of the letter that was sent to BICS regarding the Conflict of Interest Code.

Plans will be made to renovate the bench in the Native Garden, and put a plaque on it in honor of Linda Curo and Frank LaChappa.

Update on the trees behind the school. There will be no cutting down of the trees, trimming only.

**B. Charter School Development Center (CSDC)** –The board discussed their attendance at the CSDC Leadership Conference in San Diego December 6-7, 2021.

**VIII. rganization Business**

**A. Future agenda items and/or Board member comments.** Ask Nina Drammissi to attend the next board meeting, to give her report.

**B. Upcoming meetings**

October 18, November 15, December 13, 2021, and January 24, 2022.

**IX. Adjournment**

**Motion** by Shirley to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 am. Second by Danthia. Carried 4, 0, 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Yvonne LaChappa  
Recording Secretary to the Board of Trustees