

**BOARD Meeting Activity  
December 1, 2021**

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**ACTION ITEMS**

**District Review New Charter School Application - Life Success International Academy**

Dr. Thomas introduced the topic and turned the presentation over to Ms. Kris Odom, Executive Director of Procurement and Contracting, and Dr. Brandan Comfort, Executive Director of School Leadership.

There was a public hearing and non-action meeting on November 10, 2021, where the District 11 evaluation committee and District Accountability Committee chair shared their individual evaluation findings of the new charter application submitted by Life Success International Academy (LSIA).

On November 17, 2021, a robust discussion between the LSIA Board and the District 11 Board of Education took place.

The Life Success International Academy (LSIA) new charter application was submitted as an initial five-year application to begin with the 2022-23 academic school year. Key components of the charter application include the following:

- Life Success International Academy plans to implement an educational program that is focused on developing students who are curious, empathetic, flexible, intrepid, problem solvers, and globally minded.
- Life Success International Academy intends to open its doors in the Fall of 2022 with 105 Kindergarten – Sixth grade students. Each year thereafter, a grade level will be added until they reach the school’s grade level capacity of 12th grade in 2028. In the first five years of operation, LSIA plans to grow from 105 students to 725 students.
- Location of the school is projected for Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church, located at 3615 Vickers Drive.
- The mission of LSIA is to become a learning community that inspires and educates students to maximize their success. The school promotes student agency and provides a rigorous academic foundation through a professional global learning environment for students, parents, and the community. The school challenges students to excel and to acquire knowledge and skills paving the path of Life Success.

The Charter School Act is intended to encourage innovation in education. C.R.S. 22-30.5-104 identifies the requirements and authority of a charter school. C.R.S. 22-30.5-106 lists the contents that the application must minimally address. These are the 20 areas that the district evaluation team's rubric evaluates to determine the quality of the application. This application was received by the September 1 deadline. C.R.S. 22-30.5-107(1)(c) requires the district accountability committee to independently evaluate the application and provide their report and recommendation to the District Board of Education. The District Board of Education had 90 days from Sep 1, 2021 to vote by resolution to approve, conditionally approve, or deny the application.

The Board of Education approved Resolution 2022-22 with conditions for the Life Success International Academy charter school application.

Resolution 2022-23, Appreciation of Board Candidates

The Board of Education of the Colorado Springs School District 11 expresses its appreciation to the candidates for their dedication and support of the educational process for young people in School District 11 by adopting a Resolution of Appreciation for Candidates of the 2021 Board of Directors Election for Colorado Springs School District 11.

The candidates were:

Rebecca Acevedo Kenderdine

Sandra Bankes

Shawn Gullixson

John Gustafson

Al Loma

Lauren Nelson

Julie Ott

Chris Wallis

Jennifer Williamson

The Board of Education adopted Resolution 2022-23, Appreciation of Board Candidates.

Resolution 2022-24, Certification of Candidates Election Votes

The results of the November 2, 2021, election have been certified by the Canvass Board.

The Board of Education adopted Resolution 2022-24, Certification of Candidate Election Votes.

Resolution 2022-25, Appreciation of Anthony Carlson

The Board of Education of Colorado Springs School District 11 expresses their deepest appreciation and gratitude to Anthony Carlson for his overwhelming support for our schools as well as his efforts in transforming the trajectory of District 11 and its students, thereby strengthening the fabric of the Colorado Springs community.

The Board of Education approved Resolution 2022-25, Appreciation of Anthony Carlson.

Resolution 2022-26, Resolution of Appreciation for Shawn Gullixson

The Board of Education of Colorado Springs School District 11 and Administration expresses its appreciation to Director Shawn Gullixson for his dedication and support of the education process for young people in School District 11 and would like to honor Mr. Gullixson for his years of service between 2016-2021 to the students, staff and administration of District 11 by endorsing a Resolution of Appreciation.

The Board of Education endorsed Resolution 2022-26, Resolution of Appreciation for Shawn Gullixson.

Resolution 2022-27, Resolution of Appreciation for Jim Mason

The Board of Education of Colorado Springs School District 11 and Administration expresses its appreciation to Director Jim Mason for his dedication and support of the education process for young people in School District 11 and would like to honor Mr. Mason for his years of service between 2013-2021 to the students, staff and administration of District 11 by endorsing a Resolution of Appreciation.

The Board of Education endorsed Resolution 2022-27, Resolution of Appreciation for Jim Mason.

Resolution 2022-28, Resolution of Appreciation for Chris Wallis

The Board of Education of Colorado Springs School District 11 and Administration expresses its appreciation to Director Chris Wallis for his dedication and support of the education process for young people in School District 11 and would like to honor Mr. Wallis for his year of service from 2020-2021 to the students, staff and administration of District 11 by endorsing a Resolution of Appreciation.

The Board of Education endorsed Resolution 2022-28, Resolution of Appreciation for Chris Wallis.

Oath of Office

Colorado School Laws prescribe that each new or reelected member of the Board, no later than ten days after the District receives the official abstract of votes, shall take an oath of office to faithfully perform the duties of the office as required by law and will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of Colorado and laws made pursuant thereto.

Lara Bankes lead the oath of office for Sandra Bankes.

Frank Vasquez lead the oath of office for Al Loma.

Travis Nelson lead the oath of office for Lauren Nelson.

George Ott lead the oath of office for Julie Ott.

The certificate of election, oath of office and confidentiality form signed by Sandra Bankes, Al Loma, Lauren Nelson, and Julie Ott have been filed in the office of the Board of Education.

Election of Officers

President Gullixson called for the nominations for president.

Director Daniels nominated Julie Ott. Director Jorgenson nominated Dr. Parth Melpakam.

There were no other nominations; therefore, President Gullixson closed the nominations and asked the board members to cast their ballot via written, secret ballot. State statute requires secret ballot voting for the office of president and vice president. Directors turned in their ballot to appointed tellers, Maricela Hidalgo and Trudy Tool, who counted the ballots and delivered the results to President Gullixson. Dr. Parth Melpakam was elected to the office of president.

President Melpakam called for the nominations for vice president. Director Daniels nominated Julie Ott. Director Bankes nominated Jason Jorgenson. There were no other nominations; therefore, President Melpakam closed the nominations and asked the board members to cast their ballot via written, secret ballot. Directors turned in their ballot to appointed tellers, Maricela Hidalgo and Trudy Tool, who counted the ballots and delivered the results to President Melpakam. Jason Jorgenson was elected to the office of vice president.

President Melpakam called for nominations for the office of secretary. Director Nelson nominated Sandra Bankes to the office of secretary. There were no other nominations. President Melpakam called for the vote by roll call. Sandra Bankes was elected to the office of secretary.

President Melpakam called for nominations for the office of treasurer. Director Al Loma nominated Lauren Nelson to the office of treasurer. There were no other nominations. President Melpakam called for the vote by a roll call. Lauren Nelson was elected to the office of treasurer.

#### Appointment of Staff Assistants to the Board of Education

Following the election of Board officers, the Board may appoint staff members to serve as Assistant Treasurer and Assistant Secretary.

The Board of Education appointed Brian Cortez as Assistant Board Treasurer and Maricela Hidalgo as Assistant Board Secretary.

#### Recess

The Board of Education took a 10-minute recess.

### **NON-ACTION ITEMS**

#### Resolution 2022-21, Mill Levy Rates Component Certification

Dr. Thomas introduced the topic and turned the presentation over to Mr. Brian Cortez Chief of Business/Operational Services.

By statute, the District's mill levy rates must be certified by December 15 of each calendar year. The certification resolution was attached and references the District's mill levy rates. The mill levy rates presented were based on assessed valuations as provided by the El Paso County tax assessor. The Budget Office determines the final mill rates and reserve projections after receiving the certification of assessed valuation from the El Paso County tax assessor.

The mill levy is the instrument used by local governments to levy property taxes to be collected by the county and remitted to the school district. District 11 has five different components of its mill levy:

- General Fund Levy - set by the Colorado Department of Education
- Bond Levy - voter-approved increase in debt, November 1996 and 2005
- Education Plan Levy - voter-approved mill levy override, November 2000
- Education Plan Levy - voter-approved mill levy override, November 2017 (note that this levy has an optional inflation clause)
- Abatement Levy - set by El Paso County for prior year uncollected property taxes

The mill levy rates are based on information from El Paso County, the Colorado Department of Education, the District's estimates of uncollectible taxes, and interest earnings. The calculated mill levy rates provided to the Board of Education are in compliance with state statutes, GO bond regulations, and the ballot questions that were approved by the voters.

The Board agreed to move the item to the action agenda at the Dec. 8 regular meeting.

#### **FUTURE MEETING/WORK SESSIONS**

The Board of Education will meet on the following dates:

Wed., December 8, regular meeting, boardroom, 5:30 p.m.

Wed., December 15, board retreat, Location and time to be determined

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m.