



A Traditional American Education

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**August 20th, 2019**  
**Woodman Hills Recreation Center**

**1.0 Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:39.

**2.0 Roll Call and establishment of a quorum**

A regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:39 p.m. by Board President Ronnie Wilson. The following board members were present: Mr. Burt *Hands*, Ms. Michelle *Morin*, Mr. Michael *Peterson* and Ronnie Wilson. Ms. Jennifer *Helland* was enroute and participated by phone.

**3.0 Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance**

Those in attendance were welcomed and invited to join the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4.0 School Mission & Vision**

Mr. Wilson opened the meeting by reading both the Liberty Tree Mission and the school's vision.

**5.0 Meeting Agenda**

Ms. Morin moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Peterson seconded the motion. It carried 5-0.

**6.0 Public comment - none**

**7.0 Previous Meeting Minutes**

Board tabled the receiving of the minutes from the July 2019 meeting. Ms. Morin made the motion. It was seconded by Mr. Peterson. The motion carried 5-0.

**8.0 Finance reports – June Building Corporation**

Was presented by the Board Treasurer, Mr. Peterson. Mrs. Helland moved to accept the report and Ms. Morin seconded the motion. It carried 5-0.

**9.0 Authorizer Correspondence**

D49 notified the school that it needs to address administering TS Gold testing and School Readiness. The school will explore the existence of waivers for those issues as well as the CDL training for teachers renewing their licenses.

#### **10.0 Finance Committee Approval**

Establishing a Finance Committee having been discussed in prior meetings, Mrs. Helland moved to establish a committee initially made up of the Board Treasurer, Business Manager and community member Don Rogers. Mr. Hands seconded the motion. It carried 5-0.

#### **11.0 Principal Report – Academic Student Performance Presentation**

The results from the 2019 CMAS test are in! In our first year Liberty Tree Academy scored tops in our school district and among the best in El Paso County. As a school we exceeded State averages in English Language Arts (ELA) by seven percentage points and the Math State averages by ten percentage points. Our scores are the highest in District 49 for both ELA and Math. To highlight a few specific results, our students in grades 6-8 had some dramatic test scores. Their Math and ELA scores place them not only above all the schools in our district, but they also scored higher than the district averages of D20, D11, D8, D3, and D2. But the good news doesn't stop there. Our 6-8 graders scored higher than some notable charter schools such as The Classical Academy (TCA) in D20 and all of the charter schools in D49. Lastly the Colorado Department of Education rated our school on their performance framework, which states the overall academic health of our school, in the "Exceeds" category, the highest category, for our middle grades.

#### **12.0 Facilities Agreement – Building Corporation President**

Mr. Peterson updated the Board on the status of additional parking needed for the school and the potential lease agreement for use of the school gym.

#### **13.0 Facilities Report**

Mr. Hands shared the status of the facility progress pointing to a September 3 open. Even though there was much to do, much progress was being made.

#### **14.0 Authorization of Signatures for LTA Bank Accounts**

The following individuals were proposed as signers for the LTA bank accounts: Mrs. Kimberly Gasper, Dr. Brian Helland, Mrs. Emily Hughes and Lauren Foley. Mr. Hands moved to accept the named individuals and Mr. Peterson seconded the motion. It carried 4-0 with Mrs. Helland abstaining because of a conflict.

#### **15.0 Policy re: Adoption of District Open Records Act Policy**

A motion was made by Mr. Hands to adopt the D49 CORA policy. Ms. Morin seconded the motion that passed 5-0.

#### **16.0 Policy re: Execution of contracts/agreements**

Mrs. Helland moved the board adopt the following policy. Ms. Morin seconded the motion. It carried 5-0. *No one individual can obligate Liberty Tree Academy by way of a contract/agreement that in any way affects the independence of the school in operations or governance. Any such agreement will require a board vote. If such an agreement is signed without board approval, that agreement is null and void.*

#### **17.0 Policy re: BOD and Principal attorney consultation**

An initial proposal was discussed to bring as much transparency as possible to board member interactions with the school attorney. It was decided that we should consult the school attorney to help write the policy.

**18.0 Conflict of Interest Disclosure forms annual signatures**

**19.0 Hillsdale Agreement**

A brief discussion was had about the change in the agreement that BCSI is imposing on all the affiliate schools.

**20.0 Process of including additional BOD's**

A brief discussion to introduce the process of adding additional BOD's was initiated. The process will be based upon requirements in the BOD Handbook and LTA bylaws.

**21.0 Executive Session – Pursuant to §24-6-402(4)(f), C.R.S.), Personnel matters.**

Pursuant to §24-6-402(4)(d), Specialized details of security arrangements.

At 7:57 Mrs. Helland moved the board enter executive session. Mr. Peterson seconded the motion. It carried 5-0. The executive session was exited at 8:29 with all members present.

Mrs. Helland made the motion to seek a waiver for TS Gold assessments. Mr. Peterson seconded the motion. It carried 5-0.

Mr. Hands moved to seek a waiver for School Readiness. Ms. Morin seconded the motion. It passed 5-0.

Mr. Hands moved to seek a waiver for the LTA safety policy. Ms. Morin seconded the motion. It passed 5-0

Mr. Wilson moved that the Board should have representation at safety discussions with D49. Mrs. Helland seconded the motion. It carried 5-0. Ms. Morin and Mr. Hands were assigned that duty.

**22.0 Announcements**

Dr. Brian Carpenter, on behalf of BCSI, will be performing a Risk Assessment and provide services to our incoming Principal. Dr. Carpenter will be with LTA for 5 days beginning Aug 26. LTA Community Celebration Day Sat. Sept. 21.

