



Element Education

Empowering Students to Discover Their Element

Community Montessori and Dimensions Collaborative School

MINUTES

**Regular Board Meeting
Element Education, Inc.
February 24, 2021
1:00 P.M. Closed Meeting
1:30 P.M. Public Meeting**

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

Terri Novacek – Executive Director

ELEMENT STAFF MEMBERS:

**Roland Yung, Community Montessori (CM) School Director
Brandi Rodrigues, Director of Special of Education
Tony Drown, Dimensions Collaborative (DCS) School Director
Paul Johnson, Director of Accountability
Kiran Sihota, Director of Human Resources
Susan Michaels, Executive Assistant
Doug Miller, Chief Business Officer
Johnny Pontecorvo, Resource Specialist
Monique Labarre, Dimension Collaborative School Parent
Nora Hamilton Cabaong, Dimensions Collaborative School Parent**

LOCATION

**1441 Montiel Road #143
Escondido, CA 92026**

**1816 Oak Hill Drive
Escondido, CA 92026**

**3751 Mary Lane
Escondido, CA 92026**

**12370 Adobe Ridge Rd
Poway, CA 92064**

**4646 Mission Gorge Place
San Diego, CA 92120**

**1800 North Broadway
Escondido, CA 92026**

**9580 Carlton Hills
Santee, CA 92071**

**6797 Embarcadero Lane
Carlsbad, CA 92011**

1. OPENING PROVISIONS

1.a. Call to Order and Roll Call **1:00 p.m.**

Members present: Childers, Raymond, Tweeten, Rohrer, Duran

Secretary: Novacek

Recording Secretary: Michaels

1.b. No public comments related to closed session.

1.c. Adjourned to Closed Session **1:10 p.m.**

2. CLOSED SESSION

3. PUBLIC SESSION

3.a. Ms. Rohrer called the meeting to order and a quorum was established. **1:35 p.m.**

3.b. Ms. Rohrer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3.c. Approval of Agenda.



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3.d. Ms. Rohrer reported there was no action taken during the closed session.

MSC (Tweeten/Childers) to approve the Agenda. Motion passed (5-0)

Ayes: Ms. Childers, Mr. Duran, Ms. Raymond, Ms. Rohrer, Mr. Tweeten **Nays:** None **Abstain:** None

4. RECOGNITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

4.a. Student Recognition: Mr. Drown recognized Sacha Labarre, a 6th grade Dimensions Collaborative School student, for his remarkable academic accomplishments.

4.b. Staff Recognition: Ms. Rodrigues recognized, Mr. Johnny Pontecorvo, a Special Education Resource Specialist, for his growth mindset and exceptional rapport with colleagues and families.

4.c. Presentation: Mr. Yung reported enrollment at 767, students and staff are working on planning the Invention Convention, there was 384 students in the first lottery and 60 students in the second lottery, Oak Hill Learning Center is hosting a Farmer's Market, and spring cleaning is underway.

4.c.1 Mr. Yung reported the Parent Advisory Council met to discuss the budget, future projects, the charter renewal, and the COVID-19 Guidance for Schools document released by the state in January.

4.d. Presentation: Mr. Drown reported enrollment at 539, the first virtual student expo was shared with parents, two DCS students will advance to the county-wide spelling bee, the Parent Ambassador program is underway, parents are now receiving the Tuesday Tribune (a weekly school-wide update), and the new website will launch next month.

4.d.1 Advisory Council Report: Ms. Nora Cabaong reported the Parent Council met and discussed the school budget, school-wide communication methods, and spring programs.

4.e. Presentation: Ms. Rodrigues reported on the 2020-2021 Special Education statistics for Dimensions Collaborative School and Community Montessori.

5. COMMUNICATIONS - Agenda and Non-Agenda Items

5.a. No public comment.

5.b. No comments from the Board.

6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

6.a. Approval of Minutes of Regular Board Meeting January 27, 2021.

6.b. Ratification of Check Run for January 2021.

MSC (Tweeten/Childers) to approve consent items. Motion passed (5-0)

Ayes: Ms. Childers, Mr. Duran, Ms. Raymond, Ms. Rohrer, Mr. Tweeten **Nays:** None **Abstain:** None



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7. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS - NO ACTION

7. a. Chief Business Officer Report

1. Mr. Miller presented current financial information for Community Montessori and Dimensions Collaborative School.
2. Mr. Miller reported the final inspection for the Oak Hill modular buildings is scheduled and the buildings will be open for students and staff beginning March 1st.
3. Mr. Miller reported there are enough Chromebooks for spring student testing,

7. b. Director of Human Resources Report

1. Ms. Sihota reported the following open positions: one part time Resource Specialist and one Regional Assistant for Dimensions Collaborative School. Ms. Sihota reported the following new hires: five Learning Assistants for Community Montessori.
2. Ms. Sihota reported the following professional development activity: one Dimensions Collaborative School Educational Facilitator attended the Training for Effective Parent and Student Communication for Live/Synchronous Learning workshop, two Dimensions Collaborative School Educational Facilitators attended five online sessions of Peter Gray on Self Directed Learning, one Dimensions Collaborative School Educational Facilitator received a certificate for Rigorous Project Based Learning, and the Dimensions Collaborative School Academic Counselor attended the Share Learn Connect (SLC) Virtual Program presented by the Western Association of College Admission Counseling.

7. c. Executive Director Report

1. Ms. Novacek reported staff is preparing for the annual site visits in March, Community Montessori and Dimensions Collaborative School received the California School Finance Authority (CSFA) Good Standing Confirmation Form (GSCF), and Community Montessori and Dimensions Collaborative School are in compliance with the terms of their Charter Agreements.
2. Ms. Novacek reported the new websites and the *Element is Everything* podcast are set to launch in March,
3. Ms. Novacek reported the learning centers will continue current operational practices through June.
4. Ms. Novacek shared the 2021-2022 Calendar and 2022-2023 Key Dates with the Board.

8. ACTION ITEMS

8.a. Element Education

1. Approval of Board resolution approving participation in the California School Finance Authority's ASAP (Advances on State Aid Payments) Program to provide cash flow financing for planned, February through June 2021, apportionment deferrals.

MSC (Tweeten/Duran) to approve the Board resolution to participate in the California School Finance Authority's (ASAP) program. Motion passed (5-0)

Ayes: Ms. Childers, Mr. Duran, Ms. Raymond, Ms. Rohrer, Mr. Tweeten **Nays:** None **Abstain:** None



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2. Approval of revised policies.

- a. Consideration of revised Attendance Policy
- b. Consideration of revised Independent Study Policy
- c. Consideration of revised Work Assignments and Records Policy

MSC (Childers/Tweeten) to approve the revised policies. Motion passed (5-0)

Ayes: Ms. Childers, Mr. Duran, Ms. Raymond, Ms. Rohrer, Mr. Tweeten **Nays:** None **Abstain:** None

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Final Calendar 2021-2022
- Final Key Dates 2022-2023

10. NEXT MEETING DATE - Regular Board Meeting

Date: March 24, 2021
 Location: Virtual
 Time: 1:00 PM

11. ADJOURNMENT

2:45 p.m.

DocuSigned by:
Barbara Rohrer
 6580C40724E74BA... _____ Date: 4/9/2021

Board President

DocuSigned by:
[Signature]
 819238B3ACD5424... _____ Date: 4/12/2021

Board Secretary