



COLORADO  
Early Colleges

## **CEC Governing Board Meeting**

**October 15, 2021 @ 3:30 p.m.**

CEC Colorado Springs, 4405 North Chestnut Street, Colorado Springs

CEC Fort Collins, 4424 Innovation Drive., Fort Collins

Microsoft Teams

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**Call to Order** – Laura called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m. with the reading of CEC’s Mission Statement.

### **Mission Statement**

*Colorado Early Colleges' mission is to prepare a diverse population of students for life by developing their mind, body and character through rigorous academic studies, and character development activities in cooperation with the community we serve.*

*All students, regardless of background or skill level, will have the opportunity to pursue a growth mindset that will allow them to achieve mastery and will demonstrate that they can succeed in school, in college, and in their chosen career.*

*No exceptions. No excuses.*

### **Attendees:**

- Board of Governors: Laura Calhoun, Terry McDonald, Arthur Cyphers, Robin Phillips, Jessie Mathis, Papa Dia (absent), Larry Mohr (absent), and Sandra Lee
- Chief Executive Administrator: Sandi Brown
- Attorneys: Dustin Sparks and Amber DeCarli
- Other staff as required: Collin Turbert, Stephanie Livingston, Delight Hockman, Tom Smith, Cameron Mascoll, Jay Egger, Brenda Rhodes, Cory Harbor, Jennifer Daugherty, and Dan Hoffman.
- Guest: Bonnie Brown

**Approval of Agenda** – Art put forth a motion to approve the agenda. Terry 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor.

**Correspondence/Board Comments** – Laura thanked all CEC staff and Heads of School on behalf of the Board for their positive attitudes in working through the challenges of this school year and that the Board is appreciative of their work. Robin and Sandra updated the Board on the CSI site visit to CEC Fort Collins. Robin said it was nice to meet CSI staff and CSI board members and noted that CSI stated their confidence in Sandi and Collin in running CEC Fort Collins. Sandra added that it was good for CSI to see the context of the school.



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**Public Comment** The Board welcomes Public Comment. Please keep comments to 3 minutes or less per person. Should you have questions, please submit prior to the Board meeting to [laura.calhoun@coloradoearlycolleges.org](mailto:laura.calhoun@coloradoearlycolleges.org). The Board will respond to your questions via email.

Bonne B., a CECFC MS parent, came to re-state her desire that CEC leadership mandate masks for all students. She was given 3 minutes to address the board. Her comments and concerns were referred to Sandi Brown and to the upcoming Administration Report, COVID Update in the agenda. Her ending comments had to be muted and are omitted from the minutes for vulgarity.

### Administration Report – Sandi Brown

- October Count Enrollment Update – Sandi shared that a growing number of families are selecting charter schools for their students. Currently, CEC has 191 students in all its Single District Online Programs with 71 of those students enrolled due to health concerns. Sandi shared a breakdown of enrollment by school and noted that CEC did not meet its enrollment goals this year. Cameron Mascoll, CFO, will reforecast schools' budgets based on October Count enrollment as he does every year.
- NoCO IgnitED Recap – Sandi shared her experience as part of the NoCO IgnitED conference that brought industry and education leaders together with community members to focus on entrepreneurship. CEC Fort Collins was chosen as a 'tour school' and was visited by a group of participants. As part of her update, Sandi mentioned the new CEC CTE team of Wendy Rhodes and Kathleen Kingdom. She informed the Board of a new partnership with Lockheed Martin. Lockheed is looking to hire CEC students who have a 2-year degree and the Microsoft Certification. Lockheed is also offering summer internships for which CEC students can apply.
- Director of Facilities Update – Sandi informed the Board that Michelle Fisher is no longer with CEC. She thanked Michelle for her work over the past 5 years. CEC has a new Facility Director, Mark Murbach, who is highly qualified with a degree in Facility Management.
- COVID Update: Masks, Vaccines, Survey – Sandi told the Board that CEC is preparing for the President's Executive Order regarding mandatory vaccines for businesses with 100+ employees and what the possible ramifications could be for CEC. Human Resources sent an anonymous survey to current staff regarding their vaccine stance. Sandi informed the Board that Larimer County Health District had issued an indoor



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mask mandate for all businesses that afternoon. The indoor mask mandate runs for 21 days, starting Wednesday, October 20. Douglas County is no longer mandating masks.

- MDOL Submission – Sandi briefly shared that CEC is moving forward with submitting a Multi-District Online Application. CEC has engaged a 3<sup>rd</sup> party reviewer to ensure our application is strong.
- League of Charter School Member’s Council – Staffing and Students with Disabilities – Sandi let the Board know that there is a group looking specifically at charter schools’ enrollment processes as it pertains to serving students with disabilities. A perception still exists that charter schools are not serving a high enough percent of students with disabilities. CEC has refined its enrollment process and does not ask if a student has a disability during the Initial Student Application process. Sandi referred Board members to a “Chalkbeat” article dated October 5, 2021, that is uploaded into the CEC Governing Board Team for more information.
  - ACT – Sandi encouraged the Board to sign up for the Colorado League of Charter Schools Advocacy Network (ACT) to support charter schools and keep up to date on pending legislation.
- Wyoming Delegation November 17 from 10—11 a.m. and Legislator Visits – Sandi shared that Wyoming recently created a charter school authorizing mechanism. The November 17 tour of CEC Aurora by Wyoming legislators is being hosted by the Daniels Fund.
- Update on Jeremy – Sandi updated the Board on the outcome of the trial from the March 2019 off-campus shooting that involved a CEC student.

### Finance – Cameron Mascoll

- Overview of the Annual Audit – Cameron shared that the annual financial audit is completed and asked the Board to review the audit reports that are uploaded into the Governing Board Team. Laura asked that if Board members have questions regarding the final audit reports to send their questions to Art Cyphers, and Art and Cameron will meet to discuss. Cameron outlined several recommendations the auditor noted, and CEC will implement the recommendations. Cameron also let the Board know of a new requirement outlining the treatment of leases. The Finance Department will participate in professional development to better understand the requirement.



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### Board Action

- Approve September 17, 2021 CEC Governing Board Meeting Minutes
  - Jessie put forth a motion to approve the September 17 Board meeting minutes, Art 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in Favor.
- Approve Policies
  - Student Interviews, Interrogations, and Searches
    - Art put forth a motion to approve, Jessie 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in Favor
  - School Accountability Committee
    - Jessie put forth a motion to approve based on a change in policy removing that the SAC Secretary had to be a parent. Terry 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in Favor.
  - Field Trips and Travel Study Trips
    - Art put forth a motion to approve, Terry 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in Favor

**Executive Session** - none

**Other Business** - none

### Future Meetings of the Governing Board

- November 19, 2021 – CEC Aurora @ 1:30 p.m.
- December 10, 2021 – CEC Parker @ 1:30 p.m.
- January 21, 2022 – CEC Colorado Springs @ 3:30 p.m.

Board meeting adjourned at 4:56 p.m.

*Brenda Rhodes*

Respectfully submitted by Brenda Rhodes on behalf of Robin Phillips, CEC Governing Board Secretary