



# ASCENT COLORADO CLASSICAL SCHOOLS

**Ascent Classical Academy Charter Schools, Inc.  
Governing Board - Regular Meeting MINUTES  
September 24, 2024  
3:30 pm**

In-person: 4690 Table Mountain Drive, Suite 100, Golden, CO 80403

Virtual: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87608014009?pwd=bhAWdzoJ8q1eLbILgyjOBHT2LJMrx3.1>  
Passcode: 239318

Or dial: 1 720 707 2699, Webinar ID: 876 0801 4009, Passcode: 239318

The Governing Board of Ascent Classical Academy Charter Schools, Inc. will convene.

1. Preliminary.
  - a. Call to order.
    - i. Meeting called to order at: 3:31 by Gilmartin
  - b. Roll Call.
    - i. Board members present: Gilmartin, Williams, Shanfelt, Fuller, Gillan
  - c. Pledge of Allegiance.
  - d. Read Mission/Vision.
  - e. Adopt Agenda.
    - i. Move to adopt the agenda: Gilmartin Second: Williams, Motion Passes: 5-0
2. Reports
  - a. Finance Report.
    - i. Mr. Scott presented the financial report. Draft financials of the FY24 close. The auditors have completed the draft audit, it is in hand and Mr. Scott reported the financials closed with 106 days cash on hand (org wide). All four schools came in under budget due to capital expenditures booked with the building corp.
    - ii. The auditor will be invited to present to the board at the October board meeting.
  - b. Headmaster Reports.
    - i. Mrs. Drake - ACAGJ, presented her board report. 200+ new students started a month ago. Process and procedures are being implemented. Enrollment is holding strong. P/T conferences coming over the next month. NWEA and WIDA Access was completed. Volleyball season was successful. XC in season as well. Boys basketball for MS starting. Launch of the House system starting mid-October. Strong waitlist at 7th grade. ACAGJ is offering an attractive option for choice amongst the community.
    - ii. Dr. Tacoma - ACAND, presented his board report. Eventful start to the school year. Safety procedures implemented, 9/11 ceremony, preamble to the Consitution presented to parents. Students will sing the national anthem at the Rockies game tomorrow.

- Enrollment numbers have increased slightly since the report was submitted. Numbers are moving in the right direction. 1/2 day Kindergarten allows for more students in seats. Works well for enrollment and small classroom size but can be more challenging. Mis-coded students who did not participate on the CMAS, resulting in a drop to “Turnaround” on the School Performance Framework (SPF). 58th to 60th percentile on NWEA growth. Mr. Gilmartin and Dr. Tacoma will meet with CSI next week.
- iii. Mr. Krammer - ACANC provided his board report. Kicked off the year with staff training. Post-grad advising is in full swing. Homecoming week coming. MAPS (NWEA) testing completed. No surprises in the test results. Enrollment has dropped slightly.
  - iv. Mr. Jones - ACADC presented his board report. Constitution Day last week. Fall Fest this Friday. October count is looking good. Enrollment will be on budget. CSI will be hosted on Oct. 10th for the renewal site visit. Homecoming events scheduled.
- c. Fundraising Report.
- i. Headmasters’ site-specific Fundraising Reports
  - ii. Headmasters presented fundraising reports. DoCo presented the strategy to help offset costs for students in need, extracurricular fees, and staff bonuses. The Gala is scheduled for the Fall. November 2nd. Looking to raise 75k (net \$50k). Spring Fundraiser will be a fun run. There are also a number of AFF functions.
  - iii. NoCo presented the fundraising report. Total amount to be raised is \$125k. This is significantly more than in the past. Looking to raise \$40k for students in need to offset fees. Teacher bonuses included in the fundraising efforts. Fine Arts and Athletics will also see some benefit from fundraising. Finally, security is a priority. Giving campaign and accessing community partnerships are a strategic emphasis. Giving Tuesday and Colorado Gives Day. Archerfest Gala will take place in the Spring and has begun now. Building Alliance is in the planning phase.
  - iv. NoDenver presented the fundraising plan. The primary goal is for a 12-passenger van. Methods will include a Gala in the Spring (April 11). Working with PTO for spirit-nights at local restaurants. Rockies game fundraiser for the music department.
  - v. GJ reported the biggest need is to meet the needs of students needing fees/uniforms support. 50% of fundraising will go toward that effort. Lunch program will also be supported through fundraising. In addition, looking to support the athletic program with transportation options. Smaller event in a few weeks (cornhole tournament and silent auction, October 5th). Looking into participating with local restaurants to start spirit nights. Also exploring a giving campaign.
- d. Facilities Report. Mr. Williams provided the facilities update.
- i. Lone Tree Gym. - Lone Tree is working well with the school. Traffic study is complete with no issues. Modular move is complete and was under budget.
  - ii. NoCo Phase II. - Pretty good progress. Charter Performance worked with land owner and things look to be moving forward. School staff

- will soon be engaged with the site planning once a concept is drafted.
- iii. Grand Junction Phase I. - The modular move to GJ is done and under budget.
- iv. Northern Denver Phase I - The modular move is complete and was under budget.
- 3. Public Comment – Members of the public may email [Stephen.Gilmartin@ascentcolorado.org](mailto:Stephen.Gilmartin@ascentcolorado.org) by 2:00 pm the day of the meeting to sign up for public comment. No public comments.
- 4. Consent Agenda.
  - a. Adopt meeting minutes of the 8/27/2024
  - b. Adopt meeting minutes of the 9/11/2024
  - c. Adoption of policies as presented.
    - i. Non-legal name change - Final Reading
    - ii. Restraint Policy - Final Reading

Motion to move to accept the consent agenda as presented: Williams, Second: Shnfelt. Motion Passes 5-0.

- 5. Business
  - a. Notification of Plan to authorize concealed carry by designated personnel
    - i. Related to Resolution 2408-01 - [Renewal of armed staff](#)
    - ii. Action: Plan was posted on the ACACS website as required. Motion to approve the Armed Staff Plan as presented: Williams Second: Fuller, Motion Passes: 5-0
    - iii. [Policy work](#)
    - iv. Title IX Policy - Final Reading Mrs. Gilmartin briefed the board about the process of drafting the presented policy in conjunction with Sparks Wilson Law Group. The presented draft meets the current requirements. This policy may be reverted back to the current policy upon being included in the Federal injunction and/or the completion of the Federal law suite.

Motion to accept the Title IX policy as presented: Gilmartin, Second: Shanfelt Motion Passes 5-0.

- b. New Board Member Appointment
      - i. Action: Move to accept Mrs. Warhurst as a director of the ACACS Board. Motion: Williams, Second: Gilmartin, Motion passes 5-0
- 6. Adjourn. Mr. Fuller motioned to adjourn the meeting, Second: Gilmartin, Motion passes 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 4:38.

## **Vision**

Ascent Classical Academy Charter Schools develop the moral and intellectual skills, habits, and virtues upon which independent, responsible, and joyful lives are built, in the firm belief that such lives are the basis for a free and flourishing republic.

## **Mission**

Ascent Classical Academy Charter Schools train the minds and improve the hearts of young people through a classical, content-rich education in the liberal arts and sciences, with instruction in the principles of moral character and civic virtue in an orderly and disciplined environment.