



ASCENT COLORADO CLASSICAL SCHOOLS

**Ascent Classical Academy Charter Schools, Inc.
Governing Board - Regular Meeting Agenda
August 27, 2024
3:30 pm**

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

Virtual: <https://uso6web.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 was called to order at: 3:34 PM
 - b. Roll Call.
 - i. Present: Mr. Gilmartin, Mr. Shanfelt, Mr. Williams, Mr. Fuller, Mr. Gillan
 - c. Pledge of Allegiance.
 - d. Read Mission/Vision.
 - i. Read by Mr. Williams
 - e. Adopt Agenda.
 - i. Motion to approve the agenda: Mr. Gilmartin Second: Mr. Williams Motion Passes: 5-0
2. Reports
 - a. Finance Report.
 - i. Mr. Scott provided the July finance report. The transition of the accounting system is underway along with the FY24 Financial Audit.
 - ii. Presented Prevention of Fraud Risk
 - iii. Mr. Williams asked for a general update on current enrollment to budget update. The report was shared out with the finance committee. All four schools are ahead of budget with enrollment coming in strong at each school. DougCO +6, NoCO +20, NoDenver +3, GJ +21 (sFTE)
 - iv. Audit has gone very well. A few adjusted entries are being made, primarily around payroll during the transition between payroll by the former CMO and new payroll by Minga Education Group.
 - b. Headmaster Reports.
 - i. GJ completed the second day of school. Numbers are looking good, GJ continues to offer seats for enrollment. Meta Ad and Google Ad campaigns drove over 4000 people to the campus website.
 - ii. Northern Colorado - a smooth start to the new school year. 2 weeks of training. Orientation for new families, Archer Days for new year back to school night. NoCO has been building a data dashboard - data is still embargoed but is ready for distribution August 28. Enrollment is going well.

- iii. Northern Denver - Hiring was completed end of July, all staff back in early August. 200+ new students and 200 returning students. PTO is sponsoring fundraisers. September 25 - students will be singing the National Anthem at the Colorado Rockies game.
- iv. Douglas County - Opened school with a staggered start last Wednesday and Thursday. Turf was installed in the playground area last weekend. Fundraised with some contribution of general fund. Kid's love the turf... 27 seniors are set to graduate in the spring. Enrollment has stabilized with "viable" enrollment - families connected to the school's mission and vision.
- c. Update on Charter Renewals for NoCO and DougCO -
 - i. Site visits will take place on Oct. 9 and Oct. 10 at NoDenver and DougCo respectively. CSI board meeting will take place on Oct. 15 in COSpgs.
- d. Fundraising Report.
 - i. Target emphasis on grants - grant writer was hired.
 - ii. Headmasters will provide fundraising plans at the September board meeting.
- e. Facilities Report.
 - i. Lone Tree Gym.
 - ii. Lone Tree Upgrades.
 - iii. NoCo Mobile Units.
 - iv. NoCo Phase II.
 - v. Grand Junction Phase I.
 - vi. Northern Denver Mobile Units.
 - vii. Northern Denver Phase I

Mr. Connolly presented an update on the project status. Turf is complete at DougCo. Improved safety and drainage at the site. Gym addition is in negotiation with City of LoneTree. GMP bidding came in \$100k under earlier budget. Final budget is in progress. Third floor project at LoneTree is complete. Under budget by \$70k

Underbudget on the NoDenver project - kids are in seats in the mobile unit.

NoCO project is finished and came in under budget. CO is in hand and kids are in seats.

GJ project is mostly complete. Furniture is in, full-time use will take place on Tuesday.

NoCO Phase II - next step is to exam an RFP for architects to develop a master plan. Determination needs to be made to engage the developer or self-fund.

3. Public Comment – Members of the public may email robert.williams@ascentcolorado.org by 2:00pm the day of the meeting to sign up for public comment.

- a. No public comment
- 4. Consent Agenda.
 - a. Adopt meeting minutes of the 6/25/2024
 - b. Adopt meeting minutes of the 6/28/2024
 - c. Amend Policy FP 13.0 Procurement - Headmasters may delegate the ability to authorize expenditures up to \$1000.
 - d. Amend Policy FP 17.0 Travel - creating guidance for reimbursements for remote staff, improving guidance for per diem.
 - e. Approve the Chief Financial Officer to open two CSAFE investment accounts, one for Ascent Classical Academy of Grand Junction and one for Ascent Classical Academy of Northern Denver.
 - f. Approve the Headmasters, the Chief Financial Officer, and the Board Treasurer as signers on the new CSAFE accounts.
 - g. Approve \$2.4million in Cash Transfers from the four schools' Operating accounts to the four schools' CSAFE Investment accounts.
 - h. Approve an Administrative Request for an increase in expenditures greater than \$20,000 (FP 1.0) - Grand Junction Phase I Kitchen Work.
 - i. Approve the Chief Financial Officer to open four online payment portal accounts for the four campuses for the purpose of collecting donations.

Motion to approve the consent agenda: Mr. Williams Second: Mr. Gilmartin Motion carries: 5-0

- 5. Business
 - a. Literacy Essentials / READ Act discussion
 - i.
 - b. Approve Board Meeting posting site
 - i. Board meeting posting site will be posted on the board website (<https://www.ascentcolorado.org/governing-board/>). No paper postings will take place at the physical location.
 - ii. Motion: Mr. Williams, Second: Mr. Gilmartin Motion Passed: 5-0
 - c. Board and officer elections
 - i. Directed Mr. Franko to place board members into classes (expiring terms).
 - ii. No nominations at this time.
 - iii. Officer Elections: Mr. Williams nominated Mr. Gilmartin to serve as the Board Chair. Mr. Shanfelt nominated Mr. Williams to serve as Treasurer. Mr. Williams nominated Mr. Shanfelt as Vice Chair. Mr. Williams nominated Mr. Fuller as Secretary.
 - iv. Motion to accept nominations: Mr. Williams, Second: Mr. Gilmartin, Motion passes: 5-0
 - d. Notification of Plan to authorize concealed carry by designated personnel
 - i. Resolution 2408-01 - [Renewal of armed staff](#)
 - ii. Motion to authorize designated armed staff personnel resolution: Mr. Williams, Second: Mr. Gilmartin Motion carried: 5-0
 - e. [Policy work](#)
 - i. Title IX Policy - First Reading
 - ii. Restraint Policy - First Reading
 - iii. CBI Policy - First Reading
 - iv. Staff Driving - First Reading

v. Field Trips - First Reading

Staff is directed to posted on the Ascent Colorado web page. No motion at this time. Will proceed to a second reading at the next regular board meeting.

- f. Creation of a board reserve that is equal to the investments in CSAFE for the purpose of strengthening the foundation of the school for the DCOH covenant and prepare for a refinance.

Motion to approve the investment of reserves in a CSAFE account that protects the board Days Cash on Hand expectation: Mr. Shanfet, Second: Mr. Gilmartin, Motion carries 5-0

- g. Creation of a board reserve that is equal to the investments in First Bank for the purpose of accessing, if needed a line of credit.

Motion to approve a board reserve equal to the investment of the First Bank account: Mr. Shanfelt, Second: Mr. Gilmartin, Motion carries 5-0

- h. Interest income from both reserves is recognized on the operating budgets

Motion to approve the reserves in the operating budget: Mr. Williams, Mr. Gillan, Motion carries: 5-0

- i. Northern Denver Phase I Developer RFP Review

Mr. Connolly, Mr. Scott, and Mrs. Gilmartin provided an overview of the project. The board will hold a special meeting to

6. Adjourn.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:30: Mr. Fuller, Second: Mr. Shanfelt, Motion carries: 5-0

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.