APPROVED

Palisades Charter High School

Minutes

Board Meeting

Date and Time
Tuesday December 10, 2024 at 5:00 PM

Location
Mercer Hall, Palisades Charter High School
15777 Bowdoin Street, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION WILL BE PROVIDED FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY:
Pursuant to the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, any individual with a disability who requires reasonable accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting of the Governing Board of Palisades Charter High School may request assistance by contacting the Main Office at (310) 230-6623 at least 24 hours in advance.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION:
Supporting documentation is available at the Main Office of the School, located at 15777 Bowdoin Street, Pacific Palisades, CA 90272, (Tel: 310- 230-6623) and may also be accessible on the PCHS website at http://palihigh.org/boardrecords.aspx.

ALL TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE AND ARE PROVIDED FOR CONVENIENCE ONLY:
Notice is hereby given that the order of consideration of matters on this agenda may be changed without prior notice. All items may be heard in a different order than listed on the agenda.

Trustees Present

Amir Ebtehadj, Andrew Paris, Kiumars Arzani, Kristina Irwin, Maggie Nance, Martha Monahan, Minh Ha Ngo, Nicholas Albonico

Trustees Absent
Jessica Recinos, Roger Crystal, Sara Margiotta

Ex Officio Members Present
Dr. Pam Magee

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

Maggie Nance called a meeting of the board of trustees of Palisades Charter High School to order on Tuesday Dec 10, 2024 at 5:01 PM.

B. Record Attendance and Guests

C. Public Comment

Mark Saba - Student Athlete:
A student athlete spoke regarding the recent dismissal of distance track coach Robert Hawkely. He highlighted Coach Hockley's achievements, including three consecutive 3200-meter city championship titles and state-level recognition for both boys' and girls' teams. Mark shared personal examples of the coach's dedication to student athletes, including emergency care during training trips and personalized recognition at team banquets. The speaker noted the existence of a petition with approximately 200 signatures supporting Coach Hockley's from current and former athletes, parents, and community members.

Melinda Hsu- Parent of Distance Runner:
She spoke regarding recent coaching changes in the track program. They expressed concerns about the timing and communication of staff transitions, particularly during finals week, and raised questions about previous hiring decisions and social media conduct. The speaker requested an in-person meeting with administration and suggested implementing trust-building measures between the new coach and student athletes to maintain the team's culture of mutual support and high performance standards.

Shonda Price- Parent:
A parent spoke about concerns regarding interactions between the head track coach and student athletes. The speaker described witnessing incidents of unbecoming communication with students, including her daughter, which required intervention from other coaching staff. The speaker reported previous discussions with administration

about these concerns and echoed the request for a meeting between the coach, parents, and administration regarding student treatment.

Kayla Price- Student Athlete:
A student athlete shared personal experiences with coaching interactions on the track team. The speaker described conflicts between academic commitments and practice attendance, resulting in public confrontations that discouraged their participation. The speaker noted initial decisions to leave the team, subsequent return after encouragement from another coach, and ongoing concerns about the coaching environment affecting student athlete retention.

FORM SUBMITTED COMMENTS:

Pali distance track team: "The Pali track team has been informed that Coach Rob Hockley has been dismissed of his job as distance track coach with no understandable justification. Considering the unprecedented success he has brought to our team in the last few years, the Pali distance track team was absolutely shocked and appalled to hear this. In the last two years, Coach Rob has produced two teams on the boys distance side who broke the Cross Country City Championship course record in consecutive years. In the last four years he has gotten Pali to win four boys City Championships and one girls City Championships on the Cross Country scene. This success has carried over to the Pali distance track team in which Coach Rob has brought Pali the last three individual boys city titles in the 3200m. On top of all the success he has brought to Pali athletics, Coach Rob has become a unanimously loved mentor on and off the track for the runners at Pali. Upon hearing the news of his dismissal, both the children and parents of the distance track team are outraged and in despair as we wouldn't want to run without him. We wanted to bring awareness to this issue and plea that the administration would support his reinstatement as our coach."

Reverend John Shaver: "I am highly disappointed with the school in removing Coach Rob Hockley from the Track and Field Staff after he has coached and mentored both teams this fall. I also feel great concern in replacing him with Coach Shropshire’s son, Claudius who has an Instagram account called The Snake Father. After looking at a few pictures that objectify women, men, children, and animals, I can not understand how the school is even considering this shift in the staff. On behalf of other clergy/faith leaders in town and parents on the team, I am very disappointed and frustrated with the school and the mishandling of this matter. There was an easy resolution and now you have brought one more thing that the youth have to think about during their finals. I strongly suggest the Board to intervene on this matter."

Amrita Bessin: "I am a parent of a long distance runner. Our family is disappointed and upset about the dismissal of Coach Rob for the track season. The reason given, 'taking the team in a different direction' is vague and doesn't make sense. The team has learned so much with Coach Rob and the students love and respect him. The team also has a

winning record. Our family (and I imagine others) feel blind-sided and confused by this decision. We believe in Coach Rob and wish for him to continue coaching during the track season. Our family and other families of long-distance runners are supportive of him and the program, both in spirit and with our pocketbooks. Please take our comments to heart and reconsider this decision. Thank you for your time."

D. Approve Minutes

Nicholas Albonico made a motion to approve the minutes from Board Meeting on 11-19-24.
Kristina Irwin seconded the motion.
Minh Ha Ngo: Finn Nance's comment was abbreviated for brevity,
Ingrid Knap last name misspelled
Dr. Ngo's comments were not included,

Approve as corrected.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

Amir Ebtehadj	Abstain
Kiumars Arzani	Aye
Andrew Paris	Aye
Sara Margiotta	Absent
Maggie Nance	Aye
Jessica Recinos	Absent
Nicholas Albonico	Aye
Martha Monahan	Aye
Minh Ha Ngo	Aye
Roger Crystal	Absent
Kristina Irwin	Aye

II. Organizational Reports

A. Student Report

Logan Mirzadeh, ASB Treasurer sitting in for Charlie Speiser.

Students are complaining about the computers in the CS classes in preparation for the finals.
Working with Jeff Lin for budget.

B. Parent Report

C. Represented Classified Staff Report

D.

Unrepresented Classified Staff Report

E. Faculty Report

Teachers are still inquiring regarding TAs, especially for APs.

Dr. Ngo welcomed Dr. Ian Sayer, Director of Special Education.

F. Human Resources Director (HR) Report

Dr. Ngo inquired about the new raptor system that will be implemented for the volunteers. The school has already adopted the modules, it also allows parents and volunteers to apply online and does automatic monthly background checks and tracks the hours that the volunteers are working.

Dr. Ngo inquired about the expense, Dr. Monahan stated that it has already been approved in B&F.

G. Director of Operations Report

H. Director of Information Technology Report

Stands as submitted.

I. Admin. Safety and Security Team

Brooke King has requested to be removed from this monthly update.

J. Director of Development Report

K. Chief Business Officer (CBO) Report

Stands as submitted.

L. Executive Director/Principal (EDP) Report

EDP Magee announced the award of a $400,000+ grant, secured by CTE Coordinator David Picard, for improving computer science labs. EDP Magee highlighted ongoing end-of-semester activities and preparations for the new term in January. Current initiatives include committee work on potential schedule changes and enhanced professional development programs. An ad hoc committee, including Ms. Nance and other educational partners, is developing options to present to faculty, staff, and the Board of Trustees. Ensuring there are a range of representatives in these discussions before it is brought to all the stakeholders.

III. Board Committees (Stakeholder Board Level Committees)

A.

Academic Accountability Committee Update

Dr. Ngo brought up the approved academic calendar for 2026-27 sent by Mr. Klima. FYI for next month's meeting.

B. Budget & Finance Committee Update

Projected to have a net deficit of 75k for the year.

C. Election Committee Update

No report submitted.

D. Charter Committee Update

No new updates.

IV. Board Committees (Board Members Only)

A. Board Members Only - Committee Updates

No updates to report.

V. Academic Excellence

A. 2024 PCHS CA School Dashboard Report

B. ELD (English Learner Development) Redesignation Criteria

Just reading data will be used from the 41-60th percentile band to asses student performance and apply the RFEP.

Dr. Ngo is interested to see how many students would get redesignated based on reading, writing, and other metrics, versus just reading.

Kiumars brought up the concerns that reclassification could bring for charter renewal. How LAUSD will respond to the numbers.

Diana Kim stated that since LAUSD uses iReady and we use NWEA it is a bit different but we are following the LAUSD master plan. Currently 31 students.

Maggie: Even though she wants our data to be reflective and strong, we need to be more rigorous to ensure that students are equipped for success.

The NWEA is one part of the four steps in reclassification.

Dr. Ngo has no issue with this, but would like to see the reading and writing data. And more data to make an informed decision.

Dr. Monahan: if we are setting a higher bar for the EL, then the district who is our authorizer sees our data, if it is lower then it can flag concerns.

Kiumars stated that we should wait and assess the data before making a longterm plan.

Maggie asked about how many students would be affected by this policy being implemented.

Only a handful of students get reclassified at the beginning of the semester.

Kiumars inquired regarding SBAC, and the questions and preparation. Such as practicing the questions and content before the test.

C. Math Data Presentation/Information

The presentation and discussion was tabled for the January meeting.

D. CA Alternative Diploma

Kiumars: What are advantages and disadvantages of doing this?

Dr. Sayer: We would have a year to spread the information and knowledge with the parent community and prepare them for the change that will be mandated from the State next year.

Certificate of Completion vs. Alternative Diploma, there is now the ability to support and to give them the services up to 22 years of age.

Scheduled visits with Granada to go over their process and department.

Kiumars encouraged a partnership between Granda and El Camino to work together through the process especially in preparation to Charter renewals.

Currently, students receive a certificate of completion at age of 22.

Dr. Ngo asked about the years listed in the chart, all of them line up to our general A-G, except the English requirement.

These students on this track are not in general education classes. Currently, eight students would qualify.

Maggie Nance made a motion to approve the option of Alternative Diploma Pathway/Diploma With Exceptions for students who qualify for the California Alternate Assessment.
Kiumars Arzani seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

Roger Crystal	Absent
Amir Ebtehadj	Aye
Jessica Recinos	Absent
Andrew Paris	Aye
Sara Margiotta	Absent
Kiumars Arzani	Aye
Nicholas Albonico	Aye
Minh Ha Ngo	Aye
Maggie Nance	Aye
Martha Monahan	Aye
Kristina Irwin	Aye

VI. Finance

A. 2024-2025 First Interim Financial Report

Dr. Ngo inquired regarding deficit regarding ADA numbers, the budget is based off of 3,000 enrollment, but ADA is 2,790.

Kiumars asked about the numbers in P1 of this year.

Maggie asked about the 1.5% variation of the deficit, should not be alarmed about the 670k. Minh Ha also stated we should be making the balance up through development.

Joe stated that we should seek more enrollment and grant opportunities.

Kiumars stated the LAUSD policy.
Kiumars Arzani made a motion to approve the 2024-2025 First Interim Financial Report.
Nicholas Albonico seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

Nicholas Albonico	Aye
Roger Crystal	Absent
Sara Margiotta	Absent
Kiumars Arzani	Aye
Andrew Paris	Aye
Maggie Nance	Aye
Martha Monahan	Aye
Minh Ha Ngo	Aye

Roll Call

Amir Ebtehadj	Aye
Kristina Irwin	Aye
Jessica Recinos	Absent

B. 2023-24 Actuarial Valuation

Dr. Ngo. mentioned that the gist is to put away more.

Maggie: Do these numbers change based on the state of the American economy? Joe mentioned that the ROI and the medical premiums have all been considered in the formula.
Martha Monahan made a motion to 2023-24 Actuarial Valuation.
Minh Ha Ngo seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

Andrew Paris	Aye
Jessica Recinos	Absent
Kiumars Arzani	Aye
Amir Ebtehadj	Aye
Kristina Irwin	Aye
Roger Crystal	Absent
Minh Ha Ngo	Aye
Maggie Nance	Aye
Martha Monahan	Aye
Sara Margiotta	Absent
Nicholas Albonico	Aye

VII. Consent Agenda

A. Finance Items: School Organized Conferences/Trips

Amir Ebtehadj made a motion to approve the school organized conferences/trips as submitted.
Nicholas Albonico seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

Minh Ha Ngo	Abstain
Roger Crystal	Absent
Nicholas Albonico	Aye
Kiumars Arzani	Aye
Martha Monahan	Aye
Amir Ebtehadj	Aye
Jessica Recinos	Absent
Andrew Paris	Aye
Sara Margiotta	Absent

Roll Call

Maggie Nance	Aye
Kristina Irwin	Aye

B. Personnel Items

Personnel changes as submitted in the report.

VIII. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:36 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amir Ebtehadj