APPROVED

Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas

Minutes

Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas Board Meeting

Date and Time
Wednesday January 17, 2024 at 4:30 PM

Location
8985 S. Eastern Ave #375
Las Vegas, NV 89123

Posting of Agenda: This agenda has been posted at the following locations:

Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas ("CASLV") Central Office, CASLV website at www.caslv.org, and Nevada Public Notice website at http://notice.nv.gov.

Format / Procedures / Rules: This is a notice of a public meeting held pursuant to NRS Chapter 241. Members of the public are invited to be present.

Certain items may be removed from open/public consideration if permitted or required by Nevada law. The Board may also (i) take agenda items out of order; (ii) combine two or more items for consideration; (iii) separate one item into multiple items; (iv) table an agenda item to a future meeting; and/or (v) remove an agenda item.

Reasonable efforts will be made to assist and accommodate persons with physical disabilities desiring to attend the meeting. Please contact Ms. Shepard at ashepard@coralacademylv.org at least 48 hours before the time of the meeting, if possible, so that reasonable arrangements may conveniently be made.

Please also contact Ms. Shepard if you would like a copy of the agenda and any public reference materials relating to agenda items. Those materials will also be available at the meeting location.

Those materials would provide you with greater context and clarity as to the matters under discussion.

By law, no one may willfully disrupt the meeting to the extent that its orderly conduct becomes impractical.

All items are action or possible action items if denoted as such.

Directors Present
Ann Diggins, Arlene Hayman (remote), Brin Gibson, Esq. (remote), Chan Lengsavath, Esq. (remote), Dr. Carryn Warren, Elizabeth Kazelskis, Feyzi Tandogan

Directors Absent
None

Guests Present
Amber Nhan, CASLV Climate & Culture Coordinator, Andrea Katotakis, CASLV Tamarus Principal, Andrea Shepard, CASLV Executive Assistant, Annette Martin, CASLV Cadence Assistant Principal, Anthony Vu, CASLV Director of Facilities, Bridget Johnson-Peevy, CASLV Chief People Officer, Ercan Aydogdu, CASLV Executive Director & CEO, Fulton Breen, Afton Partners (remote), Ismail Kocabiyik, CASLV Windmill Principal, Jessica Paquin, CASLV Cadence Assistant Principal, Josh Devon, Afton Partners (remote), Kathryn Palrmer, CASLV Cadence PTO President, Mark Gardberg, Esq. CASLV Legal Counsel, Mark Hendrie, DMS (remote), Mia Nelson, CASLV Nellis AFB Principal, Mustafa Gunozu, CASLV Chief Academic Officer, Nick Sarisahin, CASLV Chief Financial Officer, Omer Arikan, Director of Information Systems, Selim Tanyeri, CASLV Chief Operating Officer

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I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

Ann Diggins called a meeting of the board of directors of Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas to order on Wednesday Jan 17, 2024 at 4:36 PM.
Mr. Gibson joined the meeting at 4:44 p.m. and left at 6:50 p.m.

Mr. Lengsavath joined the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

A break was held from 6:43 p.m. - 6:57 p.m.

B. Public Comment

Two public comments were read on behalf of Tom Resnick. The public comment is regarding an unauthorized presentation by a student. Ms. Diggins explained this was

brought to the attention of the Board Chair at the time, and added it is not on today's agenda but the board will look into it.

II. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of the October 30, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes (For Possible Action)

Elizabeth Kazelskis made a motion to approve the minutes from Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas Board Meeting on 10-30-23.
Feyzi Tandogan seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Report of Purchases and Expenses Between $10,000 and $25,000 (Information)

C. Tamarus Campus Desktop Purchase (For Possible Action)

This is within our budget and we are using ESSER grant funds for it.

D. Approval of the Work-Based Learning Program Application (For Possible Action)

This was previously approved at the last board meeting. Due to the application date, we are bringing it back before the board.
Elizabeth Kazelskis made a motion to approve the consent agenda.
Feyzi Tandogan seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

III. Discussion & Possible Action Items- Contracts, Purchases, and Procurements

A. Amendment to the Cadence Campus Northern Border Wall Cost Participation (For Possible Action)

It was discussed that this was previously approved by the board up to $40,000 based on the estimated amount from a third party, however with extra costs the new amount we are responsible for paying is $75,137.00. The total amount is $117,315.00 and CASLV is committed to paying 50%. With extra costs, it's $75,137.00 total for CASLV.
Arlene Hayman made a motion to approve the amendment to the Cadence campus northern border wall cost participation for $75,137.00.
Feyzi Tandogan seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Henderson Chamber of Commerce Membership and Sponsorship (For Possible Action)

Mr. Ercan explained this is an annual membership and sponsorship. This year we would like to upgrade from Silver to Gold sponsorship based on the increase in the number of

campuses. The cost is similar to the Silver sponsorship, however the Gold sponsorship offers more benefits.
Arlene Hayman made a motion to approve the Henderson Chamber of Commerce Membership and Gold Sponsorship in the amount of $7,000.
Elizabeth Kazelskis seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

C. Charter Amendment Request-Reduction of the Cadence Campus Enrollment Cap (For Possible Action)

Mr. Selim said this is aligned with our amended budget. We need to amend the charter as it is required by the State Public Charter School Authority (SPCSA) whenever a campus' enrollment dips over or under 10% from its capacity, even temporarily. This year's enrollment will go down to 1600, the next 2 years will be 1710, and for the 26/27 school year and following years, the enrollment number will go back to 1850. Mr. Selim answered questions from the board regarding the enrollment numbers.
Ann Diggins made a motion to approve the Charter Amendment Request-Reduction of the Cadence Campus Enrollment Cap.
Feyzi Tandogan seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

D. Charter Amendment Request-Increase of the Nellis Campus Enrollment Cap (For Possible Action)

Mr. Selim and Mr. Ercan gave an overview of the Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation opportunity. Mr Ercan explained he sees the grant dollars as an opportunity to serve more students. It was discussed that there are 4 acres of unused land to the West of the campus. It was also discussed that we would put a field, gym, state-of-the-art labs, art and music classes, and additional classrooms there. The current AFB leadership also supports this growth.

Ms. Diggins expressed she is worried about student demand for high school grades since Nellis AFB students might travel elsewhere. She wants zero detractions from improving the 2-star rating. Mr. Ercan explained that this will be an enrollment expansion within K-8. Dr. Warren indicated she is worried the current design doesn't have enough classroom space. Mr. Ercan and Mr. Nick pointed out that the facility is two stories so it will be larger than the existing building. Mr. Tandogan added the increased enrollment will increase the per-pupil funding which we can put into improvements like teacher salaries at the school.

Feyzi Tandogan made a motion to approve the charter amendment request-increase of the Nellis Campus enrollment cap to 1600 gradually.
Arlene Hayman seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

E. CSAN Membership and Conference Fees (For Possible Action)

Mr. Ercan indicated that we have not received the CSAN conference participation invoice yet so he recommended to table it for the next meeting. The board requested more information about the membership fees for the next meeting. This item was tabled.

F. Approval of PERS Critical Labor Shortage in Compliance with NRS 286.523 under PERS policy 10.34 for School Psychologist and SPED Manager/Director/Administrator (For Possible Action)

Ms. Peevey explained the need to approve this for SPED positions that need to be filled.
Dr. Carryn Warren made a motion to approve (1) the designation of the SPED positions set forth in the PERS form provided by the Administration as having a “critical shortage,” based on the findings of fact set forth in that form (which the Board expressly adopts), for a period of 2 years, and (2) the submission of that form to PERS.
Elizabeth Kazelskis seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

G. Approval of Architect Fees for Drawings for Multiple Campuses' Front Office Improvements (For Possible Action)

This is to improve the front offices' safety per the Homeland Security visits creating an extra layer to help protect the front offices.

Dr. Carryn Warren made a motion to approve the Knit architect fees for schematic drawings for multiple campuses' front office improvements, in the amount of $30,000.
Ann Diggins seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

H. Addition of a Classroom at the Cadence Campus (For Possible Action)

This item was tabled.

I. United Testing Services Agreement Amendment (For Possible Action)

Mr. Gunozu explained this is for an hourly rate increase for behavioral specialists.
Ann Diggins made a motion to approve the United Testing Services Amendment Agreement.
Feyzi Tandogan seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

J. Nevada Painting Company Additional Payment (For Possible Action)

Mr. Selim indicated the painting job for the Centennial Hills campus was previously approved however later we received additional costs for the labor for wallpaper removal. Mr. Selim explained legal counsel has been involved and is recommending we settle the fees instead of litigate. Mr. Ercan and Mr. Selim worked the figure down to a negotiated rate of $20,000.

Ann Diggins made a motion to approve the Nevada Painting Company Additional $20,000 Payment.
Arlene Hayman seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

K. Update on a Facility Opportunity for a Potential Future Expansion (For Possible Action)

Mr. Ercan explained the reason this has come to CASLV and that he is continuing to work on this potential opportunity.

IV. Discussion/Possible Action Items-Governance/Policies/Finance

A. Background Check Policy for Non-Licensed Personnel (For Possible Action)

Ms. Peevy provided an overview informing the board that licensed teachers and admins are background-checked through their licensing process. For other staff members like our central office, lunch porters, and all non-licensed staff, we would like to have a policy in place to have all non-licensed staff background checked every 5 years per the NRS recommendation.

Ann Diggins made a motion to approve the background check policy for Non-Licensed Personnel, subject to further input from counsel.
Dr. Carryn Warren seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Legal Counsel's Hourly Rate Amendment (For Possible Action)

Mr. Ercan presented this and indicated the legal counsel's hourly rate has not been raised since 2017. Even now, the proposed increase is only an extra $5/hour.
Dr. Carryn Warren made a motion to approve the increase of legal counsel's hourly rate to $398 per hour.
Ann Diggins seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

C. Executive Director and CEO Annual Evaluation (For Possible Action)

Ms. Diggins explained Mr. Ercan's evaluation is separate from his contract renewal and reviewed the timelines. The board used BoardOnTrack's evaluation tool this year which is a better tool than what was used previously. All of the feedback received was very positive and aligned with Mr. Ercan's self-evaluation. Ms. Diggins indicated she would get it anonymized and then provide the feedback to Mr. Ercan. It was discussed that this will continue to the next board meeting.

V. Information/Discussion Items

A.

Afton Partners Presentation (Information)

Mr. Nick explained the Charter School Growth Fund (CSGF) grant supported this as financial capacity review and support on top of their $3 million cash investment for growth. Fulton and Josh gave an introduction and discussed their work while answering questions from
the board.

Afton Partners is the nationwide leader in charter school financial planning services. They have worked on over 70 charter school fiscal initiatives with school networks of all sizes around the country. Their work with charter schools improves school resource allocation decision-making, informs school facility and growth planning, and strengthens leadership and governance on fiscal matters. This partnership will not have a fee for CASLV.

B. Update on Academic Progress of Cadence and Nellis Elementary Schools (Information)

Mr. Gunozu explained the performance of the Nellis and Cadence campus elementary schools for the previous year, focusing on the 2-star rating they received in the elementary category according to the Nevada School Performance Report Card. This rating was primarily attributed to challenges in achievement on SBAC tests and chronic absenteeism. To address these specific issues, administrators from both campuses outlined the strategies currently being implemented.
Regarding academics, Cadence has implemented several key initiatives. These include the provision of 1:1 technology for students, the establishment of a mentorship program to support new teachers, and an increase in community involvement, including inviting guest speakers from community partners. Additionally, the Cadence campus has introduced Saturday school sessions during both the first and second semesters, aimed at providing academic support and enrichment opportunities. During the meeting, the team presented an overview of their professional development plans, designed to enhance the teaching skills and capabilities of teachers. MAP results will later be shared at the academic subcommittee meeting.

Nellis implements regular assessments and progress monitoring to track test scores and identify areas that require intervention. Through a dedicated instructional coach on site, it offers ongoing training and development opportunities for teachers to enhance their skills in addressing achievement and growth gaps. Administrators and teachers analyze student performance data to identify areas for improvement and adjust instructional strategies accordingly. This year (from August 2023 to January 2024), the Nellis campus has made significant progress in reducing chronic absenteeism, which has decreased by half compared to the previous year. This improvement is a result of the dedicated outreach efforts and support from the base community. During the discussion, Ms. Nelson highlighted both the challenges the campus has faced and the strategies they have

implemented to address them. Additionally, winter NWEA MAP test results have shown a significant improvement compared to the previous year.

C. Cadence Campus Update (Infomation)

Principal Eraslan, Ms. Pauquin, Ms. Martin, and Ms. Palmer provided an informative update about the campus. They covered various aspects, including details about their homerooms, student enrollment figures, staff numbers, and notable staff and student changes for the current school year. Moreover, they delved into the specifics of their school culture and disciplinary framework. The Cadence campus team also showcased their progress, highlighting significant developments. This year, they welcomed 30 additional staff members and increased the presence of traffic monitors. Notably, they reported a significant decrease in suspensions and expulsions. Additionally, they have established sports teams, and their FLL Robotics team has successfully qualified for the state competition

Ms. Palmer indicated the PTO has been busy planning monthly fundraisers at local businesses, and they have a strong merchandising program. They have raised $23,500 YTD for the 23/24 school year. Images from recent events were shared with the board.

D. Tamarus Campus Update (Information)

Ms. Katotakis presented the Tamarus campus update giving an overview of enrollment, demographics, section numbers in each grade level, course and club offerings, interventions, tutoring, academic focuses, and more. Images of recent campus events were shared as well as images of recent campus facility improvements including a new shade structure and cement tables for the outdoor lunch area, new turf for the entire playground area, a new paver walkway to the walkers' gate, security cameras, and perimeter fence gates. The CASLV Tamarus campus has a 5-star rating! Less than 10% of Nevada Schools accomplished this.

E. Quarterly Discipline Report (Information)

Ms. Nhan presented the quarterly discipline report and indicated the campuses have met together and reviewed best practices. There's been one expulsion with no appeal to the board filed. It was reported that there are fewer discipline issues year over year. Dr. Warren asked about the number of days for suspensions and how that is determined. Ms. Nhan said it depends on the circumstances and the offense, and that she will be studying trends.

F. Campus Safety and Security Update (Information)

Mr. Vu informed the board they do not want to disclose publicly all measures. They will be emailed to the board. They have visited each campus regarding the Department of Homeland Security report. They are working on implementing major changes and have

already implemented minor changes. Ms. Diggins said if there are too many priorities that the school can't afford, she would like the board to help decide which priorities to serve, and they could potentially provide more funding. It was discussed the Finance and Facilities Subcommittee should review this in a closed session.

G. Financial Update (Information)

Mark Hendrie with DMS reviewed the financial update through December. The overall cash is close to the previous levels, and restricted cash is down. There are 187 days of cash on hand. They reviewed the budget and month-by-month actuals. Overall, everything is aligned with the budget and going according to plan this fiscal year. They also reviewed the balance sheet in detail.

H. S&P Report (information)

Mr. Nick presented the Standard and Poor Rating Report. S&P Global Ratings affirmed its “BBB-“rating on the authority’s existing bonds issued for CASLV, which is de facto the highest rating possible nationwide for a non-State-guaranteed charter. The outlook of all ratings is stable. S&P assessed a solid enterprise profile, with excellent academic performance, a large enrollment base, and a healthy waitlist; Improved lease adjusted MADS burden of 11.1% of fiscal 2023 operating revenues; Experienced and stable management team; and good relationship with its authorizer, which characterizes CASLV as a high-performing charter school.

I. Investment Update (information)

Mr. Nick provided an update on the investment report during the board meeting. He reported that CASLV earned $143,300 from a 4 million unrestricted cash investment and an additional $72,241 from restricted bond reserve funds in one year.

J. Executive Director’s Progress Report (Information)

Mr. Ercan discussed CASLV's accomplishments and important information regarding students and school clubs with the board.

- The Best of Las Vegas (BOLV) voting results were released. CASLV received gold in all four categories: Best Elementary School, Best Middle School, Best Charter School, and Best High School.
- 4-Year graduation rates highlights were reviewed for CASLV Sandy Ridge campus. Mr. Ercan explained the cohort graduation rates and indicated for the 22/23 school year the graduation rate for Sandy Ridge is 100%.
- Enrollment, application, and open seat numbers were reviewed in detail.
- Mr. Ercan shared the Organizational Performance Framework Results from the SPCSA.
- Open House dates for the 24/25 school year were presented.

- CASLV Job Fair details were shared. The job fair is taking place on Tuesday, January 23 from 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. at CASLV Sandy Ridge campus.
- The Great Debate, Florida's National Civics Debate Championship: Jonathan A. showcased exceptional talent at The Great Debate, Florida's National Civics and Debate Championship. Among 67 winners in both middle school and high school divisions, Jonathan secured an impressive 3rd place in the overall - High School Division.
- Virgin Island MLK Invitational Basketball Championship: Coral Academy is the first stateside girls basketball team to play in the Martin Luther King Jr. Invitational since 2016 and won the championship.
- Achievement Award given by the Lions Club: We are proud to announce that Elsie has received an achievement award given by the Lions Club for her artwork in the Peace Poster contest this year.
- Soccer Teams, CASLV Windmill & Sandy Ridge Campuses: Both Coral teams won semi-final matches against WOI and Foothills before winning two hard-fought championship games 2-0 and 2-1 against American Heritage securing a regular season and playoff championship trophies for the Falcons.
- NCSAA Championship Game, Nellis AFB campus: Congratulations to our Nellis AFB Elementary Flag football team on winning the NCSAA Championship game.
- College Board's Female Diversity Award: CASLV Sandy Ridge campus has achieved the AP Computer Science A Female Diversity Award through the College board. We are the only high school in Las Vegas to achieve this award in AP Computer Science A.
- Gold medal from the Congressional Award: Momoka U., Tamara, and Lorelani have recently been honored with a Gold medal from the Congressional Award which is the U.S. Congress' highest youth honor! Total Medal Count in 2023 Silver Medal: 6 Gold Medal: 4.
- Elio Academy's Genetics Summer Program: Ryan showcased exceptional talent in the Elio Academy’s Genetics summer program, shining brightly in his advanced Biology project. His project, titled “Assessing Rheumatic Heart Disease (RHD) Susceptibility Among Varying Regions: A Review,” has earned a well-deserved spot among the select few published from a pool of competitive projects.
- VEX IQ Robotics teams, Windmill campus: Windmill VEX IQ Robotics teams have been invited to compete at the DISCOVERY Children's Museum on Jan 6, 2024. Skills: 3rd place Fearless Falcons, 9th place Falcon Force,15 place Falcon Fury. Teamwork: 3rd place Fearless Falcons, 13th place Falcon Fury, 24th place Falcon Force. Awards: Create Award (VIQRC) Falcon
  Force, CASLV-Windmill.
- VEX IQ Robotics teams, Centennial Hills campus: Centennial Hills VEX IQ Robotics teams have
  been invited to compete at the DISCOVERY Children's Museum on Jan 6, 2024. Team A and Team B, both teams finished in the top twenty in overall competition. Team A also
  received the Judges Award, the school’s first elementary-level robotics award.

- First Lego League Robotics Team, Eastgate campus: They secured the First Place Rising Star award in the FLL Masterpiece challenge on December 1st.
- First Lego League Robotics Team, Cadence campus: Cadence campus Engineers First Lego League Robotics Team, securing second place in the Core Values Award at the Southern Nevada FLL Qualifier, they soared above 220 teams on Dec 2nd, 9th, and 16th. Cadence fielded 3 VEX IQ teams; two middle schools and one elementary school. They just competed in two tournaments in December and they are scheduled to compete in two more
  tournaments in January. (Eagle IQ): 2nd place, (Mecha Eagles): 3rd place, (AI Eagles): 4th place.
- Veterans Day Assembly at Nellis AFB campus: Col. Joshua Demotts, and his wife retired
  Air Force Veteran Patti Demotts shared their memorable and detailed war experiences with students.
- Book Club, Sandy Ridge campus: From October 30th to November 3rd, under the dedicated guidance of their teacher, Barbara Daley, members of the Sandy Ridge Book Club embarked
  on a mission to collect books for Spread the Word Nevada, a phenomenal nonprofit dedicated to advancing early childhood literacy by making sure children can access books in Nevada’s low-income communities.
- Blood Donation Campaign at Centennial Hills campus: The campus
  will be a sponsor for an American Red Cross Blood Drive at their campus.
- HCC and CASLV will host "I Can Be" (Career Fair): Collaboration between Coral Academy Sandy Ridge and the Henderson Chamber of Commerce for our upcoming Career Fair on March 22, 2024.
- Super Kids-Super Sharing, Sandy Ridge campus: Sandy Ridge campus is taking part in
  the Super Bowl project, "Super Kids-Super Sharing," dedicated to helping local kids in need. This fantastic initiative is in collaboration with the National Football League, the Las Vegas Raiders, the Las Vegas Super Bowl LVIII Host Committee, the Clark County Pearson Community
  Center, and Verizon.
- Vegas Culture Fest at Sandy Ridge campus held in November: International cuisines, accompanied by an enticing lineup of performances, interactive activities, and diverse
  vendors. Popular food trucks joined like Nogkes Kitchen, Food Therapy, Ole Manny's Tacos, Kalimera Greek Bakery, Mochi Aculelei, and more …!
- CMLP Fall Bonding Trip, Sandy Ridge campus: The CMLP Fall Bonding Trip unfolded over two unforgettable days, brimming with laughter, personal growth, and community building. The group embarked on a scenic hike through Red
  Rock Canyon to Calico Basin, engaged in spirited Monopoly matches and marveled at the
  stars from the majestic peaks of Mount Charleston.

- The Pastry with Parents event was a sweet success at CASLV Windmill campus. Mr. Ercan shared images from the event.
- Cowboy Christmas and Classic Car Show at Floyd Lamb Park, Centennial Hills campus: Our students performed at the Cowboy Christmas and Classic Car Show at Floyd Lamb Park. Great
  musical acts from our students led by our music teacher, Mr. Borders.
- Veterans Day Parade: Coral Academy Nellis AFB students were honored to take part in the Veterans Day Parade hosted by the City of Las Vegas.
- Next Meeting: The next Regular meeting will be on March 6th, 2024 at the Sandy Ridge campus. The Academic Subcommittee meeting on Jan. 31st, 2024 at the Central Office. The Governance Subcommittee meeting on Feb. 13th, 2024 at the Central Office.

K. Schedule of Board Subcommittee Meetings (Information)

The schedule of Board Subcommittee Meetings was provided.

VI. Closed Session-Privileged & Confidential

A. Attorney/Client Conference

The attorney/client conference was held between 8:30 p.m. - 8:50 p.m.

VII. Potential Action(s) (For Possible Action)

A. Potential Action(s) (For Possible Action)

There were no actions.

VIII. Public Comments (Information)

A. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

IX. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

Ann Diggins made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Elizabeth Kazelskis seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:51 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Andrea Shepard, CASLV Executive Assistant