



Anser Charter School

Anser Charter School Board of Directors

Minutes

March 25th, 2025 Board Meeting

Date and Time

Tuesday March 25, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Location

Anser Charter School

Anser's Mission is to educate the whole child in a collaborative learning community where individuals are inspired to be self-motivated and to feel a sense of connection and responsibility to the world.

Anser's vision is to foster learning that imagines a better world and works toward realizing it; set high academic standards; promote creativity, discovery, reflection and balance; embrace diversity; and use developmentally appropriate practices and real-world experiences to educate within a climate of collaboration, community, character, and compassion.

Directors Present

Brian Whitney, Erik Moncada, Hannah Read Newbill, Jessica Budzianowski (she/her), Katie Hanson, Lynne Funke, Roger Stewart, Sarah Butler, Sasha Rojas Zaragoza (remote), Suzanne Gregg

Directors Absent

None

Ex Officio Members Present

Destin Tonkin, Nicole Pape

Non Voting Members Present

Destin Tonkin, Nicole Pape

Guests Present

Annie Edwards, Heather Dennis

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

Brian Whitney called a meeting of the board of directors of Anser Charter School Board of Directors to order on Tuesday Mar 25, 2025 at 6:00 PM.

C. Approve Agenda and the Minutes of the Prior Meeting (Action)

Sarah Butler made a motion to Approve meeting agenda and approve postponement of approval of February Board meeting minutes, which will be approved at the April Board meeting.

Hannah Read Newbill seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Sarah Butler made a motion to approve the minutes from February 18th, 2025 Anser Board Meeting on 02-18-25.

Hannah Read Newbill seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

D. Opening Crew

Katie Riede, a 4th grade crew leader, and two of her students presented about their Oregon Trail simulation activity. Nicole Pape, a 5th grade crew leader, and one of her students presented about their Sage Brush ecosystem unit. Both presentations illustrated the variety of experiences the students had and the depth of knowledge the students achieved about the topics.

II. Finance

A. February 2025 Budget Summary (Action)

- Annie Edwards from Bluum presented the budget summary.
- Excellent Days Cash on Hand. The State requires 60 and Anser has 121.

- The federal funds line is small for this month because Bluum postponed submitting requests. The funds will show up in next month's report. Annie reported that weekly averages for reimbursed federal funds are up from about \$5000-6000 per week to closer to \$7,000 per week. This is a wonderful outcome since Anser and Bluum personnel have been diligently partnering all this school year to build the system and processes to capture as much federal reimbursement as possible. Their hard work is paying off and their efforts are greatly appreciated since the lack of these reimbursements in the past has been a significant contributor to the ongoing budget shortfall.
- The 2024-2025 loss of \$144,955.48 is a pretty firm number at this time. It is actually smaller than what had been originally predicted.
- Heather reported that The Goose on the Loose fun run fund raiser was an outstanding success and generated over \$50,000. This is the first time Anser has done a fundraiser of this type.
- The legislature has not finalized school funds for next year so development of the 2025-2026 Anser budget is going to be delayed.

Sarah Butler made a motion to Approve February 2025 Budget Summary.

Lynne Funke seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Legislative Update

Heather provided an update on current bills moving through the legislative session.

Several possible bills will impact curricula, instruction, and other aspects of school functioning, along with funding. She provided a Word document listing all of the current bills and links to them. The Board, current administration, subcommittees, and the new executive director will need to monitor these potential legislative impacts on Anser and make sure the school meets all new legislative requirements.

C. FY26 Budget Process Update

As stated above, development of the 2025-2026 budget is delayed because of uncertainty of funding from the legislature.

III. Organization Integrity

A. Lottery-Enrollment Update

Heather provided an update on enrollment and what is planned for onboarding new families and students. More tracking and follow-up with new families are planned. Board members suggested the following during the discussion: send the new Goose on the Loose fund raiser video to new families; invite all families to the annual STEM night, not just those families who have accepted an enrollment slot.

Heather reported that the middle school is full for next year. This is a strong positive for two reasons. First, an important expansion goal has been met. Second, middle school students receive greater state funding per pupil.

IV. Strategic Planning

A. Succession Planning

B. Board Strategic Planning

Brian provided an update on strategic planning. He highlighted the essential questions list and what needs to be done with it. The list will now go to the subcommittees. They are to prioritize their questions and provide goals and evidence for how the organization will know when progress has been made on the questions and goals have been achieved. A certain number of prioritized questions from each subcommittee or entity will be put on the Board calendar so that they are systematically brought to the Board and reviewed at the same time each year.

C. Executive Session Pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206(b)

Hannah made a motion pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206(b) to enter into executive session. Eric seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and all Board members present voted Yes in favor of moving into executive session. All Board members listed as present at the beginning of this meeting were present for this vote. All other attendees that were not to be part of the executive session were excused. The session started at 7:48 pm.

Hannah made a motion pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206(b) to exit the executive session. Suzanne seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and all Board members present voted Yes in favor of exiting the executive session. All Board members listed as present at the beginning of this meeting were present for this vote. The session ended at 8:15 pm.

Hannah Read Newbill made a motion to enter executive session.

Erik Moncada seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

Suzanne Gregg	Aye
Roger Stewart	Aye
Sasha Rojas Zaragoza	Aye
Lynne Funke	Aye
Erik Moncada	Aye
Jessica Budzianowski (she/her)	Aye
Hannah Read Newbill	Aye

Roll Call

Katie Hanson	Aye
Sarah Butler	Aye
Brian Whitney	Aye

D. Personnel Action (Action)

The Board took no action on the personnel matter concerning Employee A.

E. Board Action on student matter

Brian Whitney made a motion to approve Board disciplinary action for Student A.

Hannah Read Newbill seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

V. 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 8:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Roger Stewart