



# Chugach Educational Corporation

1205 E St., Anchorage, AK 99501

## Executive Committee Meeting Minutes 08/05/2024

5 August 2024 / 3:00 PM / Conference Room and Zoom / Page 1 of 8

### Attendees

- Juliana Shields – President,
- Leslie Boyd – Vice President
- Joe Blaeuer – Treasurer
- Rebecca Hills – Vice Treasurer
- Rebecca Emerson – Secretary
- Sarah Falkoff – Member-at-Large
- Elizabeth Serrano – Member-at-Large

Minutes	
Agenda Item	Notes
Meeting called to order Minutes approval - previously approved via email	Leslie Motions to approve Elizabeth Seconds All in Favor
Old Business	
File management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dropbox update</li> </ul>	Jon could not attend but sent this note: I discussed with Leslie and Becky a recommendation to stay with Google Drive for the time being. The free version of Dropbox has more limited storage than Google, and purchasing a Dropbox subscription for the group is a per person/per month fee that would run upwards of \$1,200 a year for even just eight people. I'm happy to be the point person for organizing the fresh-start Google Drive that Leslie created. Open to further discussion but the cost/benefit didn't add up to me.  Agreement to stay with Google Drive and Leslie and Jon will work to organize the new drive
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Email Accounts</li> </ul>	Leslie: We currently have 3 email accounts, and until just now we didn't have access to any of them.



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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Public Facing CEC Board Email listed on our website</li> <li>2) Old Gmail account, not shared anywhere</li> <li>3) CEC treasurer account that Erika created</li> </ol> <p>While we don't use the second account, it is good to keep as a backup password recovery account for the other. These are all linked. <b>Leslie is going to clean up the email accounts and Rebecca and Leslie will take on checking the email accounts regularly.</b></p>
<p>Financial Status</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transfer accounts</li> <li>• IRS letter</li> <li>• Tax process development going forward</li> </ul>	<p>Joey, Becky, Leslie and Joe have a Wells Fargo appointment tomorrow (8/6/2024). Erika is out of town but will stay on account for a little longer anyway so that she can help pay for things until we have everything set up.</p> <p>No response yet, but it may have gone into the email we just got access to. Leslie will check.</p> <p>Taxes need to be submitted in October. We need to figure out how to make sure we don't miss it again. We are a 501(c)(3). Do we need to be? Word from a board member at Aquarian is that they are something different and that it's too complicated to be a nonprofit. Becky was wondering why we are a corporation and not a normal nonprofit. Must have been a reason - tax write offs for auction donations and big simple donations probably??</p> <p>Katya Koteff is an accountant who does nonprofits who has offered to help us before. <b>We will reach out to her to ask for some advice here, want to get this settled ASAP.</b> Sarah to share Katya's contact info with Becky and Joe, Becky and Joe to talk with Katya.</p>







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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timeline</li> </ul>	<p>used Google Sites a lot. Staying with Google Drive may facilitate this.</p> <p>Becky - questions about how to set up Better World - anyone know the max number of kids in a single family at chugach? 4? Don't want to leave anyone out.</p> <p>Should we have a theme for Big Simple? Chickens? 80's? Fish? Camping? Imagery - Superheroes? Maybe Big Simple is a Superhero! Work on Superhero costume for Big Simple.</p> <p>Kickoff at Picnic, finish week after PFD's.</p>
<p>Attending Staff Meetings</p>	<p>Juliana talked to Joel and he thinks it's a great idea. Will get back to her once the schedule for meetings is in place. Plan to attend the beginning of meetings and then leave so not there for confidential discussions.</p>
<p>CEC Website development</p>	<p>See above in Big Simple for discussion</p>
<p><b>New Business</b></p>	
<p>Family Group lists</p>	<p>Concern: Family Group lists have not come out yet. Multiple parents have contacted different board members with concerns about this. Rumors that they are done but not sent out because the school doesn't want to address special requests. Rumors that there are arbitrary gender balance rules being applied. Some new families seem to know their teachers already while current families do not. Concerns that teachers' recommendations are not being followed. Many have reported frustration that we did the registration drive in the spring on the promise that they would come out sooner and we have not seen them. The board feels we need to address this because of concern that changes such as this are contributing to the erosion of tradition and culture that is directly tied to philosophy.</p>



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	<p>Agreement: As a board we need to understand first and have a conversation with Joel. Questions: When did Family Group lists historically come out? What was the rationale for them coming out early? What is the rationale for them coming out now? How are Family Group lists being made currently? Are teacher recommendations still a big part of it? How often and in what circumstances are those changed? What constraints does the district put on class divisions (i.e. gender balance).</p> <p>Discussion : Chugach Philosophy is to do what is best for child development. We believe in community building. Getting Family Group lists earlier can allow for opportunities to foster community and mentorship earlier. It also helps with identifying PC's and getting volunteers involved early. It helps to build community if the process is transparent. Parents also will trust the results more if they understand the process. Several parents on the board thought that a certain teacher would be best for their child and then found out that the one recommended by the teachers was better. So we can help with this messaging and trust building. This class list discussion is one part of a more overarching concern regarding school culture and philosophy that has been a concern at Chugach since Covid upended so many traditions.</p> <p>Action: Too late for this year, but let's work with Joel for next year. Sarah and Juliana will set up a meeting after school starts.</p>
<p>Future CAM Meeting Format</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● More Zoom with select in person</li> <li>● Topics</li> </ul>	<p>Discussion - Zoom format would allow to branch out on speakers - don't even have to be in-state</p> <p>Sarah - there was a curriculum CAM a few years ago which was great, parents could go through each age group and learn what the family groups work on.</p> <p>Sometimes nice to go in the different rooms so can see the</p>



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	<p>classrooms</p> <p>Would also be good to do a Get to Know Chugach breakout session, maybe for the first CAM - Think about topics - Events, Classroom volunteering, Curriculum, Culture, Budget - <b>Agreement to do this for first CAM September 10</b></p> <p>Suggest Earmarking October and January for ZOOM only CAM's - October schedule is nuts. April and May have to be in person for budget discussions.</p> <p>How can we make CAM's more engaging? Can we move the business portion to end? Or do it while people are eating pizza before the start of the main bit? For budget votes we need 2 officers and 6 members that are not officers.</p> <p>Look into Technology for Hybrid in person/Zoom CAMs. Hybrid sessions are often hard for online audience to hear. Is there mic technology we could get. We like the hybrid option, don't want to exclude people, but need to make it work better.</p>
Future Business	
<p>CEC Website</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can integrate POS Square</li> </ul>	See discussion above
CEC Facebook page	Did not discuss
OTHER	Possible scheduling problem with Fall Carnival on a Saturday, district had questions about janitorial plan. Could move to Friday. Right now no coordinator so may be moot. Discuss next meeting.
Adjournment	



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### Next Meeting Date:

CAM Planning Meeting Monday, August 19th, 8:30-9:30 AM

CEC Meeting Tuesday, September 3rd, 3:00-4:00 PM

CAM September 10th

### Signatures:

\_\_\_\_\_ *Juliana Shields – President*

\_\_\_\_\_ *Leslie Boyd – Vice President*

\_\_\_\_\_ *Joe Blaeuer – Treasurer*

\_\_\_\_\_ *Rebecca Hills – Vice Treasurer*

\_\_\_\_\_ *Rebecca Emerson – Secretary*

\_\_\_\_\_ *Sarah Falkoff – Member-at-Large*

\_\_\_\_\_ *Jon Mick – Member-at-Large*

\_\_\_\_\_ *Elizabeth Serrano – Member-at-Large*