

**MINUTES**  
**Ball Charter Schools (Dobson) Governing Board Meeting**  
**April 9, 2018**

DRAFT

**1. Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order by Michael Larrabee at 6:16 p.m. on April 9, 2018 in Room 23 at Dobson Academy, 2207 N. Dobson Rd., Chandler, AZ 85224

**2. Roll Call**

Present:

Michael Larrabee, Governing Board President  
Mike Dyer, Governing Board Vice-President  
Michael Sobieski, Dobson Governing Board Secretary  
John Huppenthal, Governing Board Member

Others Present:

Jason Stasiak, Val Vista Governing Board Secretary  
Connie Johnston, Board Coordinator  
Gaye Leo, Hearn Principal  
Dawne Winn, Dobson Principal  
Deb Baca, Val Vista Principal  
Annie Gilbert, BCS Director of Finance  
Cheryl Parker, BCS Director of Student Services

Absent:

Marcus Harrison, Hearn Governing Board Secretary

**3. Pledge of Allegiance:** The group recited the Pledge of Allegiance together.

**4. Approval of Agenda** – Motion by John Huppenthal to approve the agenda. Second by Mike Dyer. All in favor. Motion carried.

**5. School Recognition/Mission Moment** – Dawne Winn talked about the Specials that Dobson Academy has offered this year. Four 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students came to present things that they have made, both paper mache and silk-screen printing. Another students' work was shown who was unable to attend. The students described their process and any challenges they encountered.

**6. Call to the Public** – There were no members of the public present who wished to speak.

**7. Dobson Consent Agenda Items**

- 7.1 Previous Meeting Minutes – Regular Board Meeting of March 5, 2018; Executive Committee Meeting of April 4, 2018.
- 7.2 Enrollment Update – Dobson: 418 students.
- 7.3 Personnel Items – None.

Motion by Mike Dyer to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by John Huppenthal. All in favor. Motion carried.

**8. Dobson Principal Monthly Report** – Dawne Winn started her report by stating that 39 school tours have been conducted since January. All but two of those tours have resulted in completed paperwork with packets. Kathy Kerwin is following up for completion and submittal. Dawne is also looking at the numbers of those that withdraw and their reasons.

A Safety Council has been set up so parents can express concerns and look at viable options.

Dobson Academy also received a grant from Intel through ASU for the LEGO club. There is also a new cooking club that is focusing on nutrition and healthy snacks.

A Dobson Alum sent her college graduation invitation to Dawne and was subsequently sent a congratulatory card from the staff. We will reach out to her to receive a testimonial about Dobson Academy.

**9. BCS Director of Student Support Services Monthly Report** – Cheryl Parker stated that 9% of our students have IEPs and we are in compliance with those.

We want to try to catch students before they enter the Special Education program. The principals and teachers are working with the parents on strategies for each individual child. Cheryl is working on testing children prior to them being admitted to Special Education. Reading/Writing are 70% in the charts. A lot of students are qualifying due to behavior, so we are working to catch them prior to the Special Education program with different interventions.

**10. BCS Director of Finance Monthly Report** – Annie Gilbert gave her monthly report.

10.1 Monthly Dashboards and Year-to-Date Financials – We're working on the "cash on hand" for Dobson and Val Vista. We do not want to fall below having 15 days of cash on hand, so we are aiming to stay at around 20 days of cash on hand for all schools. Financial health of all Charter Schools is a current discussion throughout the state of Arizona. Michael Larrabee mentioned an informative book on the subject, "Carpetbagging America's Public Schools."

10.2 Record of Transmittal of 990 – We have evidence of filing our 990 tax return, and are in compliance.

**11. Planning and Development Committee Report** – Mike Dyer confirmed the Agenda for the Governing Board Work Session in September. We will be talking about curriculum. The Planning & Development Committee will post the Director of Finance position. Annie Gilbert and Mike Sobieski will be part of the search committee for this position, as well as a few others.

11.1 Fall Work Session on September 29, 2018

11.2 Posting the Director of Finance Position

**12. Technology Committee Report** – We will change the name of the committee for the future to the Digital Learning Committee. It's been a fairly quite month, project SpeakUp has come out with their presentation template modeling different technology. We're looking to share information with the community, but are concerned that summer may be too late to get effective data.

**13. Spring Survey Results** – Dawne Winn has the results for the Dobson Academy surveys. She compared the results to Spring of 2017, as the parameters were the same as this Spring survey. Dobson is feeling good with the results and where they are at. Parent satisfaction grew by 1%. We want to continue the upward growth of satisfaction. Dawne talked about the results and communicated with the parents and employees through her monthly Newsletter, so they know they are being heard.

**14. Val Vista Refinance** –

14.1 Action Item: Dobson Authorizing Resolution for 2018 Financing

Annie Gilbert passed out new projections. There is potential for Val Vista to break even in 2020. We also looked at the tax exempt financing, which could be approved in early May. The refinance will be amortized over 7 years.

Motion by John Huppenthal for Dobson to authorize the resolution for Val Vista 2018 financing. Second by Mike Dyer. All approved. Motion carried.

**15. Promissory Note: Action Item, Promissory Note of fund given to Dobson from Hearn** –

Motion by John Huppenthal to approve the Promissory Note of funds given to Dobson Academy from Hearn Academy. Second by Mike Dyer. All approved. Motion carried.

**16. Dobson Renovation: Action Item** – We need roughly \$500,000 to make all the renovations to Dobson Academy. Annie Gilbert is going to work with the legal counsel to know when our line of credit disappears, or if it is something we can carry over or something we can take a bit at a time from.

No action taken at this time.

**17. ASBCS Contact: Action Item, Add Connie Johnston as Representative on AZ Charter Board Website** –

Motion by John Huppenthal to Add Connie Johnston as a Representative on the AZ Charter Board Website (ASBCS). Second by Mike Dyer. All approved. Motion carried.

**18. Name Change: Discussion Only, possible need for a name change for Dobson Academy to match the Articles of Incorporation** –

Motion by Mike Dyer to table this discussion until further information is available. Second by John Huppenthal. All approved. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Dyer to recess the Dobson Academy Governing Board meeting at 7:59 PM. Second by John Huppenthal. All approved. Motion carried.

The Regular meeting for Dobson Academy was reconvened at 10:15 PM.

**19. Executive Session –**

Motion by John Huppenthal to recess to Executive Session at 10:16 PM. Second by Mike Dyer. All approved. Motion carried.

**20. Reconvene Regular Board Meeting –**

Regular Meeting reconvened at 10:28 PM.

**21. Future Agenda Items** – Itemized list of Renovations for Dobson.

**22. Adjournment** – Motion by John Huppenthal to adjourn the meeting at 10:28 p.m. Second by Mike Dyer. All in favor. Motion carried.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 14, 2018 7:00 p.m. at Val Vista Academy.

Approved by Ball Charter Schools (Dobson) Governing Board

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Board President

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Date