



*American River Charter School
6620 Wentworth Springs Rd. Georgetown. CA
530-333-8340
ARCS Charter Council Meeting Agenda*

May 5th, 2020 1:00 pm

School Motto: "Soaring to New Heights Together"

1.0 Call to Order: 1:00pm ; Meeting called to order at 1:04p.m.

2.0 Roll Call : Elizabeth Haines, Abbygail Creiglow, David Gleason, Penny Howell, Laura Money Penny and Anne Thomas

2.1 Pledge of Allegiance

3.0 Action Item: Adoption of The Agenda: *M: Anne, 2nd: Penny*

4.0 Communications

Members of the public may address the Charter Council on any items of interest to the public that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Charter Council, but are not on the agenda or are on the consent agenda. However, the Charter Council shall not act upon, respond to, or comment on the merits of any item presented during the Oral Communications, although the Charter Council may ask clarifying questions of the presenter or refer the presenter to a District procedure if appropriate. (Government Code Sections 54954.2 and 54954.3) This is also the time to address any items on the consent agenda.

4.1 Oral Communications- (3 minute limit) None

4.2 Written Communications:

Anne Thomas received a text from a site teacher requesting that she ask the direct question: Is the site program going to be closed. The discussion and ensuing answer was that it is the desire of ARCS administration and BOMUSD Staff to keep the ARCS Site Program viable and sustainable. The practical matter of creating a balanced budget with the current enrollment of 83 students in the

site program as we anticipate deep cuts at every level of the education system will be the challenge for this upcoming year and potentially many years to come.

5.0 Reports:

5.1 **FARCS report:** None

5.2 **Teacher's reports - Site:** Anne Thomas

Anne Thomas reported that based on teacher discussion all site teachers are working hard to meet student needs during this challenging circumstance. Some teachers are more comfortable with the distance learning model than others, but all are finding ways to connect with their students and families as we navigate this uncharted territory. Abbygail Creiglow shared that from her perspective as a parent, all 3 of her children's teachers were very successfully providing her family with what they needed to learn at home.

Independent Study Kati Jardine (not present)

Penny Howell shared that things are going well in the Homeschool arena as well. In her case, her daughter has actually had more time for her studies as she is not involved in social activities due to the Shelter-In-Place orders.

5.3 **Financial Report:** Laura Money penny

Laura Money penny shared that she is working closely with Sid and others to gather all necessary information to assist with creating a balanced budget for the 20-21 school year. Currently, the district does not have all of the information needed. The district is awaiting news from the Governor's Office as well as the EDCOE as to the degree of cuts that will affect our budgets. It is projected that schools will sustain anywhere from 3%-25% cuts to their funding. Experts are leaning toward the higher number. In our district that could mean 2-5 million in deficit. Our school may suffer as much as \$250,000- \$500,000 loss. We are in a crisis situation.

5.4 **Director's Report:** David Gleason

David Gleason reported that we need to view our situation for next year and going forward through a financial lens. Our decisions will be based on simple math. The enrollment in our programs and the funding available will determine what we can reasonably do. We are required to present a balanced budget and financially feasible plans to BOMUSD as they will not approve anything less. Additionally, we are now required to submit our school budget to EDCOE for approval as well. Dave and Laura will attend a School Services meeting at EDCOE on 5/19.

6.0: Information and Discussion:

6.1 **WASC update** : No word yet.

6.2 **LCAP update** : We will go forward with the same LCAP although we will submit a "Summary" LCAP form this year, but we will not create a new LCAP until 21-22.

6.3 **ARCS programs review** : We currently have 83 students enrolled in the Site Program for Fall and 159 in the Homeschool Program. We are in a declining enrollment district. The low enrollment in the Site Program coupled with deep budget cuts statewide will force some difficult decisions to be made this year. We will need to come up with a scenario that enables us to balance the budget. We will know more after the Governor's message. We do not have firm numbers to work with yet.

7.0 **Action Items:**

8.0 **Call for topics for next meeting:**

5/20: 1:00p.m. Study Session: Ongoing Budget Discussion

9.0 **Adjournment:** 4:00 p.m.