

**School Board and Public Hearing Meeting Minutes**

Laurel Tree Charter School

Board Meeting 6/26/25

In-person meetings at 2730 Foster Avenue in Arcata at 6:00 pm

1. **Call to Order:**  6:08 pm Board in Attendance: Mary Burke, Nichole Dollarhide, Isaiah Cristian, Diane Moore. Staff in Attendance: Brenda Sutter. Public in Attendance: Ross Dollarhide.
2. **Adopt the minutes:** Mary Burke motioned to adopt the minutes, Diane Moore seconded. In favor: Mary Burke, Nichole Dollarhide, Isaiah Cristian, Diane Moore. Opposed: None. Abstentions: None.
3. **Adjustments to the Agenda:** Removal information item G. Will add it to the August agenda.
4. **Adoption of Agenda:**  Mary Burke motioned to adopt the agenda, Isaiah Cristian seconded. In favor: Mary Burke, Nichole Dollarhide, Isaiah Cristian, Diane Moore. Opposed: None. Abstentions: None.
5. **Land Recognition:** *We recognize that we are on the unceded tribal territory of the Wiyot people. This recognition is a starting point for further conversation and education. We honor these caretakers and carry their stewardship from time immemorial forward as part of the next generation's education.*
6. **Public Comment on items before the board:** The public is invited to join our discussions.
7. **Recognitions:**  None
8. **Information/Discussion Items:**
9. Marine Biology Camping Trip Review - *Brenda, Diane, and Isaiah shared their experiences of the trip. Good, successful trip! Whale watching was amazing. Lots of great parent help.*
10. Healthcare and salaries for 2025/26. *Shared the updated proposed salary schedule and healthcare plan. In Board Packet.*
11. New teachers and staffing changes *We will be losing both Violet Hales (Forest Kindergarten), Isabelle Semler (2nd/3rd), and Rebecca Schuler (MS/HS Science) next year.*

* *Claudia and Kinsley will be our Forest Kindergarten Teacher Interns and will be filling in for Violet.*
* *Ali Hale will take over Director of SPED service and Dena Delaney will take Violet’s caseload in SPED.*
* *We have hired a full-time teacher in both 2nd and 3rd Grade, Alina Alishoev and Sam Oetinger. Sam will also be teaching Art Classes in the afternoons for 4th and 5th.*
* *Becca’s classes in math and science will be absorbed by the high school team. Gwen will cover 7th and high school science, Colby will continue with 8th grade math and science, as well as math for 7th-12th. Brenda will teach high school English and history, as well as 8th grade English and history.*

1. Sharing Planning from Staff Retreat *Brenda shared work the staff had done about increasing both safety and fun for recess and Aftercare. Planning for Summer Projects. The staff also worked on Teacher Powered Schools, budgeting, prepping for next year’s WASC, and curriculum implementation.*
2. Budget *We ended the year with a positive cashflow of around $16,000 in June. This is almost a miracle considering the extensive renovations we faced this year. We spent almost $500,000 to get into this building and our cashflow fluctuated wildly this year. However, our cushion of $833,361 has been brought down to $347,872. It will be another year of being very conscious of our budget, but unlike last year, we DO have funds to spend and we will not be deficit spending! Next year’s budget contains staff raises and funding for the curriculum the staff wanted.*
3. LCAP *We reviewed our LCAP goals.*
4. Form 700 for Board Members - *tabled until August*

9. **Action Items:**

1. The Board will vote on whether to approve the salary increases and new salary schedule for 2025/26. *Nichole Dollarhide motioned to approve salary increases and salary schedule for 2025/26. Mary Burke seconded.*  *In favor: Mary Burke, Nichole Dollarhide, Isaiah Cristian, Diane Moore. Opposed: None. Abstentions: None.*
2. The Board will vote on whether to approve staffing changes. *Diane Moore motioned to approve the staffing changes approved by the Admin Team. Mary Burke seconded. In favor: Mary Burke, Nichole Dollarhide, Isaiah Cristian, Diane Moore. Opposed: None. Abstentions: None.*
3. The Board will vote on whether to approve the 2025-26 EPA Budget Expenditures. *Mary Burke motioned to approve the 2025-26 EPA Budget Expenditures Report. Diane Moore seconded. In favor: Mary Burke, Nichole Dollarhide, Isaiah Cristian, Diane Moore. Opposed: None. Abstentions: None.*
4. The Board will vote on whether to approve the 2025-26 Budget. *Diane Moore motioned to approve the 2025-26 Budget. Mary Burke seconded. In favor: Mary Burke, Nichole Dollarhide, Isaiah Cristian, Diane Moore. Opposed: None. Abstentions: None.*
5. The Board will vote on whether to approve the 2025-26 LCAP. *Nichole Dollarhide motioned to approve the 2025-26 LCAP. Mary Burke seconded. In favor: Mary Burke, Nichole Dollarhide, Isaiah Cristian, Diane Moore. Opposed: None. Abstentions: None.*
6. The Board will vote on whether to approve the Dibbles Assessment chosen by staff. *Mary Burke motioned to approve the Dibble Assessment chosen by staff. Diane Moore seconded. In favor: Mary Burke, Isaiah Cristian, Diane Moore. Opposed: None. Abstentions: Nichole Dollarhide*

**10. Future Agenda Items:**  Admin Evaluation, Form 700, Classes and teachers, CYBHI, Budget.

**11. Next Board meeting:**  August 19th, 2025 6:00 pm

**12. Adjournment:** 7:08 pm