

**THE HEIGHTS CHARTER**  
(A California Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation)

**MINUTES OF APRIL 28, 2025**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Kellie Peel called the regular meeting of the governing board to order at 4:15 pm. This Board Meeting was held at 2710 Alpine Blvd, Suite E, in Alpine.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT**

The following members were present at the meeting: Kellie Peel, Angie Sandkuhl, Cassie Andrews, Jenna Andrus, Kristi Scherbaum, Debra Cramsie. Absent: Casey Larsen.

**FLAG SALUTE**

**PRESENTATIONS** – No presentations this month.

**COMMUNICATIONS** (non-agenda items)

**Director's Report –**

- Enrollment Update – Enrollment remains at 288 students. The lottery was held on April 23, 2025. There are waitlists for all grades with TK being the longest. To date, we have two students who will not be returning in the fall.
- Personnel – Nothing to report at this time.
- Upcoming Events – Nothing to report at this time.
- Other – 1) Interim Audit. On April 25, 2025, the auditor reviewed a random sampling of student portfolios on-site. He was impressed with how well the portfolios were organized. Stephanie Lyle does an excellent job of overseeing the student portfolios and that they are complete and in order. All other required audit items were submitted online.
- Other – 2) Agreement for Continued Operation of The Heights Charter Within Alpine Union School District (AUSD) Boundaries. The AUSD school board voted to approve the Agreement. The Heights Charter will continue to operate with Dehesa as the charter sponsor.
- Other – 3) Renewal Petition. The renewal petition to be submitted to Dehesa this July 2025 and will be for July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2033, which is for seven years rather than five years. The Heights is requesting a seven year renewal because it is high performing. High performing charters may be renewed for five to seven years.
- Other – 4) Parent Association. The next and final Parent Association meeting will be on May 6, 2025 at 6 pm.
- Other – 5) Cell Phone Pouches. This item will be implemented next school year.
- Other – 6) 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Camp. 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Camp went very well this year. We were very happy with how it turned out.
- Other – 7) 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Camp. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Camp was unsatisfactory this year. We have scheduled Camp Stevens for the last four years and have had no issues before. Unfortunately, we were not notified about the liberal DEI policies that were incorporated this year and we were taken by surprise at the pride flag and overt trans staff representation. Some of the parents did not let their children stay. Approximately half of the students were ok with remaining at the camp, while the other half were very uncomfortable. Everyone left to come home on Wednesday. School leadership team met with a number of 8<sup>th</sup> grade families individually to discuss feelings, experiences, etc. At this time, we are unclear on what direction to take for next year's 8<sup>th</sup> graders but may go with Pine Valley. Since the 8<sup>th</sup> graders did not have a good camp experience, an alternate outing will be set up on May 21, 2025 at Granville Ranch for a day of activities from 10 am to 8 pm.

## CONSENT ITEMS:

1. Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the March 17, 2025 Regular Board Meeting and the April 7, 2025 Special Board Meeting were approved as presented.

## DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS:

1. For Information Only: 2024-25 Budget vs Actuals as of 3/31/25.  
The report was reviewed by Diana Whyte for the Board. A couple of cost increases were noted, including Legoland and stipends paid to staff who worked on the school play. No action required on this item.

Public Comments. There were no public comments made on this item.

2. Reviewed/Approved: Updated Heights Charter Bylaws. This update included cleaning up the verbiage to make it legally compliant. Last update was in October 2020. After review, Cassie Andrews made a motion to approve the Updated Heights Charter Bylaws as presented. Angie Sandkuhl seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0. Ayes: Peel, Scherbaum, Sandkuhl, Andrews, Andrus, Cramsie. Noes: 0. Absent: Larsen.

Public Comments. There were no public comments made on this item.

## ADJOURNMENT

The Board meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm.

The next board meeting will be held at 4:15 pm on Monday, June 30, 2025.

I certify that I am the duly elected Secretary of The Heights Charter and that these minutes, consisting of two (2) pages, are the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors on April 28, 2025.

Debra Cramsie  
Secretary