

Lorna James-Cervantes, President  
Sylvia Lazos, Treasurer  
Dr. Alain Bengochea, Secretary  
Nicole Thompson, Officer  
Jaime Gonzales, Officer  
Dachresha Harris, Officer  
Dr. Alee Moore, Officer  
Heather Nay, Officer

Miriam Benitez, Executive Director



**STRONG START ACADEMY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
BOARD MEETING AGENDA  
March 1, 2022  
4:00 PM**

Woman: [inaudible 00:00:01]

Dr. Malich: Okay, it's recording. Okay...hello, everyone.

All: Hello.

Dr. Malich: It's so nice to see all of you in person. So, we're going to start by just doing a roll call, for the purposes of the audio recording. So Linda Verbon, licensed teacher?

Linda: Present.

Dr. Malich: Dr. Sylvia Lazos, law professor is not here, but we're hoping she is en route. Dr. Alain Bengochea,

early childhood multilingual and special education professor? Alain:

Aye, present.

Dr. Malich: Nicole Thompson, licensed teacher?

Nicole: Present.

Dr. Malich: Jamie Gonzalez, HR expert?

Jamie: I'm here.

Dr. Malich: Great. Lorna. James-Cervantes, licensed administrator? Lorna:

Present.

Dr. Malich: Fabulous. We also have additional committee members that we're going to wait to talk about in a few minutes, so I don't want these lovely ladies to think I forgot them. I will introduce them at the proper time. So we do have a quorum, so we'll go ahead and move forward, but again, I'm hoping Sylvia...let's see if I can multitask, and see if she is...oh, she said running five minutes late. And that was at 3:59, so it sounds like she's en

route.

So, I just want to make sure that everyone knows that this meeting is in compliance with open meeting law, as required of all of our meetings. Meetings will be recorded and transcribed. That will make it easier on the secretary, so that you won't have to furiously take notes, we'll have a transcription of the meeting. At this point, we will start by opening up public comment. Comment

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for this portion of the agenda must be limited to matters on the agenda for action. If you wish to be heard, please state your name for the record. And the amount of discussion as well, each speaker will be limited to two minutes. And I see a whole plethora of speakers in the room...hearing none, we will move forward. Before we jump into introductions of the directors, just so that everyone understands the significance of the space you're in, because I think it's such an awesome space that we are in, this is the historic Westside School. This school was made available to this community thank you to the Paiutes, and the Paiutes gave the land for the purposes of a school so that their children could attend school. That allowed African American children in this community to attend the first integrated schools in the Clark County school district. So as an educator, as a social rights activist, everything about this space just speaks to me. It just has such a feel about it. This building that you're in was the original school, the additional areas were built on, were added on, and so this was the whole context of the school. So, it is an awesome space.

Let me also, for the record, announce that Dr. Sylvia Lazos is with us. Sylvia: Thank you. Thank you, Dr. Malich. I apologize, I got caught in traffic.

Dr. Malich: Well, we're glad you're here. So, I just wanted to give a little context behind the building. I'm Dr. Tammy Malich, Director of Youth Development and Social Innovation. I think I know everyone in the room, or have at least talked to everyone in the room. I have the best job ever, because I get to oversee all of the educational, social justice and community revitalization programs in the city of Las Vegas. I've been with the city two years, following a 30-year career in the Clark County school district, where I was a teacher, a dean, an assistant principal, a principal, opened two new schools, a middle and a high school, and then retired as an assistant superintendent over alternative ed. So, I served the babies and the grownups who made bad decisions, incarcerated adults, incarcerated youth, those kiddos that were removed for expellable offenses, those were all the babies I got to serve. And so, it was a very rewarding career, and now I get to come do this work in the city, so feeling very blessed. I'm a native of Las Vegas, and have truly been in the district since kindergarten, and I've almost figured it out. So those of you that are new, you'll figure it out in time.

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And I've had the pleasure of working with most of you in the room in multiple capacities. My team from this city, that has helped with this endeavor from the beginning, I will let each of them introduce themselves, starting with Rocio.

Rocio: Hi. Good afternoon. I'm Rosio Martinez, I lead and am an administrative officer for the Department of Youth Development and Social Innovation, and I'm part of the Charter School team, so we wrote the application, and now we're here today. So, it's very exciting now, having our first board meeting.

Dr. Malich: Woohoo. Amy?

Amy: Amy Henderson, administrative secretary for our department, and [inaudible 00:05:28] and support to the project.

Dr. Malich: Amy's the person that usually you see those emails from. Amy:

Sends all the email.

Dr. Malich: She keeps us all honest. Brandy?

Brandy: Brandy [inaudible 00:05:39] I am the [inaudible 00:05:40] coordinator for the Department of Youth Development and Social Innovation, and I was part of the [inaudible 00:05:45] team as well.

Dr. Malich: And Angela?

Angela: And Angela Rose, Community Development Officer. I oversee all the pre-K programs for the city of Las Vegas, and I was a co-author of [inaudible 00:05:55]

Dr. Malich: Great. And from our legal department, incredible. Dimitri...

Jeff: We've got two attorneys here to keep...yeah, exactly. Dick. My name is Jeff Dorocak, I'm one of two attorneys here to help you guys out. As Tammy mentioned, when we started, we are subject to all the public open meeting laws and things like that, so we're going to do our best to make sure that this meeting runs smoothly. As Tammy was pointing out, there's another attorney, Dimitri. He's been, and I'm going to turn it over to him, but in terms of getting this nonprofit going, and creating all the documents, he's really the father of the group, so he's written everything for the organization. So I'll serve as board counsel for the meeting, but Dimitri, do you want to introduce yourself?

Dimitri: Hi, I'm Dimitri Dalacas, with City Attorney's office. Transcription by

Dr. Malich: Thanks. And then we also, I also invited two other ladies to join us today, and I'll talk more about the purpose and the reasoning behind that, and I'll let each of them introduce themselves.

Dachresha: Hello, everyone. My name is Dachresha Harris, I'm the Director of Human Resources for the RTC, and I'm excited to be here, to [inaudible 00:07:00]

Dr. Malich: Great.

Woman: And my name is Dr. [inaudible 00:07:04] many people think it's Aly, so just letting you know it's Aly, with a long A. And I'm the Director of Capacity Building [inaudible 00:07:14]

Dr. Malich: Thank you, ladies. We also have another individual that will be joining the group. We have a Strong Start kiddo, one of our preschool babies whose stars aligned... He spoke at a council meeting, talked about his experience, and prior to that we were talking to his mom about the Charter School. He will be entering kindergarten [inaudible 00:07:43] Strong Start mobile pre-K program, he'll be entering kindergarten in the fall. His family and grandparents are Spanish speaking, dad is Latino, and mom wants to be very involved in his education, and so we said to her, well, how involved do you want to be, Mom? Do we have a deal for you. And so, Julian is his name, and Mom's name, I forget...

Woman: It's Heather.

Dr. Malich: Heather, thank you. I'm much better with the kid's names. It's the teacher in me. So, the thought, moving forward, with regard to our board members, as you all know, there's a required list of board members we have to have, we have to have a teacher, we have to have an administrator, we have to have a parent, etc., and then we have kind of this open-ended area that says, "And two people that are subject matter experts in any of the following areas, HR, law, bookkeeping, accounting..." and I think that's it. I think those are the areas. You could have two of the same, or two different. We serve that purpose through Dr. Lazos and Jamie, but my thinking was the construction of this board, of this governing board is that the seats on the board are appointed by councilpeople, Councilman Knudsen in ward one, Councilwoman Diaz in ward three, and Councilman Crear in ward five, the mayor, myself, our chief community services officer, and our city manager. So, those are the seven seats.

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We have to have a board minimum of five, and we can't have a board larger than nine. And so, the thinking is as we have board members that may be transitioning into other roles, or may find that they do not have the time commitment for this work, and half of our board are in one-year terms, the other half are in two-year terms...is that correct,

Dimitri, half in two?

Dimitri: Yes.

Dr. Malich: So that we're not replacing the entire board each year, it's kind of an every other year, my thought was it would be great if we invited some additional experts to be part of this group from the ground zero up so that they are part of the process, so that we have advisory board members already in place, and who are able to step in to our governing board if and when the need arises. So, that was kind of my thinking. And we are still looking for one additional supporting member. We're looking for a parent or guardian of an African American child, because the demographic we're looking to serve is largely Latinx and African American, and so, really...and also, after my long career in the district, two demographics that the school district is not serving well, and has not historically served well. The achievement gaps are pretty significant. And so, really wanting the voice of parents, representative of parents at the table to say what is not happening, how can we do different. Lauren and I will vote with the districts, and I can assure you, during the time, I never went into work and said how can we fail kids, and yet it happens. And so, how do we change that? How do we intentionally change that? Because that is what is on the table here. That was the expectation of the mayor, that was the expectation of our city council.

This being our first official meeting, we have to get some things in place as conditions for our charter approval. Those of you who were at that meeting either live or online heard those conditions read. We need to make sure that we comply with those in a timely manner, and so a lot of the agenda items for today are around filling those roles, and then putting some structures in place so that the 501c3 can stand up, be operational, receive funds, and operate as a 501c3. The other kind of bucket of requirements is around creating vendor agreements or contracts for scope of work in areas of need to start the Charter School. Today is certainly not going to be one and done. We're going to get all of that done and in place, and we're going to do good, because some of the work needed is more immediate than others. Having the city as a partner in this work is helpful, but the intent of this is for us to help support this work and get you up  
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and running, and even provide long-term support, but also then to hand off the operational part of the work to those that are part of this governing board. I, in my civic capacity, don't get to operate the school or work at the school, that would be a conflict of interest, and so, making sure that we are best positioning this group to do that. And so, the next item on our agenda, item five is discussion for..

Jeff: Dr. Tammy, did you want to let the directors introduce themselves, or are we just...on item four?

Dr. Malich: Oh, you mean the...I thought you meant our city...

Jeff: Oh, no, I was going to let them... But do they all know each other, it's not necessary? Yeah.

Dr. Malich: Oh, okay, our board...our board leaders. Is that what you mean?

Jeff: Yeah, the directors. Do the directors want to introduce, or do they all know each other?

Dr. Malich: Oh, they all know...

Woman: It's all written up in here, we can read.

Jeff: Yeah, if you're good with it, we can go on to item five.

Dr. Malich: I think this group all knows each other, with the exception of Jamie, who is new.

Jeff: Okay, great.

Dr. Malich: Yeah.

Jeff: So yeah, you can go on to number five [crosstalk 00:14:01.976] Dr.

Malich: Okay, thank you.

Jeff: Thank you.

Dr. Malich: So, the next item is discussion and possible action to improve the incorporation of the city of Las Vegas Strong Start Academy Elementary Schools Inc. as a nonprofit corporation under NRS 82, by Lorna Jane Cervantes, is the incorporator to ratify, adopt and improve the preparation, execution and filing of the City of Las Vegas Strong Start Academy Elementary Schools Inc. Transcription by [www.speechpad.com](http://www.speechpad.com)  
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Articles of incorporation, initial list and state business license application, and charitable solicitation registration statement with the Nevada Secretary of State, and to approve anything related prior acts of incorporator.

Jeff: Okay...yeah.

Dr. Malich: So, let me just preface this item by saying that Lorna agreed to step into this role to get all of this moving forward, and then Lorna is prepared to stay on the board. But if there's somebody who is interested in serving ultimately in the lead role of this, she took one from the team and said I'll come sign everything to get it going, we really would like to have Lorna's time freed up to continue serving on the board, and serve as a thought partner and coach for the executive director. And so, we'll be looking later on to shift, but Lorna has committed to doing this to get us through this process, and into

opening, if need be. So, if one of you has a burning desire to overthrow Lorna in her role, she will arm wrestle you. That would have to be agendized, though, and we go through this process.

Lorna: But I'm happy to serve as long as you need me.

Dr. Malich: So with that...

Jeff: Yeah. Jeff Dorocak, court counsel. So for item five, as Dr. Malich mentioned, these are documents that have already been filed with the secretary of state. You're going to go ahead and make a...one person can make a motion, and then we'll call a vote to adopt all of these documents. These are pretty standard incorporating documents, articles, the initial list for your business license, and charitable solicitation registration so you can solicit for charitable contributions. And as Dr. Malich mentioned, Lorna stepped in as our incorporator, which is just simply a required spot on those forms so we could have someone sign, and she was kind enough to come in and sign everything. So with the item, we just need a motion, and then we'll vote.

Dr. Lazos: These are already filed, correct?

Jeff: Correct. Those are...

Dr. Lazos: So a ratification, not a motion. It's the ratification of these...

Jeff: Right, we wrote it as approve, but it's approve, ratify, adopt, however you want to do it in your mind, right.

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Dr. Lazos: [crosstalk 00:16:54.761] to ratify. So, the motion is to ratify the filing of the documents listed in item five, that incorporate this corporation, and that list the business license application, the charitable solicitation registration statement. So, the motion is that we ratify the preparation and the filing of those documents.

Jeff: Correct.

Dr. Lazos: May I have a second?

Dr. Bengochea: I'll second, Bengochea.

Dr. Lazos: All right. Can we take a vote on that, please?

Dr. Malich: Sure. All those in favor?

All: Aye.

Dr. Malich: Anyone opposed? Fabulous. For the record, Dr. Lazos made the motion...



Dr. Bengochea seconded.

Dr. Malich: ...and Dr. Bengochea seconded. Fabulous. Item six, what we need to do is elect officers. That is also a requirement, we need a president, a secretary, and a treasurer.

Dr. Lazos: If I may make a correction to that?

Dr. Malich: Absolutely.

Dr. Lazos: The bylaws actually list president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer.

Dr. Malich: Oh, good point.

Dr. Lazos: So, there are four offices to be filled. I will now nominate Lorna for president.

Dr. Malich: Fabulous.

Dr. Lazos: And may I have a second on that?

Dr. Bengochea: I'll second, Bengochea.

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Dr. Lazos: Thank you.

Dr. Malich: All those in favor?

Dr. Lazos: We need now a motion for vice president?

Dr. Malich: Oh, you're going to do it all together?

Jeff: Just...yeah, Jeff Dorocak, court counsel, so we can't do vice president because it's not agendized, but we do have vice presidents in the thing. If you guys want to do a vice president down the road, we can do it at the next meeting. But you're correct, ma'am, we can go ahead and do all three that we have listed in one motion.

Dr. Lazos: But you can't do vice president because you didn't put it on the agenda.

Jeff: Correct.

Dr. Lazos: Although it is listed in the bylaws.

Jeff: Right, as a position that the board could decide whether or not they want to have a vice president?

Dr. Lazos: Well, one of the reasons we want to have a vice president is because Lorna is



retired, and she may not serve the full term, so I think it would be very wise to have a vice president now. I don't...I guess because it wasn't agendaized we can't actually move on that, but maybe we want to discuss that we need to fill that office, and fill it right away.

Right, we'll put it...correct, we'll put it out the April agenda.

Dr. Malich: So, we have a motion for Lorna as the president, and we'll agendaize a vice president for the April meeting, and you guys can further discuss and take action on that. Do we have a motion for secretary?

Jeff: Oh, you're going to them all...?

Dr. Malich: That's what I thought.

Jeff: Yeah, okay, you...yeah.

Dr. Malich: We're trying to be efficient.

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Jeff: Oh, yeah.

Dr. Lazos: Well, we can go through this quickly.

Jeff: So...oh, wait, we had on the [crosstalk 00:19:44.553] at one point...so, yeah, yeah [crosstalk 00:19:46.542]

Dr. Malich: Okay. Dr. Bengochea?

Jeff: Yeah, staff would recommend, based on what we talked to Dr. Malich about already, the motion on the floor for Director Cervantes as president, Dr. Lazos as treasurer, and Dr. Bengochea as secretary. So, we would ask that to be a motion, or recommend that be a motion.

Dr. Malich: If we go with [inaudible 00:20:12] before, don't we have to take the second first, and then...?

Jeff: Yeah, if you guys want to do seconds on motions, we need someone to do the motion as recommended just now, or incorporate the other two in with...

Dr. Lazos: Who is the accounting person on the board, Tammy? Dr.

Malich: We don't have an accounting person on the board. Jeff: No.

Dr. Lazos: I would rather not serve as treasurer, given that that is not a strength of mine. People go to law school because they don't do math that well. So, I would...defer to someone.

Dr. Malich: Okay. All right.

Jeff: Okay.

Dr. Lazos: Maybe we want to postpone that until we actually get an accountant on the board?

Dr. Malich: Well, we don't...so, we don't have to add an accountant to the board. If we add an accountant to the board, we would, in our current structure, we can only do so as an advisory capacity.

Woman: Do either of you know [crosstalk 00:21:10.689]

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Dr. Lazos: Didn't we have that set up that we had to have somebody who was legal...isn't that part of NRS?

Dr. Malich: That's part of the...part of NRS is two subject matter experts in one of the following areas, legal, HR...

Dr. Lazos: Oh, either/or. Yeah.

Dr. Malich: Yes.

Dr. Lazos: Okay [crosstalk 00:21:29.177]

Dr. Malich: We could go with two attorneys, for example. It's not... Dr.

Lazos: Right, right.

Dr. Malich: So, Jeff, as the bylaws are written, if there's an agenda item to add in a vice president, they'd still need a treasurer...well, yeah, you need somebody to sign the bank account.

Jeff: Right. I think our recommendation today, we don't have vice president listed, we're not going to vote on that, I would recommend that we do name a treasurer because we have an item later involving the treasurer, to set up [crosstalk 00:21:57.750] yeah, to take money, and set up bank accounts, so we're going to need someone at least for a few months here to take that role.

Dr. Malich: Okay.

Dr. Lazos: And just to be clear, that person has to be available for signatures? Dr.

Malich: Yes.

Dr. Lazos: Yeah, so if you're at the law school, like I am, you would probably have to get in the car, and go over to Main Streets, you know? So, that's something to take into consideration.

Dr. Malich: So, we have a motion for Lorna as president, for Dr. Bengochea as secretary, and we need a treasurer. I would look to this end of the table...

Man: That's not my strength.

Dr. Malich: Come on, nobody [crosstalk 00:22:58.053]

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Jeff: And to allay your fears, we're going to hold your hands, especially on the...out of the gate here. So...

Dr. Malich: We will hold your hands, and one of the other items we're going to discuss is the board hiring a bookkeeping firm. So, this would not be...the treasurer will not be serving as the Charter School's bookkeeper or accounting firm.

Lorna: And this is Lorna, for the record, I think that one of the things to think about is that the treasurer position, a big part of it is that they would help with the opening of the accounts, and being the signatory on, say, checks and things like that that are going out, so...

Dr. Malich: Right.

Dr. Lazos: It's the signing forms, you have to be available for that. Lorna:

Right. So...

Dr. Malich: So, once the board voted on releasing funds, the person would be the sign-...so, yeah, the person would be the signer...well, one of the signatories, right? We would have to have two.

Dr. Lazos: But I do want to point out the bylaws say that the treasurer has to be responsible for the accuracy of amounts of and costs [inaudible 00:24:07] of all monies that are dispersed. So, that is on page 12 of the bylaws.

Dr. Malich: But that would be in companionship with the accounting firm. Right.

Dr. Lazos: Right, right, right. But it's not that you don't have responsibility. Dr.

Malich: Right, no. Yes, true.

Dimitri: For the record, this is Dimitri Dalacas...

Dr. Malich: Thank you, Dimitri.

Dimitri: ...if I could add that there is a requirement in the bylaws and under state statute that the board will meet at least quarterly. This would be your first quarter meaning, you would be having another meeting in a relatively short period of time. Unfortunately, the Secretary of State requires naming the officers when you initially file with the Secretary of State, so some of the names

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have been put into play, you know, with the Secretary of State. So, we can amend that initial list, but we could also, if there's some desire to, at the next meeting, have an agenda item to change who the treasurer can be, if Dr. Lazos wants to at least hold that position until such time...

Dr. Lazos: Well, I think we do need to expedite. So, I'm willing to be the treasurer until the next meeting.

Dr. Malich: Perfect.

Dr. Lazos: I'm willing to drive up and sign all the papers that you want me to sign up.

Dr. Malich: I'll come pick you up, and I will take you.

Dr. Lazos: And I'm willing to do math for the next two months. Okay, I just want that for the record [crosstalk 00:25:43.873]

Dr. Malich: So, can we restate the motion?

Lora: So, this is Lorna Cervantes, for the record. So, the motion is to approve the election of officers as recommended by the city staff, with myself serving as the president, Dr. Alain Bengochea as the secretary, and Dr. Sylvia Lazos as the treasurer.

Dr. Malich: So we have a motion, do we have a second?

Dr. Lazos: I'll second that.

Dr. Malich: All those in favor?

All: Aye.

Dr. Malich: Anyone opposed? Yeah, you guys better say aye [crosstalk 00:26:15.760]

All: Aye.

Dr. Malich: I'm looking hard at this end of the table. So...

Jeff: Anyone opposed?

Dr. Malich: Oh, sorry. They all said aye.

Jeff: Well, but the...we've got a recording we've got to deal with, you know?

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Dr. Malich: Thank you for that reminder. Okay, next item is discussion and possible action to adopt the bylaws of the city of Las Vegas Strong Start Academy Elementary School Inc.

Jeff: Right as Dr. Malich...Jeff Dorocak, assistant city attorney, for the record. As Dr. Malich mentioned at the start, this is one of those somewhat perfunctory items that we just need to go through, and make sure that the board adopts the bylaws, as Dr. Lazos has already mentioned, some of the provisions in the bylaws. If there are any questions, I can take them. Just as a general matter, the bylaws have been approved by the City Council of Las Vegas because of their tie-in with nominating and voting on all of you to your seats on this board. In addition, these bylaws were reviewed and approved by the state charter authority. So, everything is in order with them. Your staff here would recommend approval, but if there are any questions, we can take them.

Dr. Lazos: I do have a question.

Dr. Malich: And I think to Jeff's point, I think this is...we're in a unique situation where because of the city's involvement, the bylaws had to be approved by our city council prior to coming to you. So, that's kind of a unique twist on this, versus other charter schools. Go ahead, Dr. Lazos. Sorry to interrupt.

Dr. Lazos: Right. So, I think the bylaws are pretty standard. Just to let people know, I did go through them and read them myself. The one question I have is on liability insurance for the directors. There is no provision made in the bylaws for that, and so is there going to be a budget...how do we handle that? This is kind of a unique type of situation, where the city has [inaudible 00:28:15] an independent corporation. So my question is if we get sued in individual capacity, how is that liability going to be covered?

Jeff: Jeff Dorocak, court counsel, for the record...

Dr. Lazos: I mean, I do have personal insurance on that umbrella insurance, I do, but I'm not sure that all the members do.

Jeff: Thank you, ma'am. Jeff Dorocak, for the record, and Dimitri, chime in if I'm missing any of this, starting on pages 16 through 18, we have our indemnification of directors and officers language. And specifically, we do have insurance noted on 18. I'm not necessarily going to answer your question right away, "The corporation shall have the power to purchase and maintain..." and I

agree, at this point, the question is going to be how are we going to go about and purchase that insurance? And I think...do you want to maybe give an answer now, or do you have an idea?

Dr. Malich: Yeah, so I think one of the vendor contracts that this board, governing body needs to approve is certainly insurance coverage for all of you as board members, as well as the executive director and the entity, so...

Dr. Lazos: Right. So, I would like to make a motion that we put down our next agenda item, that that be top line, and that the budget, whatever budget is constructed, that there will be an item for D&O insurance.

Dr. Malich: Okay.

Jeff: Yeah, we'll make a notation. We don't need any votes on those, but we have it. So now we have the insurance item, and the pice President item for the next meeting agenda.

Dr. Lazos: Correct.

Jeff: Okay, and then, yeah, if there are any other questions on the bylaws, feel free, otherwise, again, we would just need a motion, a second, and a vote.

Dr. Lazos: Let's see, I do think I have one more question, and that is, if we do move to...I don't know how to put this in a graceful way. But if we do have cause that we want to have a director who is not being productive kind of exit the role, would we have to...I mean, is there a way to vote to fire that person? I mean, it's kind of an unpleasant conversation, but I do wonder if we don't need to have that kind of provision in the bylaws.

Dr. Malich: That's a good question, since these are appointed members by the city council...

Dr. Lazos: They're appointed members by the city council, everybody has a specific role. I don't want to get into a situation where we have a the ugly mess of some other entities, you know? So, I'm trying to think ahead in terms of that kind of situation, all right? Most of the time in public boards, directors are passive, and we don't do very much, but this is not going to be that kind of board. So, do you have any recommendations, counsel, on that? You're looking at the NRS, I see...

Jeff: Correct. Thank you, ma'am. Are you good? I don't want to interrupt you, sorry.

Dr. Lazos: No, go ahead.

Jeff: Yeah, I was just scanning the bylaws, this is Jeff Dorocak, assistant city attorney, on it. We have the unique situation of we have city council, like Dr. Malich mentioned, city council involvement, so we want to maintain their kind of arm's length control, but still allow that type of situation. So, we didn't write anything more explicit than on page eight of the bylaws, I believe that's pointing to paragraph 14, Removal of directors, we noted directors may be removed with or without cause, and from time to time, as provided by chapter 82 of the Nevada Revised Statutes. This is NRS 82, and that's where I was just scanning quickly as I was getting your question there. We may need to come back to give you more information on it in terms of removal, but at first glance, there are pretty broad removal provisions within NRS 82. When you have a majority of a corporation board wanting to remove someone else, that becomes a possibility. The only reason I say I'm going to have to come back and give you more information is I may have to...I want to consult with Dimitri, and I also want to compare it to what we did with the language for the city council's appointment authority. I don't want to say that you guys can knock somebody off, and that's not what we were going for.

Dr. Lazos: Right. Yeah, go ahead.

Dimitri: If I may add, Dimitri Dalacas, for the record, I don't want to misstate, but I believe there is something in NRS chapter 82 that does state that if a governmental entity like the city council appoints or has authority to appoint a board of directors, they also have removal rights as well under NRS 82, if that was the question being posed.

Jeff: Right, and that's where I was...Jeff Dorocak, for the record, Dr. Lazos, as you were asking the question, I was kind of going back to previous discussions Dimitri and I had had on the issue, and that would make sense in terms of... So, the council has the authority to remove. Now, what does that mean for your specific question? If we have a problem with a board member, I would suggest we would go to the council member, or staff who is the appoint-...the recommender of that person, and we would say we have an issue with this person, and we may need to vote them out. So I mean, right now, on the spur of the moment, that would be the way we would do it. But I do want to look at

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NRS 82 some more, and I can get back to you guys at the next meeting with kind of more specific provisions. I know we're already talking about removing people, but...we'll figure that out.

Dr. Lazos: [crosstalk 00:34:06.096] but we do have a terrible example [crosstalk 00:34:09.808]

Jeff: Right, right.



Dr. Lazos: And we won't follow that example, I just want to make clear. Jeff:

Right.

Dr. Lazos: It's just that as a lawyer, I'm trained [crosstalk 00:34:17.046] risk, and how to address risk before you get into the risk situation.

Jeff: So, yeah, the best I can say right now, along with what Dimitri said, I think at a minimum, the city council would need to be involved in removal. At a maximum, yeah, at a maximum [crosstalk 00:34:30.784] right.

Dr. Lazos: ...would have to be stated, probably, in [crosstalk 00:34:33.471] And I also want you to consider whether, if there's a member who, let's say, doesn't attend two meetings or three meetings, or is unavailable, you know, that that may be also cause for removal, you know? Again, we need a board that is active, and that is [crosstalk 00:34:51.906]

Dr. Malich: So maybe we could look at some kind of language that allows them, through board approval, if they have a majority vote, to remove a member, that they work with the City of Las Vegas liaison, who would then go back to the council, the appointing member.

Jeff: Right.

Dr. Lazos: And while we're at it, I also think we need a kind of a conflict of interest clarification provision, I don't know if in the bylaws, or somewhere else. But I do think that because of the dual roles of so many people on this board of directors, we may want to have something explicit that allows the board to waive a potential conflict of interest. I mean, I think that's the default in law anyways, but maybe we want to put that, clarify it in [crosstalk 00:35:42.755] because I do you know that we have people that are very active with the city right now.

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Dr. Malich: Is that addressed... Ladies, do you remember was conflict of interest addressed in their confidentiality...that statement they had to all sign?

Dr. Lazos: Yes.

Woman: Yes [inaudible 00:35:56]

Dr. Malich: Okay, yeah. So, it might be addressed there [crosstalk 00:36:01.768]

Dr. Lazos: Okay, yeah. We just want to be clear, we want to be inclusive, and not make it difficult for people who have dual and triple roles.

Dr. Malich: Right.

Jeff: Yep. Jeff Dorocak, for the record, because this is a public governing board, because it's a public charter school, all of you are subject to the NRS 281A ethics laws, which I think will cover most of the conflicts you're thinking of.

Dr. Lazos: Yeah.

Jeff: And that's essentially incorporated into our bylaws. Because I believe there's a reference to 281A through NRS 388A, bottom line being we will be on high alert for any conflicts. And the way you would, to use your term, waive it would be we just make sure that a member mentions what the conflict might be, and then at that point we'll decide whether or not the member needs to vote or not vote, abstain, or if he or she can continue and vote. So, we'll treat it just like we do with the City Council's ethics rules under 281A, and I think that should be sufficient for the situation, what you were describing.

Dr. Lazos: Right. Right. So, disclosure is the way to deal with conflict. So if you think you have a potential conflict, you tell the board, "I think I may have a potential conflict here," and as long as we're all informed and we're all okay with it, then it's not a problem.

Dr. Malich: Well, and especially where, with our subject matter experts wherein this body will be deciding on contracts, making sure that there's no conflict there, deciding on negotiating with adult education programs or alternative programs, you know...?

Dr. Lazos: Right, and we want to include night schools.

Dr. Malich: Right. Okay. Okay, so we're still looking for a motion on adopting bylaws, or further discussion.

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Nicole: Nicole Thompson, I move to adopt the bylaws of CLV Strong Star Academy Elementary School Inc.

Dr. Malich: Thank you. A second?

Jamie: Jamie Gonzalez, I second it.

Dr. Malich: Thank you. All those in favor?

All: Aye.

Dr. Malich: Anyone opposed? Thank you. Moving on to item number eight, discussion for possible action to authorize the treasurer, Dr. Lazos, to designate from time to time one or more banks, trust companies, or other banking institutions to activate depository or depositories for the funds of City of Las Vegas Strong Start Academy Elementary Schools Incorporated.

Jeff: Jeff Dorocak, for the record. As we mentioned earlier, this is the item that will, if

approved by the board, will allow the treasurer, Dr. Lazos, per the vote earlier, to go and set up some bank accounts, or a bank account, at least one for the corporation. And we would recommend approval because we will be working on moving some of the money already approved by the city council, I think, over to the board as soon as possible.

Loran: Lorna James-Cervantes, for the record, and I moved that we authorize the treasurer to designate...well, to open bank accounts as necessary for the City Las Vegas Strong Start Academy, as stated in item number eight.

Dr. Malich: Thank you. Motion?

Nicole: Nicole Thompson, I second that.

Dr. Malich: We have a motion, and a second. All those in favor? All:

Aye.

Dr. Malich: Anyone opposed? Great. Action item number nine is discussion for possible action to appoint Miriam Benitez as the executive director, at a salary of \$100,000 per year. Let me preface this with a couple of things. The Strong Start Academy does not have an HR firm yet, so...but one of the requirements by the charter, by the SPCSA was that we have designated an executive director officially by March 1st. So I am willing, because we have Miriam's paperwork and W-9, etc., on file with the city, if this board approves this item, I'm willing to contract with her on the city side as a gap, until you guys are able to officially hire her through an HR firm, if that's the decision of the board.

Dr. Lazos: Well, let me ask you two questions. Do we have to go through the HR firm, or can we just hire directly? And number two question is, do we have a starting date in mind, and would this be a yearly contract from year to year?

Dr. Malich: So, two things. So no, I don't think you're obligated to go through an HR firm. The director position, and correct me if I'm wrong, the executive director position does not have to go through PERS, all of the other positions do, or have to be in a high needs area as designated, blah, blah, blah. Question two, in the budget, what we have as the start date in the charter application budget, what is the start date of the executive director?

Rocio: So...Rocio Martinez, for the record, the budget submitted to SPCSA doesn't have dates of appointment for employees, however, the budget is due on April 15th to the Department of Education. So, I think they said that the executive director could start as soon as the board thinks it's appropriate for them to start getting [inaudible 00:41:51]

Dr. Malich: My recommendation would be that you do a year-to-year contract, and that

you go with a fiscal year, a school year, or a calendar year...you know, choose what the year equals. Again, I would be willing to, if this board approves, I would be willing to set her up as a gap in between because this is a unique year. So in a traditional year, perhaps you would want to do a 12-month contract with her, you might want to do an 11-month contract or a 10-month contract. However, this year being unique, we would want to bring her on as soon as possible to start doing the necessary work to get the students recruited, the school open, etc.

Lorna: Yeah, this is Lorna Cervantes, for the record, and I agree with bringing her under contract as soon as possible, even if we could put March 1st as a start date on her contract. I think that would be really appropriate because I know that she has...

Dr. Malich: She's already started.

Lorna: She's already started the work. She's already started recruiting teachers who we need to be able to contract as quickly as possible, and I know that she's helping to write the work of the lottery policy, things like that. So, I know she's

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doing work, I think we should at least do March 1st as a start date. My other thought is that we maybe contract her from March until the end of June, and then her contract...

Dr. Malich: Officially starts [crosstalk 00:43:23.426]

Lorna: ...officially starts July 1st, and it would go July 1st to June 30th of each year, on an annual contract. That was my thought.

Dr. Malich: That was kind of my thought.

Woman: Is that what CCSD does?

Lorna: Yes.

Dr. Malich: Yep, July 1st through June 30th is the typical school contract. So that was my thought, if this board wants to contract with Miriam as the executive director from July 1st through June 30th, then I would do the gap in between, and bring her on March 1st.

Lorna: And...Lorna Cervantes again, I just wanted to verify also that we, if...I believe because we got the charter, that there is money in our startup money from the Opportunity 180 grant that would help us to pay for that time, too, correct?

Woman: For salaries?

Lorna: Yes, for a salary for her for March 'til July.

Woman: Not through that grant specifically, no.

Lorna: Oh, okay. Sorry.

Dr. Malich: So, I could do that, again, through consulting...or contracted funds through the city side, from March through June, again, if you guys agree to contract with her officially.

Dr. Lazos: So to restate the motion, we are going to request the city to engage Miriam Benitez beginning March 1st through July 1st for the work outlined in the job description of the executive director. And beginning July 1st to the following June 30th, this board is offering Miriam Benitez a contract for the job of executive director. I guess my additional question, is there going to be a written agreement, or are we just kind of...?

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Dr. Malich: [inaudible 00:45:12]

Dr. Lazos: Huh? Is there going to be, like, a contract [crosstalk 00:45:16.576]

Jeff: Jeff Dorocak, for the record. Director Lazos, thank you for restating the motion. I think that's pretty good. The only issue might be I think the state charter wants us to have an executive director March 1st.

Dr. Malich: They do. So yeah, we would be...

Jeff: They do...right. So, right, so what we'll do is I would recommend the motion be we are going to appoint her as executive director today, we will bring back a written contract for effective dates, like you mentioned, Director Lazos, from July 1st through June 30th 2023, we'll bring that back at another meeting. For March, April, May and June, the city will figure out payment or whatever arrangement you're going to deal with.

Dr. Malich: And we have an agreement, she's already an approved vendor through our system.

Jeff: Right. Just essentially, she will be unpaid by the board as executive director for four months, the city will do what it's doing, and the board will then have a contract sometime before July 1st so we can get that \$100,000 locked into a deal that's written, and you guys can see it.

Woman: Right.

Dr. Malich: Yes.

Jeff: So, that'll be our direction that we take from this, but we would recommend still go ahead and appoint her today so we can cover our state charter promises.

Dr. Lazos: Right. I just have a question about benefits. Does the \$100K include benefits, or \$100K plus benefits, like, you know, health insurance, for example?

Dr. Malich: So, that was why I mentioned the HR side of this. Dr.

Lazos: I see.

Dr. Malich: I think...I did not have a conversation with Miriam about... And let me just say for the record that Miriam is in a class right now, otherwise she would have been at the meeting, just to be here to answer questions. I think

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almost all, everybody but Jamie has interfaced with Miriam on the board already. So, I think that's a decision of the board. That's why my suggestion was appointing her March 1st, let me go ahead and get her started, then you guys can finalize her contract through an HR agency, where you have...you don't have benefits set up, you have none of that accounted for, that's one of the items on your list of things to do.

Lorna: Yes. And Lorna Cervantes, for the record, I think, in my mind, I was thinking it was a salary of \$100,000, and then benefits would be in addition to. Which is, really, a fairly typical salary for a principal with her level of experience.

Woman: Right.

Dr. Lazos: So, I do think it has to be clarified in motion that the salary will be \$100,000 plus benefits to be determined at the time that we draft the contract, right? So, that's to be specific.

Dr. Malich: Right. Okay. So, we have a motion by Dr. Lazos... Dr.

Bengochea: I'll second, Bengochea.

Woman: [inaudible 00:48:18]

Dr. Malich: We have a motion, and a second. All those in favor? All:

Aye.

Dr. Malich: Anyone opposed? Okay.

Jeff: Great. And yeah, we took the...Jeff Dorocak, for the record. We took that direction, so we will work with Dr. Tammy and her team to put a written deal together, \$100,000 a year salary, plus whatever type of benefits ultimately we can work out with an outside HR for whatever that looks like over the next four months, so that could be before you guys...before July 1st, which is what we want her on, that calendar, July 1st through the 30th.

Dr. Malich: Yep. Okay. Item 10, discussion of possible action to retain legal counsel for City of Las Vegas Strong Start Academy Elementary Schools Inc., and to authorize the president to select said legal counsel, and to execute any retainer agreement properly related thereto in an initial amount not to exceed \$25,000.

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Dr. Lazos: May I amend that motion?

Dr. Malich: You may.

Dr. Lazos: All right, so I would suggest that it be the president and the officers that undertake this task, as well as I would make the same amendment on number 11. So it would be myself, Alain and Lorna that would undertake the task, and I would say interview and select, and report back to the board.

Dr. Malich: Okay. So, the motion on the table is to allow the directors to interview and select legal counsel, and to execute any retainer agreement properly related thereto in an initial amount not to exceed \$25,000. I think this would allow them to do so, correct me if I'm wrong, to do so before the April meeting, because April 1st is the deadline for them to have then their contracts in place, correct?

Dr. Lazos: Is that in the charter request?

Dr. Malich: Well, actually, the only ones... So, vendor contracts was stipulated that they only called out New Mexico School and TNTP...oh, no, and the accounting, and an accounting firm.

Woman: [inaudible 00:50:34]

Dr. Malich: HR? So, they called out those three specifically. Dr.

Lazos: For April 1st, or for March 1st?

Dr. Malich: For April 1st.

Lorna: April 1st.

Dr. Lazos: April 1st. And this one?

Dr. Malich: They did call out legal specifically.

Dr. Lazos: Okay.

Dr. Malich: But this would allow the board of directors to meet offline, interview, review candidates, and make selections prior to and exclusive of, the way you worded the motion, the next board meeting, or a future board meeting, I should say.



Jeff: Yeah, so I'll...Jeff Dorocak, for the record, just to clarify the item and to catch what Director Lazos mentioned, what was the last word, ma'am, on bringing it back to the board that you wanted?

Dr. Lazos: I was just saying report back to the board, yeah.

Jeff: Report back, okay. Right. So, we would still treat this as authorizing the president to select these legal counsel, and specifically, we need the president to be able to sign the contract if legal counsel is found. But per the motion, what we'll incorporate is that the president is going to make that selection along with the treasurer and the secretary, so there's three members making the selection. Is that...am I following what you...?

Dr. Lazos: Correct.

Jeff: Okay. So, it would be the three working together, which is permissible, to select legal counsel offline, and then if someone is found, the president of the board will go ahead and sign the contract, the retainer agreement with the attorney.

Dr. Lazos: And we all sign the check?

Lorna: All right, good. I only have one question, and that is will we be able to maybe utilize some of the space to do those interviews at city hall, or in another city location, so that we can meet centrally to take care of that work?

Dr. Malich: Absolutely.

Dr. Lazos: Okay.

Dr. Malich: The logistics around the work, certainly, we can support by facilitating, providing... I know Dr. Lazos received a resume that she forwarded to Lorna and I, I know Dr. Lazos and I received a resume from another gentleman, who actually, I was on a charter school call as a consultant on Monday evening, and he is also their attorney, and we will provide that information, and she has information from both. And then if there's anybody else... And then also, they had an accountant on the phone, so premature, that's one of the future items, the next item, but she also provided her information. So I provide it to the officers, or all of you for review, they have all expressed interest.

Jeff: So then the motion on the floor from [crosstalk 00:53:39.215] from you?

Dr. Malich: For 10.

Jeff: Yeah, for 10, from Dr. Lazos is to authorize the president, and incorporate in that the

president and the treasurer and secretary will select legal counsel, and then the president will go ahead and execute a retainer agreement not to exceed \$25,000. So, that's the motion on the floor. Do we have a second.

Linda: I'll second it, Linda Verbon.

Jeff: Thank you, Director Verbon.

Dr. Malich: Okay, so we have a motion, and a second. All those in favor? All: Aye.

Dr. Malich: Anyone opposed? Okay, similar item 11 is the same motion, or the same language as written, discussion and possible action to retain a certified public accountant for the City of Las Vegas Strong Start Academy Elementary Schools Inc., and to authorize the president to select said accountant, and execute a retainer agreement properly related thereto in an initial amount not to exceed \$25,000, and to authorize and empower said accountant to do such acts as may be necessary in connection with obtaining an employer identification number from the Internal Revenue Service, and pursuing tax exempt status from the Internal Revenue Service under Section 501c3 of the Internal Revenue Code for City of Las Vegas Strong Start Academy Elementary Schools Inc.

Dr. Lazos: And remind me, do we have the 501c3 paperwork yet?

Jeff: Jeff Dorocak, for the record. No, ma'am. That's why we have this item, we'd like to get a certified public accountant who can do that, and make sure it's done properly for the nonprofit.

Dr. Lazos: Okay.

Lorna: Have we had anyone express an interest in the position? Dr.

Malich: I sent...Amy just handed you paperwork.

Dr. Lazos: Is this the [inaudible 00:55:27] person, or...?

Dr. Malich: That's the lawyer.

Dr. Lazos: But there's been, I think, more submitted [inaudible 00:55:32]

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Dr. Malich: There's the...you sent the [inaudible 00:55:36] to my private email, so Amy couldn't see that.

Dr. Lazos: Okay.

Dr. Malich: So, I'll forward that one to her. The young...the lady [inaudible 00:55:44] is her last name, you should have her...

Woman: I don't think I have her information.

Dr. Malich: Oh, she didn't send it?

Woman: No, she [inaudible 00:55:52]

Dr. Malich: Okay. So, I saw her on this charter school call last night, she serves as their CPA. Ro met with her today via telephone to let her know kind of what the ask was, and we asked that she send us a resume, a scope of work, and cost so that we could forward it to all of you. That's the only person that... We started with an initial firm that has never responded to Ro's request.

Lorna: All right, thank you. So, I move that we adopt item number 11 as written, with the understanding that it would be the president and the officers of the board, working together to complete the work as outlined.

Dr. Malich: So, we have a motion on the table.

Dr. Lazos: And do we have a date, we have to do this by April, what, April 1st? Dr.

Malich: Right.

Dr. Lazos: Okay, so that probably should be in the motion, too.

Jeff: What's the April 1st, is that the selection, or the...what was it, to have someone on board?

Dr. Malich: That we have contracted with...is that...?

Woman: Yes. Are you referring to the [inaudible 00:57:04]

Dr. Malich: Yes, ma'am.

Woman: Yes, then we have April 1st.

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Jeff: Great. This is also, as I mentioned, Jeff Dorocak, for the record, we want to get this person because that 501c3 is going to take time to get, so the sooner we can find the accountant and get that ball rolling, as well [crosstalk 00:57:18.551]

Dr. Malich: So, I fibbed. It's by April 30th, fully executed copies of contracts with key service providers identified, and resubmission including TNTTP dual-language education of New Mexico, and Bambee, which was the accounting firm that has not...

Woman: The HR firm.

Dr. Malich: Or the HR firm, yes. So, you have to have HR, New Mexico School of dual-language, and TNTP under contract by April 30th.

Lorna: But that's not included in this, right?

Dr. Malich: It does not include attorney or CPA. They are stipulated in the charter school conditional approval. I would imagine those are the kinds of things we're going to want to hear in the update, is where we're at with those. But the CPA requirement is to get this 501c3 status filed.

Lorna: Okay. So, I'll amend the motion to say that...this is Lorna Cervantes, for the record. So, I'll amend the motion to say that I would move that we adopt item number 11 as written, with the addition of the president and other officers to interview and select the accountant, and that this work be completed by April 30th.

Dr. Malich: So, we have a motion on the table...

Dr. Lazos: Seconded.

Dr. Malich: Second by Dr. Lazos. All those in favor?

All: Aye.

Dr. Malich: Anyone opposed? Okay, and now the good stuff...

Dr. Lazos: Let me just kind of stop there. If we have to get all this work done by April 30th, which is also the TNTP contract and...

Woman: Dual-language.

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Dr. Lazos: Right. So, do we need to have motions so that we get that done by April 30th, or are we going to...because that's work that needs to be done pursuant to the [crosstalk 00:59:13.392]

Dr. Malich: So, Jeff?

Jeff: Jeff Dorocak, for the record. No, we don't need a motion for it because we know those are the deadlines, so we've got to get this stuff done by then anyway, without the board telling... But that's state charter deadlines, right?

Dr. Malich: Those are state charter [crosstalk 00:59:26.577]

Jeff: Yeah, so we're going to make it all happen to get it on an April agenda because

we've got to get that April 30th. But yeah, so we're not going to distract from that date.

Lorna: So, this is Lorna, so my understanding, and just making sure I'm clear, is that by our April meeting, we will bring back the progress toward executing those contracts, and therefore the board can vote on accepting those contracts as written, at our April meeting.

Dr. Malich: Well, technically they've already given you authority to execute those.

Lorna: Oh, so we can execute them, and...okay, we'll just report back. Dr.

Malich: [crosstalk 00:59:59.278]

Jeff: Right, right...right, our point is well taken, we could do a report item. Obviously, you'll need to...you'll want to be regularly updated in things like that, so we can do an update on who's been hired. But then to expedite all that, as Dr. Malich just mentioned, we built these items so that the officers can get together, find somebody, and then you, as president, can execute the deal so we can get that done as soon as we can, yeah.

Lorna: Perfect. Perfect. And that would include our HR firm as well, correct? Dr.

Lazos: So, it's three contracts, right?

Dr. Malich: HR is not...so, that's a good...well, no, HR is called out in the charter authority, so yes.

Dr. Lazos: Okay, HR...

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Dr. Malich: It's HR...

Dr. Lazos: ...TNTP...

Lorna: TNTP, dual-language [crosstalk 01:00:39.625]

Dr. Malich: ...dual-language of New Mexico [crosstalk 01:00:41.640] and then in here, and the agendized items include the legal and accounting.

Dr. Lazos: Right.

Lorna: Right, perfect. Okay, that's great, because...and this is Lorna Cervantes, for the record. The reason I was questioning the HR is because I know that we are currently in transfer season at CCSD right now, Miriam has been talking to these teachers, she's got a verbal commitment from them, but I'd like us to have, as a board, somebody in place for HR as quickly as possible so that we can get those teachers under a signed contract. Because what they have to do with CCSD, unless they're retiring, they have to apply for and be granted a leave of absence for three years in order to teach at a charter school. So, we want to just get that ball rolling as quickly as

possible so that those teachers can move forward. So, I'll just throw that out there as my reason for the question.

Jeff: So, I think...Jeff Dorocak, for the record, I think we will need items on the next meeting agenda to make sure that an HR firm is hired, and who else did you say, TNTP, what was it?

Dr. Malich: TNTP, and TV, and dual-language school of education in New Mexico. So, those were called out as conditions in the charter approval, so are they not able to move forward with interviewing potential candidates prior to the next meeting?

Jeff: I mean...

Dr. Malich: I thought I heard you say because they were conditions, they could move forward, but no?

Jeff: No, I thought...what I thought were the important ones were what we built into this agenda.

Dr. Malich: Oh, okay. I mean, we have 'til April 30th, so we could do in early April...

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Jeff: Right, that's it. So, this month's tasks are going to be the jobs on this agenda. We're going to have to shoot for an early April meeting, line up those spots on the agenda, and then get those positions hired by April 30th.

Dr. Malich: And really, of those three, although the charter authority wants the two...and not that they aren't important, HR becomes then the next important one.

Jeff: Right, that's the...

Dr. Malich: Curriculums [crosstalk 01:02:53.752] teachers.

Woman: Right.

Dr. Malich: Okay.

Woman: [inaudible 01:03:01]

Dr. Malich: Yes?

Rocio: This is Rocio Martinez for the record. And just for your information, the [inaudible 01:03:08] charter school program grant, but the funds will not be available until we have 501c3 documentation. And we've already passed, I believe, two reimbursement cycles, so accounting would also be a priority in order for the school to access those funds.

Woman: Okay.

Dr. Malich: In the information that the charter authority sent to Lorna and I, they called out...interesting, they didn't make these conditions, but they called out accounting firm to file 501c3, human resources, Bambee, which was noted, TNTP, which was noted. Then they also called out an insurance firm, student enrollment software, and a marketing firm. I'm not sure why student enrollment's...

Woman: Is it like the lottery software?

Dr. Malich: Okay, lottery software. Because the student information system is a non-negotiable, everyone in the state has to use Infinite Campus.

Woman: So, we really just have to contract with them to buy it. Dr.

Malich: Correct.

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Woman: We have to purchase it.

Dr. Malich: Correct. The lottery policy software we will need if we have to have a lottery. We won't know that until 45 days. So it's something we're going to want to agenda at the next meeting, in the event we need it, but we won't need it prior to mid-April.

Woman: Okay.

Dr. Malich: Okay.

Woman: While we're kind of on this, you kind of sent us a form today for application, yes, Ro?

Dr. Malich: Yep.

Woman: Do we need to approve that right now, or...?

Dr. Malich: That's already live.

Woman: Okay.

Dr. Malich: So [inaudible 01:05:04] interest form, that's just... So, the charter authority requires you to open an interest form for no less than 45 days, just to collect basic information on potential future students. After the 45 days, then depending on the returns, or the interest forms completed, then there will be a decision as to whether or not we need to have an enrollment, or an enrollment lottery, and if yes, at which grades. That is determined solely based on the number of applicants versus the number of seats. Obviously, if you were in that 45-day window, if you were to fill out the interest form,



then we have seats, then everybody's in, and we don't need this lottery policy. If we have more in any single grade level, or collectively, then we have to use a randomized lottery software to actually run the lottery.

Woman: Right. And this may be bleeding over into 13...

Jeff: Yeah, that's what I was going to suggest, why don't we go ahead... Did we vote on 11? We voted on 11, because we were going to...

Dr. Malich: I don't think...we voted on 11.

Jeff: So then we were going to go to 12, right? Here's the good stuff...

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Dr. Malich: Because then I said, "Here's the good stuff," and you interrupted me.

Woman: Okay. I got you.

Jeff: So yeah, let's go on to 12. And yeah, as Dr. Lazos said, let's save all that for 13 just so we kind of keep the recording decent.

Dr. Malich: Okay. So as I was saying, now we get to the good stuff. So, item 12 is discussion and possible action to accept up to \$1 million in grant funds from the City of Las Vegas, subject to the grant agreement with the City of Las Vegas, and subject to the terms and conditions of the City of Las Vegas' authorizing resolution, and further authorizing the president to execute the grant on behalf of City of Las Vegas Strong Start Academy Elementary Schools Incorporated. At our last city council meeting, they did, the council did unanimously approve a resolution to grant up to \$1 million that they had already approved in the final fiscal budget for this year, and so, that money is sitting. It says "up to" because we were able to use some of that money in the application process, we've used a little bit, \$18,000-ish, the rest of it is then subject to transfer into that 501c3, once that is established, so that you guys have some startup funds. So, looking for a motion to accept are up to...

Dr. Lazos: Just to make sure the board workers know that we do have, in the blue folder, the resolution of the grant that you're approving, if you want to take a look at it. And also, to inform the board that on page two, the therefore clause is very complete in the sense that all of the contracts and costs that we have just been discussing are covered in that paragraph. So for example, Miriam's salary is in there, the software is in there, the accounting firm, everything's in there. So, that is a well-drafted resolution in terms of telling us that we can be using that money to cover all the costs that we have been discussing right now. So, I make a motion that we approve...that we accept this grant that

has been generously offered by the City of Las Vegas.

Nicole: Nicole Thompson, I second it.

Woman: Oh, everyone.

Dr. Lazos: I think it...huh?

Woman: I'll second it.

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Dr. Malich: So, we have motion...

Dr. Lazos: You'll take a million? You'll take a mil?

Jeff: A cool mil. [crosstalk 01:09:00.946]

Dr. Malich: All those in favor?

All: Aye.

Dr. Malich: Is there anyone opposed? And as Sylvia pointed out in the resolution, our city attorneys did an excellent job of outlining. They asked for things that you might need startup money for, and so we tried to include in there the things that you were going to need funding for. So, that's why it was written in that way, in case we got questions from our elected body saying, why do you need to give these folks \$1 million up front, before kids even come? So, that is why.

Lorna: Tammy, before we go on, may I just mention that one of the things it said in there was the office manager, that's going to be a key role to support Miriam, and if there's any way...I don't know if there's any way even to start getting the word out there, but she really needs that office manager in place ASAP. It's going to be a really vital role to her. I know we don't have our HR firm in place, but even if by word of mouth, you guys are speaking to people who you know would be excellent in this position. Maybe they've recently retired, but still are looking for something to do, maybe they're somebody who's young and an upstart, who's really excellent as a clerical person, they could do this kind of work. They also have to be able to look at the data that's being turned into the board, and make sure that's correct. I know that's one of the stipulations written into their work. But I just want to put that out there because that's been worrying me, that she doesn't have an office manager to help support her to do some of this work right now.

Dr. Malich: Good point.

Dr. Lazos: And Tammy, can that person be put under contract in the same kind of way that you're thinking about that March 1st, and carry us over until July 1st?

Dr. Malich: We could, if the person was willing to work that way. The office staff has to be PERS. Question mark? Or just [crosstalk 01:10:59.532]

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Woman: It is administration, so I would have to get...I'll ask. Dr. Malich: All right, we'll find out. So...and I do have a potential lead, also. Lorna: Oh, excellent.

Dr. Malich: My former office manager, as a principal and from ESD, has retired from the district, is working for Acceleration Academy, and she may be interested, so...

Lorna: Oh, well, good. Excellent.

Dr. Malich: And to Lorna's point, I think an elementary office manager is used to doing supplies, to band-aids, to...the principal's secretary in a school is far from the principal's secretary. It is a school secretary. Just like my assistant at the City is the entire department's assistant, not truly mine, in an elementary setting, that becomes more critical than ever because you have so few human resources that people have to wear a lot of different hats.

Lorna: Yes. Yes, and in an elementary school, the principal does not have a secretary, the office manager serves as the manager of the office, but helps to keep the principal on track.

Dr. Malich: Same.

Woman: And so does that person that's the office manager have to have the dual language in order to speak with parents?

Dr. Malich: It would be ideal, because it's helpful if... I think one of the things that is really important to remember is when your potential parents coming in, if language becomes a barrier right off the bat, many of them say nevermind, and walk out the door. And so, I'm not saying there aren't ways around that, because not everybody at the school will be bilingual, but it's something that I think the school staff will have to remain aware of and cognizant of, and how do we...? And I think in general, I mean, many of you have been in school buildings where you feel welcome, and school buildings where you don't. Creating that welcoming environment that that parent or community member...inviting environment is really important.

Woman: And what kind of salary would you be looking for for that person? Because if you've got to have it right away...

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Dr. Malich: Do you remember what we...?

Woman: I believe it was about in the \$50,000s?

Lorna: I was thinking around \$50,000 is a typical salary for an office manager. Dr.

Lazos: Plus benefits?

Lorna: Plus benefits.

Dr. Malich: Yeah.

Lorna: Because generally, an office manager is at a level within support staff where their salary is fairly equivalent to a teacher's salary, because of the level of responsibility that they have within the building.

Dr. Malich: And remember that one of the mayor's asks in this process is that she is committed to finding the funds to help subsidize this work because she believes that the best way to ensure quality education is to have high-quality teachers, and if we're going to have high-quality teachers, you have to pay them beyond babysitter salary. In order to do that, she believes in keeping administrative costs at a minimum, and putting the dollars as close to the classroom, as close to the kids as possible. And a lot of...you know, this school is going to be small, and so that's a lot easier to do. Our teacher-class size is going to be fixed, again, very critical so that teachers have adequate time to really focus on kids. And I think it's also really important that we are prepared to address the needs of our teachers through some supporting positions that aren't necessarily administrative in nature, especially given the fact that we're going in a very unique model. And so, those things are really important. And really, the mayor really would like to show with this school and the success, to the state, if you pay teachers at the level that you want them to perform, you're more likely to have high-performing schools. It's easy to say, but the funding that comes from the state just got increased after I think 30-plus years...

Woman: I think closer to 50.

Woman: Fifty.

Dr. Malich: Fifty years? Fifty years, to \$7,000 and change per student. So, that's what the current per pupil funding is in the state of Nevada. So, 180 days of instruction, \$7,000, if you break it down by days and hours, that's where the babysitter rate comes in. The mayor's like, "I can't hire a babysitter for \$7,000" [Transcription by www.speechpad.com](http://www.speechpad.com)  
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for 180 days, seven hours a day." So, all of the salaries that we put in the budget worksheets, we went to CCSD, found average salaries, and then added 5% to those. So, those are not fixed salaries. The mayor also asked that my team research, and [inaudible 01:16:31] did research at all the private schools to get their salaries as well, just to make

sure that we are competitive in that regard. Again, we want the highest quality teachers for these young people. So...

Woman: And also, she, from my understanding of what she said, it's not just go so top heavy, because she says that the teachers are the ones that really can make the difference in how the children learn.

Dr. Malich: Absolutely. And in my past role, I for a very short time and oversaw the CCSD sponsored charter schools, and so a lot of them are very top heavy. And the other thing that I think is important to note that maybe you guys didn't even know, the statutes in Nevada do not require that all teachers in charter or private schools be licensed. It's a percentage, I think it's up to 50% now have to have a license. So, parents think I'm paying to send my child to a private school, or if I'm sending my child to a charter school, they're getting a better education, oftentimes, they're not licensed teachers. Now, I'm not suggesting that a license alone makes you a great teacher, it's like anything else, but I'm pretty sure none of us want to have surgery by somebody who really wanted to be a doctor, they wanted to be a surgeon, but they really didn't get that license because it was expensive, and they couldn't pass the test, whatever. So, I think, though, the mayor's commitment is that the expectation that the executive director that you appointed really hire licensed teachers for the classroom, not 50%, but holistically. If we have to give, maybe we'll have to give on the PE teacher, who's working on the license, but not on the third-grade teacher, because that's really important.

Other updates...

Jeff: Yeah, Tammy, why don't you read number 13, since you've been in that item.

Dr. Malich: Okay. Report by Dr. Malich on Strong Start Academy Elementary School, including upcoming deadlines, goals, charter status, and the 22-23 school year. So, with facts, we've already gone over a couple of these, but just for the sake of keeping it all in one place, the charter was approved on January 28th for an August 2022 opening. That opening, that approval was conditional on six items. The conditions include by March 1st that we will begin accepting Transcription by [www.speechpad.com](http://www.speechpad.com) Page 37 of 49 student applications, and provide an updated lottery policy that complies with NRS and MAC. Miriam has submitted to Lorna and I an updated lottery policy that we will forward to approval...that we will forward for approval, because the charter authority has to approve that. And as Ro forwarded to all of you, the City of Las Vegas' communications team did post on the city's website a form stack or a Google form allowing families to show interest. And so, that is a check. By March 1st, provide evidence that the executive director has been hired, so that action happened tonight, so check. By April 30th, provide fully executed copies of contracts with key service providers identified, TNTP, dual-language education of New Mexico, and Bambee. And then later on in the document, they identify that a human resources firm, that's who Bambee was. So, I don't

think it has to be Bambee, it has to be a human resources firm. So, action was taken tonight to get that in progress, at least, and we will agendaize specifically those items.

Item four, provide evidence that the school is in compliance with all statutes, regulations related to student transportation, including NRS 386.815 to 386.840, which comprises a number of requirements for the school to fulfill. SPCSA staff will work with the Nevada Department of Ed and the school to monitor progress so that requirements are met 30 days prior to the start of school. Rebecca has reached out to Miriam, Lorna and I, she's also scheduling a meeting with us and another charter to further explore this item. This may be a moot point in that we originally, this board had a concern about transportation in general, and then specifically for year one, in the resubmission to address one of the charter authority's concerns about having teachers spread across three incubation sites, the resubmission called for a whole grade level at one site. One of the charter authority's concerns, or one of this board's concerns were what if a parent has a kindergartener and a second-grader, and transportation is a barrier? So, the thought was that we would put in the Opportunity 180 grant passenger vans. With that comes a lot of regulatory and compliance issues, so we will entertain the conversation with the charter authority just to follow up, but that may not be something that we're going to move forward with or that we're going to need to move forward with. Until or unless there's a plan to wholesale allow for transportation, our recommendation may be that we look at bus passes or other forms of transportation. The city has a couple of different options for our unique populations, ie. we have the downtown Loop for kind of the tourist population, that has a fixed route every day, 12 hours a day, that takes people from the Stratosphere to the...I don't know...

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Woman: City Hall [crosstalk 01:22:50.267]

Dr. Malich: ...City Hall. It stops at 17 designated sites. For the homeless corridor, we also have...they also have a Loop-ish. That's not the official title.

Man: Arrow.

Dr. Malich: Arrow, thank you. The Arrow, that similarly takes people from the Courtyard, to 12 designated stops, and so it's a set schedule. Both of those systems are at no charge, so that might be something we want to look at in the future. I'm interested in hearing what the charter authority says about the regulations. They're not necessarily...it doesn't sound like they're very much in favor of us jumping into that right off the bat because of all of the compliance and regulatory requirements. By November 30th, provide evidence that a long-term facility has been secured. We have a little bit of time on that, but I'll give you an update on that nevertheless Item six was complete the SPCSA preopening process for new charter schools. Lorna, Miriam and myself have attended, and will continue attending those meetings. They're mostly about, so far, about



enrollment processes, registration packets, etc. They're more operational than they are board governance in nature, so most of that would be Miriam work, how do you handle residential affidavits, how do you handle proof of address, etc. So, all of those items I think will be easy to comply with.

Update on... So facility, for those of you who are unaware, our plan as put in the application would be to open three incubation sites, one at Acelero Alta, which is on Alta and MLK, one at Acelero Ordell, which is like Bonanza and Nellis, Bonanza and Eastern-ish, and then Acelero Lorenzi, which is at Lorenzi Park. Why those three sites? The city owns facilities at all three sites, so we have the ability to use those. The original intent was three classrooms at each site for year one as an incubation only, because A, we own them, and B, they're already licensed for little ones. They're operational right now as preschool sites. The downside to those is we're displacing preschoolers, and taking much needed preschool seats for this purpose. During COVID, not as big of a concern because they have classrooms sitting empty, as we're coming back from COVID, Angela is working diligently with our Headstart provider, Acelero, and they have expressed grave concern around this, taking those classrooms. In an attempt to be a good partner, we have offered up we need nine classrooms, potentially, if there's six at one, three at another, we'll work with you to displace the fewest number of kids. At the end of the day, if we come to an impasse, the

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lease on Acelero Alta, Alta and MLK site is up, and up to renegotiate for August, so what we could do is take that facility back for one year, operationalize that entire facility, and put all nine classrooms at one site. A much better prospect for the charter school, terrible prospect for Acelero, in terms that Alta is their busiest site, and Alta is an Early Headstart provider site, and a Headstart provider site, meaning they have babies from birth through preschool. They only have two sites that has the babies, so we're literally putting cribs out on the street, or K-9 out on the street. But so, you see the impact.

Dr. Lazos: So, what happened to the Tony Hsieh building?

Dr. Malich: So, the mayor and I met with the family and their attorney today, we are touring the site tomorrow. We are in a situation where we are going to actively pursue the site. It looks very favorable, however, the estate is in probate. So, there's a lot of legal types in this room who probably understand that far better than I do, but that means in my...what I heard is a whole lot of red tape. Our city attorney's office, if they make a compelling argument that we need to expedite this from a timing standpoint to not displace cradles on the corner of Alta and MLK, then perhaps we can move it up in the docket, but the standard time in probate court to hear something like this is four months, so we're trying to actively pursue. We are waiting for the appraisal on the site currently. And a couple of things that you need to know, that would be non-negotiable if we got the building, we are willing to give naming rights to the family, just like CCSD names a



facility, to move this along, so maybe City of Las Vegas Strong Start Academy at Tony Hsieh Hall, or Tony Hsieh Strong Start, something like that. Similar to CCSD, with naming rights, there's a lot of opportunity there to engage the family, to engage these babies, to be free thinkers, and look at, you know, what you can accomplish, and get the family engaged. They would like to engage in the school, just like any other family and naming rights, read to the kids during reading week, and maybe donate computers, and yadda, yadda. So...

Dr. Lazos: So, the board is favorably disposed to doing what you can to ween Tony Hsieh and his family to give us this building, please.

Dr. Malich: So, we are working aggressively to do that. I talked to one of my city partners, when I was walking in tonight. We have a meeting next week, at a possible alternate site. We are going full court press on the Ninth and Bridge site, Ninth...

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Woman: Bridger.

Dr. Malich: Bridger, thank you. We're really...that is our preferred site. I'm hoping by the next board meeting I can tell you that we have made an offer, but it does...the meeting today sounded very favorable. Like, the family really feels like only a school should be in that site, in Tony's heart, only a school should be there. The upside to that building is that it operated as a school up through last May...last May, a preschool at least, so from a licensing/zoning standpoint, it was functional as a school that soon, that recently, and so it would be a quick turnaround as far as getting in there, and be pretty turnkey. In the event we were to get that site, we would have kind of two options, depending on timing. Option one would be, remember that the charter authority approved us to go into these three Acelero sites, so if we modify that, we have to go back to the charter authority and seek approval. But we would seek approval, in my mind, probably in one of two ways. One would be we've got this fantastic long-term [inaudible 01:30:47] sooner than November, and we would like to open in that site in August. That would be the idea. The backup would be we got this fabulous site sooner than August, and we can have it ready to open at semester, and we would open in a temporary incubation, and use it the semester. I did ask the charter authority, and they would be open to submitting either of those to their board for approval, and those would be, they believe, favorably met. So, that's the status update on that.

As far as teachers, I will begin forwarding to Miriam, but teachers are definitely coming out of the woodworks, reaching out to me, calling me to interview with me over the telephone, calling Ro to interview with her, so we will forward those to Miriam, of course. Miriam has drafted a lottery policy, as I mentioned. My humble advice to you as a governing board is that you've hired Miriam as the executive director, let her do the operations. Stay out of the weeds of operations, that's what you hired her to do. And then

set some expectations around her updating you, briefing you as needed.

Dr. Lazos: Can I ask you two questions?

Dr. Malich: Sure.

Dr. Lazos: One is the...you've already set up a interest form, so I have a question about the marketing plan, which I think I heard you say that the charter authority wanted to have relatively quickly. And my other question is that we

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should probably develop a logo very quickly, as that always goes hand-in-hand with marketing.

Dr. Malich: Agreed, and agreed.

Dr. Lazos: So, I don't know if the city can generously offer their talent to prepare various logos for the April meeting so we can get that approved right away?

Dr. Malich: Sure. Ro?

Rocio: Yeah...Rocio Martinez, for the record. So, we had a communications with the City of Las Vegas communications team yesterday. So, the interest form [inaudible 01:33:08] further information. We are going to get, on a daily basis, an update from our IT communications team on who has filled out the interest form, in a spreadsheet format, so we can definitely forward that information over to the board and to Miriam, as well. As far as the marketing goes, what the plan is right now, since we need to kick off the interest form, and also we need to develop a website, our [inaudible 01:33:38] communications team is working with a [inaudible 01:33:41] third party company they work with to develop websites to create a domain for Strong Start Elementary School, which will serve as a landing page for parents and people that are interested. When we first started to get interest from the community for the school, we did create a flyer with a logo, so we can send that out back to the board, you guys can review and approve. The look of the flyer and the logo just match our Strong Start Academies and pre-K initiatives, and it was done with the intention that we are continuing the pre-K to elementary school pipeline through the Strong Start Academies. And if I may add [inaudible 01:34:20] connect me if I'm wrong, with SPCSA expects from us as far as the marketing plan goes, in the application we wrote in and we're going to be contracting a marketing firm to help us market the school, so anytime we wrote in the application that we would be working with a third party vendor, they're expecting a contract from us. So, we don't have to have a marketing plan rolled out to present to them, but if we are going to have a marketing firm work with us on that, then we need to be able to send that contract to them, just like we would with dual-language of New Mexico, Bambee, etc. So, that's the marketing piece of [inaudible 01:34:56] but we will have a marketing...the

logo, a marketing plan, at least the beginning stages of [inaudible 01:35:04]

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Dr. Lazos: Right. So, it would be important to really have that marketing buttoned down, so we need to have all of these slots filled...

Dr. Malich: So, you want to add that to the next agenda?

Dr. Lazos: Yeah, because I mean, you know, it's 45 days before is what counts in terms of funding, you know? So, we have to get all those slots filled before 45 days before.

Dr. Malich: Yeah. The interest form is in English and Spanish. I think that's a given, but I knew that even in this day and age, many entities put things out in English, and say Spanish is coming, even if it's geared towards the Latinx community, so...nothing irritates me more, so we made sure that it was done appropriately. And along those same lines, some of the things that need to happen fairly quickly are registration packet and registration process, as well as...there was something else, Rocio, remind me?

Dr. Lazos: To me, this really underscores that Miriam needs an assistant, like, right away.

Dr. Malich: Yes. There was something else Ro said, but I forgot. I mean [inaudible 01:36:15] I don't know, if left my head. But as we... Oh, one of the things we learned from the charter authority in our training, which I'm happy to send out...they sent us the PowerPoint. If you guys want to review it just for informational purposes, happy to send it to you all, following all of those trainings, when they send us the backup. The PowerPoint outlined a couple of things. One is that there's really almost a sense that there is a huge need for transparency around residential address. I get it to a point, but not really, because there's no zones, so I'm not sure...? But that is a big sticking point, when they come and audit records, they want a residential affidavit on file, or the address to match the bill, or to match the bill of the driver's license of the person who says that the family is residing with them. Again, in CCSD I get it because we have zones, but here, there's really no geographic zone, so it's interesting to me. I get that we need landing places for kids, and a place to send mail, don't get me wrong... The other thing is the funding. So, my recommendation to the board is there's two different methodologies for funding new schools. One is that they take an April 15th count based on these interest forms, and they forward fund you for those kids in good faith, and then they true up at the end of each attendance reporting period. So on April 15th, you said

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that you had 150 kids interested, we'll go ahead and pre-fund you in your May funding for these, or in the June...

Lorna: It's June 15th, isn't it?

Dr. Malich: Is it June? In that July 1st funding. And then in August, we'll true up, and you may get no funding, or you may get...you get the difference, right? And then each attendance period is a true up, anyways, some kids may withdraw, some kids may come, etc. For new schools, if you do that, then you're subject to a bigger audit process. The other option is to forego that, and say we have some front-loaded funding, and so we'd rather just wait and do it at the back end, and not true up, so get the funding on the actual bodies. My recommendation to you, for Miriam's sanity, would be to do that because the city is front-loading some funding, instead of putting her under this microscope of kids that we hope will come. That just makes more sense to me, rather than spending money that is kind of soft money, or iffy money. The other thing is...

Dr. Lazos: Tammy, do you want to put on the agenda for next time, so that we make a decision on what [crosstalk 01:39:36.435]

Dr. Malich: Sure [crosstalk 01:39:37.107]

Dr. Lazos: Yeah.

Dr. Malich: The other thing that we'll also have to agendize for next time is the city approved...at the same board meeting, at the same city council meeting as this item, the city also had an item to approve the ARPA funding. That was approved by city council. My team asked for additional funding for the charter school through ARPA funds, and that was granted. So, we will agendize that for the next meeting as well.

Jeff: What was that on?

Dr. Malich: Wait until we see what we do with the Hsieh building, because we may need to use some of the FUNDS. It would be up to...

Dr. Lazos: Oh, that was another...my other thought, if we have Tony Hsieh's name in there, you're going to have the domain...is going to have to include Tony Hsieh's name.

Dr. Malich: Okay. Up to \$6 million. And then their Opportunity 180 money is...

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Woman: Up to \$750,000.

Dr. Malich: Up to \$750,000...

Lorna: And that's the majority for the...Operation 180 is mostly for buying the

curriculum, furniture, things like that that we need, the physical things that you need in the school, our supplies.

Woman: And I can forward that budget over to the board as well. But yeah, the main expenditures [inaudible 01:41:04] curriculum, we also wrote in professional development, so the price point for the dual-language of New Mexico was in that, and some furniture and fixtures for the [crosstalk 01:41:14.273]

Woman: Technology.

Woman: ...technology, yes.

Lorna: So, this is a timing issue, but you know, you have all the Strong Start Academy prepays, is there going to be...at what point are you going to say here's the form for the charter school, here's the materials for the charter school, your kid for pre-K can then go to kindergarten here? Is that something that you have [crosstalk 01:41:35.387]

Dr. Malich: So, the charter authority will not allow them to have preferential seats, but we can market to them specifically. So yes, we can market to our Strong Start Academy kiddos, and we also, I've said to many of you, but just for transparency purposes, we have also requested an additional position on the city side, so a city employee who would be a liaison to our educational programs. The liaison position would be to help support Miriam, and make sure that the mayor and I are up to speed operationally on an ongoing basis. The person will report to Angela, and will also work with our pre-K programs. The hope is that when the school gets up and running, that we can also backwards map back to our preschool so that those kiddos have a strong foundation to come into the program more seamlessly. That doesn't mean they have to come or they're guaranteed to come, but it just paves a pathway for them to come.

And imagine...I think everyone knows, because we've had the conversation with all of you, but imagine these babies, in a couple of years, that we'll have had, potentially, from age three through grade five in a true dual-language bi-literacy

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model...wow, that's pretty awesome. I wish I had been... I'm mad at my mom for not putting in [crosstalk 01:43:13.536]

Woman: I don't know if it existed, Tammy.

Dr. Malich: So, those are...

Woman: [inaudible 01:43:20] the marketing teams, I need to clarify with our communications team as far as how much they can get involved in pushing out the school [inaudible 01:43:30] So, let me get that clarification, because...so I can give you

a final answer on that. I know that on our side, like, we can, you know, create a flyer or etc., but as far as actually promoting the school [inaudible 01:43:43] And if they come back and they're not able to, then we'll [inaudible 01:43:49]

Woman: Right. And just on top of that, I think one thing that's been on my mind for the last week or two, I've been seeing Channel 8 connections with the GALS Academy, that was just recently approved also. So, I've been thinking about maybe we should be having our little information out on Univision, Telemundo, and Channel 8 [crosstalk 01:44:19.069]

Woman: So, that's one of the things that our communications team, I already...I spoke to Graham this morning, and that probably will be coming soon. We're reaching out to [inaudible 01:44:25] some interviews.

Woman: So, I just want to clarify, sometimes, in some companies, they have a marketing plan, and then they have a communications plan. And so, we have been talking about it together, so I would just ask that you kind of when you are developing this, that you have clarity that we need both a marketing plan, and a communications plan. And I don't know if you want to bring that next April, or you want to merge it together, it doesn't matter. But I mean, we really need both [crosstalk 01:44:54.432] and we really need to get the word out, and get the council people, you know...like, we need [inaudible 01:45:00] team to be able to get the word out [inaudible 01:45:03]

Dr. Malich: Definitely [crosstalk 01:45:05.691] I also would suggest to all of you as board members that we need a...you all need a strategic presence in the community. I know that many of you, Sylvia, Elaine, Lorna, Nicole are trusted community members in your respective communities, getting fliers out, getting information out, being able to answer questions as board members, as we're

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trying to build up student seats, registration for opening year, I think that's really important. We can certainly deliver flyers to our community centers, but we need more targeted outreach than that to make sure our opening year projection is to fill 180 seats, 60 kindergarteners, 60 1st graders, 60 2nd graders. It's not a lot, but it could be a lot if we have two, right? So, making sure that we are strategically marketing on an individual basis, in addition to. As Dimitri said, the requirement under statute is that you meet no less than once per quarter. I don't think that's possible to open the school in August and meet quarterly, so my strong...like, we will arm wrestle before you leave the room if you disagree, is that you need to get monthly minimally between now and getting the school up and running, and then I'll leave it to your expertise to see how often you think is appropriate beyond that. But I don't think you're going to be able to open the school in August less than...meeting less than that. So...



Lorna: Agreed. This is Lorna Cervantes, for the record., and I would agree with that. I think given the list of what has to be done between now and August, I think that we're going to have to meet at least monthly in order to accomplish all the tasks that are on the list.

Dr. Lazos: So, I mean, I think we're looking at the next meeting to be scheduled for the first week of April.

Dr. Malich: Yes, ma'am.

Dr. Lazos: Per your availability, or you [crosstalk 01:47:25.845] Spring Break I think actually starts on March 14th through the 18th.

Woman: Spring Break.

Woman: Spring Break for CCSD is the 11th to the 15th.

Woman: Okay.

Woman: Yeah, it's always the week before Easter. No, of April. [crosstalk 01:47:45.761]

Jeff: Well, does that first week in April not work for anybody? Dr. Malich: I would like [inaudible 01:47:50] the first week in April. Lorna: It's fine with me.

Woman: Spring Break is in April?

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Woman: For CCSD. It's always the week before Easter. At least it has been traditionally, up until now. Up until next year.

Dr. Malich: So, I can do...I can do Tuesday the 5th, at the same time, I can do Wednesday the 6th at the same time. Is there a day of the week that isn't good for anyone?

Dr. Lazos: I mean for me, Mondays and Wednesdays are out. Dr.

Malich: Okay.

Dr. Lazos: I teach in the evening.

Dr. Malich: Okay, so Tuesday the 5th?

Dr. Lazos: Yep.



Dr. Malich: Tuesday the 5th, 4:00?

Dr. Lazos: Yes. Same place?

Dr. Malich: Good.

Dr. Lazos: Same place?

Dr. Malich: Here? This works for me, is this convenient for all of you? Woman:  
I can get here.

Dr. Malich: We tried to be sensitive to Nicole, since Nicole is teaching, and teaches closer to here. Again, I would implore the board to stay closer to Nicole because she's coming from the classroom to get here.

Lorna: Yeah, if this works for you, it works...

Woman: Yeah, it works for me.

Dr. Malich: This is our space, so we can... [crosstalk 01:49:00.771] Dr.

Lazos: I now know how to get here. Thank you.

Woman: Yeah, now that we know how to get here, we're fine. Transcription by

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Dr. Malich: First time is... And when you all drove in...well, not Sylvia, but when the rest of you drove in, that bus that was there was one of Angela's Strong Start [inaudible 01:49:13] parked in the parking lot.

Woman: Terrific.

Jeff: Tammy, do you want to wrap up, and do 14 and 15 on the agenda? Dr.

Malich: No.

Jeff: Oh, we're staying? Okay.

Dr. Malich: So, item 14 is citizen participation, public comment. During this portion of

the agenda, it must be limited to matters within the jurisdiction of the board. No subject may be acted upon by the board unless the subject is on the agenda, and is scheduled for action. If you wish to be heard, come forward and give your name for the record, and you're limited to two minutes. Do we have any public comment, citizen participation?

Dr. Lazos: I'll make public comment, and say thank you to the staff. Excellent work, as always. I'm very, very grateful for your work. And hopefully this will soon be concluded in terms of staff time, and we'll take over.

Dr. Malich: Thank you. Item 15, adjournment. So, thank you all. We appreciate...special thank you to our attorneys for being here with us, and getting us kicked off.

Jeff: Thank you.

Woman: All right...