



Board Meeting Agenda

December 10, 2024, from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.
430 Beacon Lite Rd., Suite 150, Monument, CO 80132

- I. PRELIMINARIES
 - A. Call to order
 - B. Roll call
 - C. Welcome to guests
 - D. Pledge of Allegiance
 - E. Public Comment
- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- III. CONSENT AGENDA
 - A. Approval of November 2024 Board Meeting Minutes
- IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS
 - A. Legislative Issues and Updates – Amy Atwood
 - B. New School Presentation – Woodland Learning Collective – Hannah Ertl
 - C. Preliminary 2024-2025 Amended Budget – Annette Ridgway
 - D. Home School Enrichment Application Review – Trevor Miller
 - i. 5 Acre Woods Homeschool Enrichment Program
 - ii. ICode
 - iii. San Juan Nature Academy
 - iv. The Trek Adventure Club
 - v. The Well Homeschool Enrichment
- V. BOARD REPORTS
 - A. Education and Operations
 - B. Finance
- VI. ADJOURN



Regular Meeting of EDUCATION reENVISIONED BOCES

430 Beacon Lite Rd., Suite 150, Monument, CO 80132 & Video Conference

Tuesday, November 12, 2024, at 4:30pm

Board President Lis Richard in the Chair, and Dee Frank acting as Secretary

Guests/Staff-Physically Present: Annette Ridgway, Ken Witt, Brad Miller, Jackie Burhans, James Howald, Trevor Miller

Guest/Staff-Electronic Participation: Amy Atwood, Rachel Meyer, Nicole Tiley

Board of Directors Roll Call:

	Drosendahl, Bethany	Graham, John	Harris, Chelsy	Richard, Lis	Salazar, James
Here	X	X	X		X
Not Here				X(excused)	

Approval of Agenda:

Motion: Salazar moved to approve the agenda.

Second: Graham, second the motion

Motion Passed: 4 - 0

	Drosendahl	Graham	Harris	Richard	Salazar
Voted AYE	X	X	X		X
Voted NAY					
Not at mtg.				X	
Abstain					

Approval of Consent

Agenda:

Motion: Salazar, to approve the consent agenda

Second: Graham, second the motion

Motion Passed: 4 - 0

	Drosendahl	Graham	Harris	Richard	Salazar
Voted AYE	X	X	X		X
Voted NAY					
Not at mtg.				X	
Abstain					



Approval for Agenda Action Items:

IV.A. -Financial Audit

Motion: Salazar, moves to approve 2023-2024 Financial Audit as published

Second: Graham, second the motion

Motion Passed: 4 - 0

	Drosendahl	Graham	Harris	Richard	Salazar
Voted AYE	X	X	X		X
Voted NAY					
Not at mtg.				X	
Abstain					

IV.B.-Policy Review

Motion: No Action needed

Second:

Motion Passed:

	Drosendahl	Graham	Harris	Richard	Salazar
Voted AYE					
Voted NAY					
Not at mtg.					
Abstain					

Adjourn:

President pro-tem Bethany Drosendahl adjourned the meeting at 5:12 pm

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by: Dee Frank, Acting Secretary



BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Board Meeting Date: December 10, 2024

Prepared by: Annette Ridgway

Title of Agenda Item: IV.C. Preliminary 2024-2025 Amended Budget

Item Type: ☐ Action ☒ Discussion ☐ Information

Background Information, Description of Need:

Colorado Revised Statute 22-44-110(5) indicates that “After the adoption of the budget, the board may review and change the budget, with respect to both revenues and expenditures at any time prior to January 31 of the fiscal year for which the budget was adopted.” This item is presented in compliance with statutory guidance.

Relevant Data and Expected Outcomes:

Differences from the Original Budget to the Preliminary Amended Budget:

- Enrollment is 6% higher or 437 full-time equivalent students (sFTE) resulting in an additional \$4.4M in Program Revenue and a corresponding increase of \$4.2M in Contracted Educational Services Expense.

Type	Original Budget	Amended Budget	Inc/Dec
Brick & Mortar	105.0	270.5	165.5
Homeschool Enrichment	2,762.0	2,591.0	(171.0)
Individualized Contracted Edu	15.0	59.0	44.0
Multi-District Online	4,317.0	4,715.5	398.5
Total	7,199.0	7,636.0	437.0

- ERBOCES Expenses increased by \$88K driven by staffing increases, \$122K, and cost of a potential SIS conversion, \$30K, offset by savings in General Liability Insurance, (\$37K) and Site Visit Costs (\$50K).
- Grant Revenue increased by \$274K driven primarily by higher Exceptional Children’s Education Act (ECEA) allocations, \$188K, and the pass through of English Language Proficiency Act (ELPA) funding, \$42K, from D49.



Recommended Course of Action/Motion Requested:

No motion is requested at this time. The final 2024-2025 Amended Budget will be presented for board approval before January 31, 2025.



BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Board Meeting Date: December 10, 2024

Prepared by: Trevor Miller, Director of Education Operations

Title of Agenda Item: First Review of HSE Programs

Item Type: ☐ Action ☒ Discussion ☐ Information

Background Information, Description of Need:

The Education reEnvisioned BOCES has received completed Homeschool Enrichment applications from 5 Acre Woods Homeschool Enrichment Program, ICode, San Juan Nature Academy, The Trek Adventure Club and The Well Homeschool Enrichment. The applicants seek approval from the ER BOCES Board of Education to open in the Fall of 2025.

The review team has developed a new process for reviewing applications. We believe this process allows for more interaction with the applicant and a better understanding of the partnership. In turn, this will help the applicants to receive more meaningful feedback and ensure a better onboarding experience and ultimately be better set up for success as a program.

We have also revised the application itself with a few goals in mind. The new application will provide more clarity for each item that is requested, simplify each section while retaining the quality standards we are looking for, and adding and removing items that have become more or less relevant to HSE programs over time.

With that said, each of these first 5 reviews were conducted with the old version of the application due to timing and when the application was revised.

5 Acre Woods Homeschool Enrichment Program was reviewed by the ER BOCES team. The following information summarizes the findings from the review.

Summary:



5 Acre Woods Homeschool Enrichment Program is located in **Palmer Lake, Colorado** and primarily focuses on fostering a love for history, nature, art and literature. Their mission is to provide a rich understanding of **social studies** taught in a project-based, hands-on manner. They appeal to a wide base of learners and teach in a learning style that includes visual, auditory, reading/writing, and especially tactile-kinesthetic learning.

They serve **grades 1-8**. Their community consists of home school families who value rich content, imaginative play, good citizens who know how to engage in public discourse, and an appreciation of nature and culture.

Application Strengths:

- **Foundation:** The program was developed in 2022 and already has students enrolled. While it is a smaller program, they have their core curriculum in place and program processes already put together.
- **Personnel:** One of the operators worked for Real Red Riding Hoods and has a close relationship with a program that is already partnered with the ER BOCES.
- **Facility:** 5 Acre Woods already has a facility that fulfills the needs of the program with room to grow and a long term plan.

Application Challenges:

- **Absence of SMART Goals:** The program fails to meet the standard for true SMART goals. With that said, SMART goals have been revised for the updated application and it would be unfair to grade them with a standard we are not asking of newer applicants.
- **Program Integration:** At first, it was not clear why they did not choose to combine with Real Red Riding Hoods (RRRH). However, after talking with the applicant, their reasoning made sense.
- **Insurance Compliance:** While they claim to already have the coverage that is needed, we have yet to receive proof of coverage.
- **Budget:** The programs budget has discrepancies between what they project to make and what they will actually be receiving from the state.

Recommendations:

To address the identified challenges and strengthen the application, 5 Acre Woods Homeschool Enrichment Program should consider the following actions:

- **Provide Proof of Insurance:** 5 Acre Woods needs to provide proof of current coverage.
- **Expand on SMART Goals:** While we are not grading harshly on SMART goals, I would still like to see a better response for that question.
- **Update Budget:** Revise budget based on new information from the ER BOCES team.
- **Include Curriculum Detail:** While we are not concerned with the curriculum for 5 Acre Woods, we would like to see more detail overall.
- **Competition:** This program is adjacent in many ways to the RRRH program. After talking with them, this is not a major concern but should be something they give thought to.



ICode was reviewed by the ER BOCES team. The following information summarizes the findings from the review.

Summary:

ICode **Cherry Creek**, is committed to delivering comprehensive **STEAM** (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) education to students in grades K-8. Their mission is to make high-quality, accessible STEAM education available to all families, equipping students with essential skills for success in an increasingly technology-driven world. By fostering critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving abilities, iCode prepares students for the challenges and opportunities of tomorrow.

Their vision is to become the leading provider of STEAM education in Colorado, empowering a diverse community of learners to excel academically and in real-world applications. Starting with an initial enrollment of **15 students in Year 1**, they plan to grow steadily, **reaching 80 students by Year 5**. This controlled growth ensures that iCode Cherry Creek can maintain high educational standards and sustainable financial practices.

Application Strengths:

- Mission and Vision: ICode received almost a perfect score for mission and vision showing that they know who they are and what they are about.
- Personnel: ICode already knows who and how they will recruit their instructors with a goal to provide opportunities for younger developers and computer engineers.
- Facility: ICode already has a facility in place with many strong local connections in their area as well.
- Community Engagement: There is already interest from their local homeschool community asking for a way to get involved with the program.
- Student Ratio: The program has a plan for a 1:5 student to teacher ratio for in person classes.
- Student Opportunity: There is a strong potential for students to immediately leave the program with specific coding credentials and job opportunities.

Application Challenges:

- Educational Knowledge: While the program is well built and seems to have a good foundation, there is a lack of knowledge regarding traditional Colorado education pieces such as PPR and state funding, hour requirements, attendance, etc.
- Budget: The program needs to provide a better explanation of where they are receiving funds and where it is going.
- Credentials: There is promise of potential accreditation through ICode, however it may require additional hours outside of the program itself.
- Program Prerequisites: There is mention of prerequisites in order to join the program. This will need to be a longer conversation to determine how accommodations will be provided to students.

Recommendations:

To address the identified challenges and strengthen the application, ICode should consider the following actions:

- Education Knowledge: Cody should prioritize connecting with Trevor and team to discuss what the state requires in order to receive funding. Getting his head wrapped around that will help tremendously down the road.
- Revised Budget: Due to new knowledge ICode has received about funding for their program, they need to revise their budget.
- Accreditation Plan: ICode needs to come up with a plan for acquiring coding credentials for students if they are not able to obtain them during the normal program.
- Accommodations: ICode needs to create and communicate their plan for accommodating students who do not meet the prerequisites of the program.

San Juan Nature Academy was reviewed by the ER BOCES team. The following information summarizes the findings from the review.

Summary:

San Juan Nature Academy serves **26 students K-6 in Durango**. Their program operates one day a week. SJMA has a partnership with the local National Forest and BLM allowing them to operate educational programs on public lands without the need for a permit. Additionally, SJMA owns and operates the Durango Nature Center. Between the many trails available on public lands and the Durango Nature Center, they are learning outside each week regardless of weather.

The curriculum of their program is centered largely around their mission statement, which is to **“inspire and empower connection to and responsible use of the spectacular public lands of southwest Colorado.”** This can be summed up by their tagline, which is their guiding star: “Explore, Learn, Protect.” Throughout the year they connect students to their landscape by helping them explore the outdoors, learn about their environment and how to be comfortable outside, and ultimately to instill a sense of stewardship and care for the region.

Application Strengths:

- Foundation: San Juan Nature Academy has a firm grasp of what the ER BOCES is all about considering that they used to be part of another program.
- Targeted Population: Their program, because it is already in operation and they have students already enrolled, knows who they are and what they want to provide to their local homeschool community.
- Location and Facilities: Because of the type of course San Juan Nature Academy wants to offer, their location and facilities arrangement is pretty straightforward.
- Communication: The program is very responsive and understanding of what is required from the state and is able to meet deadlines.

Application Challenges:

- Transportation: The program plans to offer transportation but does not have a clear plan for it.
- Mission and Vision: While it is not a major concern, the program did not offer up a concise mission and vision statement.
- Revenue: San Juan Nature Academy mentioned sources of revenue that did not add up in their budget for the program.
- Calendar and Bell Schedule: San Juan Nature Academy did not provide a calendar or bell schedule in their original application.
- Bell Schedule Changes: In the application, the program mentioned wanting to update their class schedule from week to week without setting a firm schedule.

Recommendations:

To address the identified challenges and strengthen the application, San Juan Nature Academy should consider the following actions:

- Transportation Plan: The applicant should consider drafting a transportation plan that includes insurance, student count, drivers, etc.
- Mission Statement: San Juan Nature Academy needs to submit a true mission and vision statement in their application.
- Calendar Revision: San Juan Nature Academy needs to condense their calendar into a structured and consistent week to week course.

The Trek Adventure Club was reviewed by the ER BOCES team. The following information summarizes the findings from the review.

Summary:

TREK Enrichment is a neighborhood youth development program based in **Summit County, Colorado** serving the next generation of leaders ages **5 to 18 years old**. The mission at TREK is to enhance and complement the efforts of parents that have chosen to homeschool their children through community, **hands-on learning and nature-based experiences**. TREK Enrichment is a Colorado **Non-profit** organization managed and directed by a Board of Directors. They currently have 4 Board Members.

Application Strengths:

- Mission and Vision: While long winded, their mission and vision statements show the dedication and passion for what they are trying to achieve in Summit County for the homeschool families in that area.
- Networking: The applicant has strong relationships with multiple organizations and entities in the area that they can lean on for hands-on experience and opportunities.
- Leadership and Instructors: Their program has a strong structure in place and a clear plan for hiring and developing a strong team.

Application Challenges:

- Facility: Even though it may not be an issue, housing two different courses in the same building at the same time with limited space, may present some unique challenges.
- Discipline: The program needs to develop a strong plan for discipline that aligns with the ER BOCES expectations.
- Budget: There are some concerns about balancing the budget and making sure they manage cash flow effectively.
- Calendar: There are some discrepancies in the program calendar and meeting the 90 hour requirement.

Recommendations:

To address the identified challenges and strengthen the application, The Trek Adventure Club should consider the following actions:

- Facility Plan: The applicant should develop a plan for how they will house and conduct class for two different age groups in the same building.
- Discipline Plan: The program will benefit from understanding what options are for “expulsion” or overall student discipline.
- Calendar Revision: The applicant should submit an updated calendar with appropriate days and hours per semester for compliance.

The Well Homeschool Enrichment was reviewed by the ER BOCES team. The following information summarizes the findings from the review.

Summary:

The Well has been in operation since August 2019 with a focus on **developing leadership** in homeschool students by fostering good character, providing a strong academic foundation and supplying diverse and individualized civic enrichment opportunities. Their program currently serves over **25 students in kindergarten through 12th grade**. They currently lease the facilities at **605 18th St SW in Loveland**, including 4 classrooms, an indoor gym, and outdoor playground. They currently serve students in Larimer and Weld Counties.

Application Strengths:

- Classical Curriculum: The program has identified a desire for a classical education from their local homeschool community.
- Vision and Mission: The applicant has a clearly defined mission and vision.
- Discipline: The program has a well developed discipline plan that coincides with
- Accommodations: The applicant has a good understanding and plan for accommodating students with special needs.
- Facilities: The program has a lease agreement with a current owner with multiple backup options for expansion or location change.

**Application Challenges:**

- 90 Hour Requirement: The program needs to adjust their calendar and bell schedule due to an updated understanding of the requirements.
- Curriculum: While there is a clear overarching theme for the program, the curriculum needs to be better defined.
- Definition and Details: The program overall knows what it is but needs to provide additional detail and explanation for a lot of its processes. There are quite a few places where I would like to see more thought going into it.

Recommendations:

To address the identified challenges and strengthen the application, The Well Homeschool Enrichment should consider the following actions:

- Calendar Update: Due to a new understanding surrounding the 90 hour requirement and ER BOCES suggestions, the program should revisit and revise the calendar.
- Course and Program Definition: There is a lot of great things to be excited about for this program but there are a lot of places where more detail and explanation will help the program to be set up for success and provide even clearer direction and structure.



BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Board Meeting Date: December 10, 2024

Prepared by: Trevor Miller and Suzanne Romero

Title of Agenda Item: V.A. Education and Operations Board Report

Item Type: ☐ Action ☐ Discussion ☒ Information

Background Information, Description of Need:

Administrative Unit Work

- BOCES staff begun working with schools to complete the parent satisfaction survey for parents of students in special education for the Colorado Department of Education (CDE).
- BOCES staff has completed the Special Program Check with all schools and addressed development of compliant plans and tracking accommodations for state assessments.
- The BOCES staff is preparing for the December Count submission with CDE.

Operations Team

- 18 evaluative site visits have been completed to date. Kristina and Trevor have worked closely to improve the process and increase communication between programs and the ER BOCES.
- 5 new programs have completed applications and are in the review process with many more new programs approaching completion as well.
- Rachel is spearheading an internal BOCES website for new programs and operators to see deadlines and submit forms through a streamlined process. They will also be able to have a heads-up calendar for due dates, meetings, and other important dates.
- Many systems are being built to improve communication to HSEs for the spring semester and new program onboarding.
- The audit process is entering the first phase with preliminary submissions due on December 11. This is a new process this year and will be a learning experience for the BOCES staff.

Relevant Data and Expected Outcomes:

Our team continues to serve the community of school and program operators to ensure we are optimizing successful opportunities for all students.

Recommended Course of Action/Motion Requested:

There is no recommended course of action or motion requested at this time.



BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Board Meeting Date: December 10, 2024

Prepared by: Annette Ridgway

Title of Agenda Item: V.B.-Finance Board Report

Item Type: ☐ Action ☐ Discussion ☒ Information

Background Information, Description of Need:

The Board of Directors needs to, at least quarterly, be informed of the financial position and performance of the organization and this report is intended to satisfy that legal requirement.

Relevant Data and Expected Outcomes:

2024-2025 Budget to Actual Variance Analysis, Grant Revenue and Expense Report, Balance Sheet, and High-Level Financial Trend Report are provided for board review.

November 2024

During the first few months of the school year, large variances exist between budget and actual for Program Revenue and Professional Educational Services Expense. These variances are driven by the following factors:

- Actual Program Revenue is based on Oct 2023 student count and Budget Program Revenue is based on estimated Oct 2024 student count.
- Actual Professional Educational Services Expense is based on current enrollment and pre-funding agreements. Budget Professional Educational Services Expense is based on estimated Oct 2024 student count.

Budget and Actual will become more closely aligned after Oct 2024 student count is final and funding true-ups are realized in Dec.

ERBOCES is currently 'pre-funding' over 1,500 new students.

ERBOCES distributed \$2.3M Exceptional Children's Education Act (ECEA) grant funding to schools with qualifying students.