



CMCA / The Vanguard School BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS



Welcome. We're glad you are here at one of the most vital parts of involvement in the life of Colorado's most successful and longstanding charter schools.

Our meetings are held in accordance with our bylaws and under the authority of the Colorado Open Meetings Act. We hold closed executive sessions for discussion of personnel, contracts and real estate either before or after public meetings, or both, or on other occasions entirely. Those sessions are recorded on audiotape and no votes are taken. We hold public sessions for all other matters during which our quorum votes.

We run our meetings with parliamentary procedure in Robert's Rules of Order. Robert's states: *"Parliamentary procedure enables members to take care of business in an efficient manner and to maintain order while business is conducted. It ensures that everyone gets the right to speak and vote. Parliamentary procedure takes up business one item at a time and promotes courtesy, justice, and impartiality. It ensures the rule of the majority while protecting the rights of the minority and absent members. Adhering to parliamentary procedure is democracy in action."*

We're flexible in our formality but nonetheless are committed to conducting our business in the open according to Robert's. Here are some guidelines to help you better understand how we conduct business and how you can effectively participate.

This is a meeting of the Board of Directors to which the public is invited. The Board publishes an agenda in accordance with our bylaws at least 24 hours in advance and our regular meetings are regularly scheduled throughout the school calendar year on the first Wednesday of each month in The Vanguard School library. Many agenda items are enumerated in the previous month's public meeting as well.

The Board hears reports and presentations, and the Directors make, second, and discuss motions, and vote by simple majority. During this discussion, Directors will speak in favor of or against the motion, ask questions or discuss. An agenda item always exists for visitor comments whereby anyone may make any comments to the Board relative to the Board's scope. Directors may choose to respond or not, as they determine appropriate. Comments are addressed to the chairman and crosstalk is discouraged in order to give everyone the full opportunity to make their comments without prejudice. This promotes courtesy, justice, impartiality, and equality.

The Board may or may not choose to hear from visitors during any specific motion discussion, but often we do. The chairman of the meeting recognizes those wishing to speak and a time limit may be set. The Board may vote to limit discussion as well by a two-thirds majority. A person may not speak a second time until all who wish to speak on a motion have been recognized. People should speak to the issues and not to personalities or motives. Everyone is expected to listen as others speak, one at a time.

All these guidelines exist to ensure impartiality and that all sides of an issue are given equal weight in order for all to come to conclusions with the highest integrity.

We care deeply about the students, families, and staff of the school and this is our best way to conduct the business of the Board in the fairest and most open manner. We thank you for your presence with us and we encourage your involvement at the school.

Steve Bowlby, President

Vicki Card, Vice President

Dede Schuck, Secretary

Carole Tripoli, Director

George Williams, Director