PINE FOREST EDUCATION ASSOCIATION, INC.

PINE FOREST CHARTER SCHOOL

2257 E. Cedar Avenue, Flagstaff, AZ 86004

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

3:30 p.m.

Monday, January 26, 2026

Doors Open at 3:25

Virtual Platform opens at 3:25 - Request Link at Front Desk

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Pursuant to Arizona revised Statutes (A.R.S. 38-431.02), notice is hereby given to the members of the Pine Forest Education Association, Inc., Pine Forest Charter School Governing Board, and to the general public, that the Directors and Governing Board will hold a public meeting, open to the public as specified below in the designated board meeting room at Pine Forest Charter School, Flagstaff, AZ. The Board reserves the right to change the order of items on the agenda, with the exception of public hearings set for a specific time.

Pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03.A.2, the Board may vote to go into Executive Session, which will not be open to the public, for legal advice concerning any item on the agenda, for protection of confidentiality of parties or to review, discuss and consider records exempt by law from public inspection, including the receipt and discussion of information or testimony that is specifically required to be maintained as confidential by state or federal law.

Persons with a disability may request reasonable accommodation, such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting Kelly Jecmen at 928- 779-9880. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange accommodation.

DATED AND POSTED this _____day of _____2026 at _____.

By_____ Cindy Roe, Executive Director

Governing Board General Meeting Minutes Draft

I. WELCOME – Call to order at 3:33 PM

A. Verse: The Social Ethic - *The healthy social life is found when in the mirror of each human soul the whole community finds its reflection; and when in the community the virtue of each one is living.*

B. Mission: Pine Forest School provides an education of the whole child and is dedicated to helping individuals achieve their full intellectual, emotional, and physical potential in a sustainable and beautiful environment which reinforces integrity, understanding, respect, and trust. Guided by the Core Principles of Public Waldorf Education, we prepare our children to walk into the future with confidence and the necessary tools to create a better world.

C. Roll Call (X-present, A-absent): Alex Carpenter **X** Jesse Finney **X** Jenny Cummiskey **X** Kate Mareck **X** Becca Dickerson **X** Ex Officio: Cindy Roe **X** Kelly Jecmen **X** Guest/Faculty: Suny Savage **X** Levi Miller **X** Georgia Taylor **X**

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion to approve agenda of 1/26/26 meeting by Kate Mareck; second by Jenny Cummiskey Unanimous

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A. Governing Board Minutes: November 24, 2025
Motion to approve by Kate Mareck; second by Jesse Finney. Unanimous.

IV. CALL TO THE PUBLIC (This is the time for the public to comment. Members of the Board may not discuss items that are not specifically identified on the agenda. Therefore, pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.01.G., action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the matter, responding to any criticism, or scheduling the matter for further consideration and decision at a later date.)

N/A

V. REPORTS

A. Faculty:

Meetings:

- Focus on restructuring faculty meetings, giving faculty some Wednesdays to work in their classrooms and get caught up, while still coming together at the end for some time together.
- Janus meeting- shared intentions with each other and reflections on the past year.
- Many main lesson block immersions with teachers in 3-7.
- Reviewing Winterfaire
- Reviewing Math curriculum
- Fundraising discussions on

Fundraisers:

- Popcorn fundraiser is coming up for middle school teachers who are interested, put together by Jenny
- Pickles, popcorn, and pizza still going on.
- 8th has a Go Fund me.

Field Trips/Events:

- 6th grade play this Wednesday and Thursday on Robin Hood
- 8th changed field trip to Zion for a week
- Starting to look towards training for Medieval Games and Pentathlon

Core Principle Work: Child Development in Curriculum:

Main Lesson Block Immersion with Mrs. Miller, 4th Grade

a. Aligning 4th grade animal projects with Steiner's true intentions of the relationship between humans and animals rather than the facts about each animal. The block was never meant to be a scientific block, it was meant to allow the child to meet the natural world in a way that reflects their inner life. Gives kids empathy, reverence and inner understanding instead of scientific memorization.

i. Two options for project:

1. Story Based: Read to second graders. Give a tale that describes the life of an animal and its family, and its life, including its hardships, with a moral of the story at the end.

a. Ex: Lets students relate to the elephants as a person

2. Explanatory: Give to 3rd graders as they start to think about their 4th grade project. Use sources but instead of giving facts, talk about gestures and observations about them. How it lives its daily life, etc using descriptive words. How it connects to us as humans, to their environment, etc. Read it to third graders.

B. Sets an intention for middle school science and not memorizing scientific facts, but connecting to sciences through the heart as well.

Main Lesson Block 3rd Grade: Cindy

A. 3rd Grade has a heavy influence on time.

a. 2nd 7 year cycle allows for time to be experienced in a new way so there is a heavy emphasis on daily rhythms, rhythmic memory, seasonality, and time telling. More consciousness of self allows for this deeper connection as they come down to earth a little bit more.

b. Consciousness of self also encourages the students to be more connected to sorting, classifying and organizing and memory building.
c. During this "awake" time, students learn the old testament and indigenous peoples stories as well, giving them a connection to human creation stories, and how to live on the earth now that they are settling into it more.
i. Makes them think of their own future destiny and brings about personal growth.

1. This can bring about fear and trepidation too though, as they start to feel separate from the whole as they start molding their identity. Old Testament stories are comforting for this because its about people living a life of wisdom and truth and learning that loving authority will always be there to support them as they start becoming independent. This means that the loving authorities need to be able to be looked up to, making sure to speak the truth to build trust to the outer world for the kids.

"Learning to tell time - new rhythmic memory
Learning Measurement - taking measure of the world around them
Tools and practical skills - how to live on the earth now that i am out of the cosmos
Stories of loving authority - i will have guidance and help along the path. I will know the true path to destiny."

Main Lesson Immersion in 5th Grade:

- 5th grade is the golden year for many classes. The saying is that in 5th grade, kids are perfectly themselves. Between their 9 year change and puberty. Physically speaking, 5th graders have new developments that are more adult like and their hearts slow down. Their emotions are coming into their consciousness and they are changing the ways they are reacting to things.

- Statistically 5th graders are the most healthy than they have been. They are more aware and not running into things and people as much, due to balance in their bodies.

- A lot of kids are starting to look back at their life which can be hard for some kids and good for others. We learn about ancient India, Egypt, Greece...etc. so they realize it doesn't have to be sad to look in the past.

- We also learn about geometry and botany. Free hand geometry makes the kids slow down as they are bouncing off the walls often. Free hand geometry starts with really basic forms that bring awareness to how kids do their work. Ms. Jenny gave a free hand geometry demonstration.

6th Grade:

- Large focus on "stones to stars" with astronomy, Roman History and Geology
- At this age comes grounded thinking, while still keeping the wonder alive.
  - Geology strengthens their sense of structure and gravity, giving them balance and stability in the world around them. Colors of minerals awaken feeling and reverence and beauty.
  - Rhythm of seasons in astronomy is studied which helps the etheric body continue to settle.
  - Ego continues to develop as students learn that earth moves within the vast universe, giving them their place in the world as well.
  - San Juan trip reenforces paddling and playing in water through canyons and ancient stones, and astronomy at night

7th Grade:

- An age that many teachers don't look forward to yet is one of the best. Ironically, the theme of the year is "perspective".
- It's another age of transition and adjustment for students as they start seriously going through puberty and loss of childlikeness
  - Physically: Rhythms of body solidify, skeleton is stabilized, brain continues to develop
- Authority has flaws, how do I find my place when there's room to grow but I'm afraid to?
- Teach perspective, Africa, Renaissance, Wish, Wonder, Surprise block, and Physiology
  - Physiology is working systems of the body (digestive, circulatory, etc.) helps ground the students in their body, and take care of their body in such a transition where the world feels heavy
  - 7th also requires loving authority, like stories of the Renaissance, wondering at beauty.

B. Director of Education:

Enrollment - SY 26 School Total 177

- New students enrolled - 1
- One student re enrolled after trying online learning for about 5 weeks
- Students that Withdrew - 1 (1 pre-k as well)
  - Family of 2 moved out of Flagstaff to Cottonwood

Academic performance -

- In-house benchmark testing complete.
  - Galileo and DIBELS data sent to teachers to compare and readjust academic goals if needed
  - DIBELS will be uploaded to the state by the end of week as required for MOWR
  - Administration is beginning to look at requirements for AASA

- AZELLA Reassessment testing window is now open and we will begin testing this week or next week.
- Alt-ELPA testing window is open and we will begin testing this week or next week.
- Administration prepping of the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)
  - Students randomly selected to take ELA or Math
  - February 26. 2026

Curriculum Review - Will continue to use Singapore

Title I Intervention

- Shing Aruguete continues to support the Title I program and mentoring new Title I teacher
- Title I intervention in full swing with newly identified groups from this benchmark to adjust groupings.

Special Education

- Data Numbers for ESS Department Current ESS Students: 37
- Students in Evaluation Process: 2
- Students still needing to be evaluated: 2
- Projected ESS Students at End of 2025-2026 SY: 41

Students identified with potential need on 45 Day Screeners have been looked at and the process completed. Only one identified and is in the evaluation process.

Sunny is in ongoing training with the state as they arise

Professional Development

- Carolyn Rich - Speech Artist - Working with grades 1-8 bringing age-appropriate speech exercises. Began in January and will go until the week before spring break.
- Grades K-8 have presented block presentation Core Principle Child Development
- Special Subject teachers to present this week Core Principle Child Development
- Sharon McFeely Part 3 - Storytelling, Feb 25th
- February 6th is designated as a faculty Professional Development Day.
  - MIchael Heffernan
    - Part 1 Daunting Task of Deepening Your Work as a Waldorf Teacher
    - Part 2 - Developing & Deepening Your Hopes and Dreams as a Waldorf Teacher
  - Benchmark Strategizing for AASA Testing
    - Galileo Data - Comparing BOY to MOY
    - Understanding the Numbers
    - From Galileo data to detailed AASA proficiency.
  - Kate and Levi to present on attendance conference Storytelling Workshop
  - Participation in the Life of the Whole School
    - Core Principles
    - Actionable Items/Events

C. Executive Director:

Enrollment/Funding Budget –

- July and August on Estimated Counts of 189.5
- September 178.12
- October 177.67
- November 178.42
- December 173.76
- January 173.12

Budget/Finances

- Review Board Financial Folder (Z- Financials)
- FY 27 initial draft
- Tax -Credit - Slow start in comparison
  - Board maybe at drop-off or pick-up handout pamphlets

Operations

- Infinite SIS (Student Information System
  - Parent Portal Open
  - School Messenger up and running
  - Infinite Parent Pay -on

* 26/27 Calendar next month

Fundraising

- Winter Faire - Income - $5832.59
- Received 25K restricted donation toward custodial- reinstated full custodial- Begin January- May- 10K
- Received 14K donation for general

State, County, Federal, City

ADE, ASBCS, Waldorf Community, Pine Forest Foundation,

- **ACWE -** March 28 Desert Marigold - Good for Board Members, faculty, parents to attend
- **ASBCS** - In the drive is information of requirements for Interval review- Under PFS Governing Board>Board Awareness> ASBCS Compliance > Interval Link Review
  - https://sites.google.com/asbcs.az.gov/asbcs-interval-review-guide/home
- **ADE** -
  - EMAC Cycle 3
  - SAM (System of Award Management (SAM) - Legal Name and proof of physical business before releasing hold on FED funds
  - ESS Oct. 1 data cycles complete for the year - non-reconciliation- noted in 3rd phase -
- **ALLIANCE**
  - January Conference - Two Faculty Attended- Kate and Levi
- **PFF** -

Legal/Audit

Marketing/Community Connection

- Chamber of Commerce
  - Annual Magazine - quarter page ad
- In house -
  - Videos - Facebook,
  - To new Website
- Website
  - Winter Design Group
    - Slow on my part but working on it.

Facility Use – FY26

- Mountain Town Market - completed in October -
- Young Jammers
- Small Batch
- Music Together

Inspections -

- Fire Marshall still coming

Site

- Multicard - Key Card and Cameras concluded
  - All doors and Cameras operational
- Outdoor -
  - Spring reestablishing grass - city
- Small outdoor updates
  - Step-ups for sheds
  - Gate Closures for Garden storage

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- Upcoming Site
  - EC duct check - likely not reaching one room
  - Fascia Painted
  - Remembrance Wall
    Design
    Installation

Progress and Development

- PTG
  - Feb. 13, Sweethearts party - adults only
- Space designation
- Processes access

D. Committees: Enrollment Development Committee

Enrollment for SY 27 is at 14 - 10 Re-enrollment 4 kindergarten (3 pre-k to KG and 1 new)

- Tours in progress
  - Four in January and two in February
- Re-Enrollment tracker completed and shared with teachers to support getting packet returned
- 26/27 Enrollment tracker completed
- Open enrollment and re-enrollment shared in PFS Newsletter

Enrollment Committee

- Four main points of initial focus.
  - Open Enrollment and Retention - Kelly
  - Open Enrollment began in December (Winter Break) new community uploaded to the website and accessible
    - Re-enrollment is open
      - Hard copies sent out January 22nd to community
      - Will need to be added to the PFS website
      - Teachers have emailed community
      - Re-enrollment night! able to re-enroll right then and there. - not discussed any further
  - Flyers
    - Front Desk
    - Parent placed around town (PTG)
    - Nimble Noggins
    - Afterschool program B and G
    - NAU preschool program
  - Headstart programs
    - Siler
    - Puente de Hozho
    - Ponderosa Head Start
  - Family Community Engagement Nights for above Headstart Programs for February - PFS will be invited to share information/videos/table setup
- Website Revamp – Alex working with Cindy.
  - "Enroll Now" button now on the first page when entering the school website.
- Revamped website is still in the works and the urgency for its "completion" has been made known.
- Social Media – Jesse and Kelly
  - Platforms in use - Blasting out information – see handouts
    - YouTube channel
    - Facebook
    - Instagram
- Parent Engagement – Sunny

Family Nights

January
- Family Game Night w/ optional nachos (if we want it to be a fundraiser)

February
- Hot Chocolate and Bon Fires in the parking lot w/ cars decorated for holiday

March
- Pie Night (3/14) (possibly a fundraiser if families/businesses donate & charge admission)

April
- Earth Day Park Clean Up

May
- Family Lego Night

June
- Family BINGO night (possible fundraiser)

July
- Picnic On the Playground (different playground each week)

August
- Ice cream Social

September
- Chili Cookoff (fundraiser- participants & contestants pay entrance fee & voting)

October
- Pumpkin Carving & Pumpkin Walk (could be fundraiser per family w/ or w/o voting)
- Dio De Los Muertos ceremony in evening w/ a walk to each classroom to view offrendas

November
- Community Toy or Book Swap
- Pancake Breakfast (fundraiser or community builder)

December
- Family Yoga Night

Other Possible Family/Community Events

- Other culture events/ceremonies to represent the other cultures in the school (get guidance from those families)
- "Supplementary"' voluntary festival nights for the traditional festivals celebrated in Waldorf schools that we do not do at our school (ex: Martinmas, solstices, equinox)
- Parent Choir/ sing-a-long (weekly, monthly)
- Family Painting Nights (w/ wet-on-wet watercolor instruction by teachers or alumni) could be monthly, per season, festival related
- "Why We….." Waldorf Education Nights
- Math Game Night
- Reading Game Night
- Science Night
- Story Telling Night
- Game Show Night (for middle school students/families)
- Family Movie Night
- School Carnival
- Parent/Caregiver Tea
- Family/School 5k Run/Walk (fundraiser)
- Service Day/Night to support local non-profits
- Baking Contest/Cupcake Wars (fundraiser w/ entrance fee and silent voting)
- Pizza Taste Test (fundraiser: get donations from local pizza places & participants pay to taste & vote)
- Monthly off-campus family gatherings at local venues/activities
- Playdates in the Park

Advertisement/Spot Light Activities

- Connect current educational research to existing Waldorf teaching principles/ideas and post on social media and in newsletters (ex: recent research on importance of handwriting vs. typing for memory and understanding; recent research on screentime)
- Nominate a Student of the Month and/or Teacher of the Month to the Arizona Board of Education (or other like organizations, & when the "win", acknowledge in newspapers, newsletters, social media)
- Participate in local community events (Light Parade, 4th of July Parade, etc.)

VI. ACTION ITEMS: Discuss and possible action (The Board may elect to convene an Executive Session for protection of confidentiality of parties. No formal action can take place at this time. Any further consideration of the topic will be placed as an agenda item for a future Board meeting. At the conclusion of the Executive Session, the Board will adjourn the executive session with no action being taken.

A. Board Member Seat - Recommendation by Nominating Committee- Jeff Meilander
Motion to approve nominee Jeff Meilander to the Pine Forest Board by Alex Carpenter; Second by Jesse Finney. Discussion: Nominating Committee highly recommends Jeff.
Motion passed unanimously.

VII. PERSONNEL (The Board may vote to convene in Executive Session)

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. FY27 Budget – draft
First draft on 160, budget expenditure reductions will need to be made due to lower enrollment
FY27 finance committee formed to determine reductions- Members Kelly Jecmen, Cindy Roe, Jesse Finney, Jesse Finney, Sunny Savage

X. DISCUSSION

A. Board Core Principles Work 25/26 – Kate Mareck Presentation
Kate will send an email to each Board Member to write bios as part of the task list of Core Principle work.

XI. ADJOURN (Next Regular Board Meeting, February 23, 2026, at 3:30 pm.)
Move to adjourn by Kate at 5:20 PM, Jesse Seconds
Unanimous

Submitted by Kate Mareck, Secretary, January 28, 2026

Agendas and Minutes are available on the PFS website.