

Board Meeting Minutes for Wildflower Nature School, Inc.

I. Meeting Details

Chairperson: Angela Banitt
Secretary: Nicole Monk

Date: February 17, 2026
Time: 5:30pm

Location: Wildflower Nature School
Street Address: 160 Ruby Ranch Road
City: Silverthorne
State: CO Zip: 80435

II. Roll Call

Laura Landrum took roll call at 5:30PM

The following persons were in attendance:

- Angela Banitt, Executive Director
- Tiana Ibarra, Assistant Director
- Laura Landrum, President
- Nicole Monk, Secretary
- Ben Kass, Treasurer - virtual
- Shane Ardell
- Michelle Mahoney, Early Childhood Options
- Lauren Chase, parent

Absent:

- Lexi Dolan, Vice President (joined to pass vote on email voting)
- Jonnah Glassman, Town of Silverthorne Rep
- Susan Gelman

III. Call to Order

Meeting Agenda Distribution- Speaker: Laura Landrum - 5:32PM

January meeting minutes - Quorum not met, no vote occurred.

UPDATE: March 2, January minutes were approved via email vote so they could be linked on the WNS website

IV. Guest Presentation

Guest Presentation - Speaker: Michelle Mahoney, Tuition Assistance Manager, ECO - 5:40PM

PPT Michelle presented on ECO funding programs.

V. Board Updates

Board of Directors Updates - Speaker: Laura Landrum - 6:17PM

- Vote to amend bylaws to allow voting via email: “Action Without a Meeting”
 - Motion to approve a bylaw amendment “Action Without a Meeting” that outlines how to vote via email by Shane. Nicole seconds. All in Laura, Nicole, Shane, Ben, Lexi (called in to vote on this matter).
- Vote on Staff Lunch Policy
 - Will vote by email.
- Potentially vote on an handbook amendment from public health
 - Will discuss at March meeting.

VI. Financials Update

Financials Update - Speaker: Angela + Ben - 6:19PM

- US Bank
 - Ben and Angela are now authorized signers. Angela is waiting for them to send a statement from September 2025.
- AmEx
 - New account in Angela’s name. All admin have their own card for when Angela is not here.
- Vote on 2026 budget
 - Will vote by email.
 - UPDATE: Passed by email vote on Feb 19.
- Approve January financials.
 - Will vote on at March meeting.

VII. Discussion on Food Program

Financials Update - Speaker: Laura + Angela - 6:23PM

- Laura and Lexi spent time looking into this program and created a draft meal plan
 - CACFP requires a fruit with lunch. Lunch fruits are the same the every day of the week - All Monday’s have the same fruit. All Tuesday’s have the same fruit.

- Snacks are the same every day of the week - All Monday's have the same snack. All Tuesday's have the same snack.
- Requirements:
 - Have to serve AM/PM snack per WNS tuition.
 - Have to offer lunch, am snack, and pm snack for HS students.
- Insights:
 - We don't want to put more work on teachers if we can avoid it
 - Balance between time / sustainability
 - We should be all in / all out to make this program work. Food program can either be included in tuition, or not.
 - We're currently serving the teachers lunches, which is not reimbursed and is not required by CACFP
- Next steps:
 - Get perspectives from families on if they would prefer an all in program or no program.
 - Laura will put together a draft communication for families.
 - Verify that a cook's wage is in our wage projection.

VIII. Grants Update

Grant Updates - Speaker: Nicole - 7:06PM

- Summit County Republican Womens donated \$200 - they asked us to write a little blurb for what it would be used for possible publication.
 - "seasonal educational materials and supplies that enhance daily outdoor exploration"
- Angela and I have two meetings set up in late February:
 - Feb 24, meeting with Buell to go over grant application.
 - Feb 27, 9:00a to discuss grants for the year
- Laura completed and submitted ToS First Friday application.
- Ideas:
 - Mental Health Funding for staff - cover wages for day staff have a PD day
 - Can we find a nutrition grant to support the food program?
- Get creative with the needs and how funding can cover that.
- Be realistic of capacity

IX. Fundraising + Events

Fundraising and Events- Speaker: Shane Ardell - 7:20PM

- Events
 - Family Appreciation Night set for Thursday, February 19
 - 5:30-7:30pm at the Playgarten

- Food will be a mix of donated/discounted from a variety of vendors (thanks Tiana!) plus some store bought (fruit/veggies/cookies)
 - 38 kids/48 adults RSVP'd, 27 kids without memberships that we will pay admission for (\$486)
 - Potential Elk's Lodge Breakfast 5/17
 - Dates sent in May
 - Larger Annual Fundraiser in fall - date & format TBD
 - Looking at dates with the Pavillion
 - Would like to brainstorm more on format
 - Will set a committee meeting to discuss
- Events Support
 - Tiana, Kaili Warren

X. Communications & Reports - Angela

Communication & Reports- Speaker: Angela - 7:20PM

Personnel Update

- Exiting employees -
- Employees on leave -
- Returning employees - Jordyn Pratt, Bluebells
- New Employees -
- Promotions -

XI. Adjournment

Meeting has Ended- Speaker: Laura Landrum - 7:30PM