

# School Board Member Training and Networking Opportunity

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**Colorado Charter School Institute**

January 27, 2022



# Welcome!



# Agenda



WELCOME AND  
INTRODUCTORY  
REMARKS



SCHOOL BOARD KEY  
RESPONSIBILITIES



BREAKOUT SESSIONS



AVAILABLE  
SUPPORTS AND  
RESOURCES



We believe that behind every successful charter school is a high-performing governing board.

**THANK YOU** for committing your time, energy, and expertise to a **CSI** charter school!



# Introductions



# CSI Leadership Team



**Dr. Terry Croy Lewis**  
*Executive Director*



**Janet Dinnen**  
*Chief of Staff*



**Noah Kaplan**  
*Director of Legal &  
Policy Initiatives*



**Ryan Marks**  
*Director of Evaluation  
Accountability &  
School Improvement*

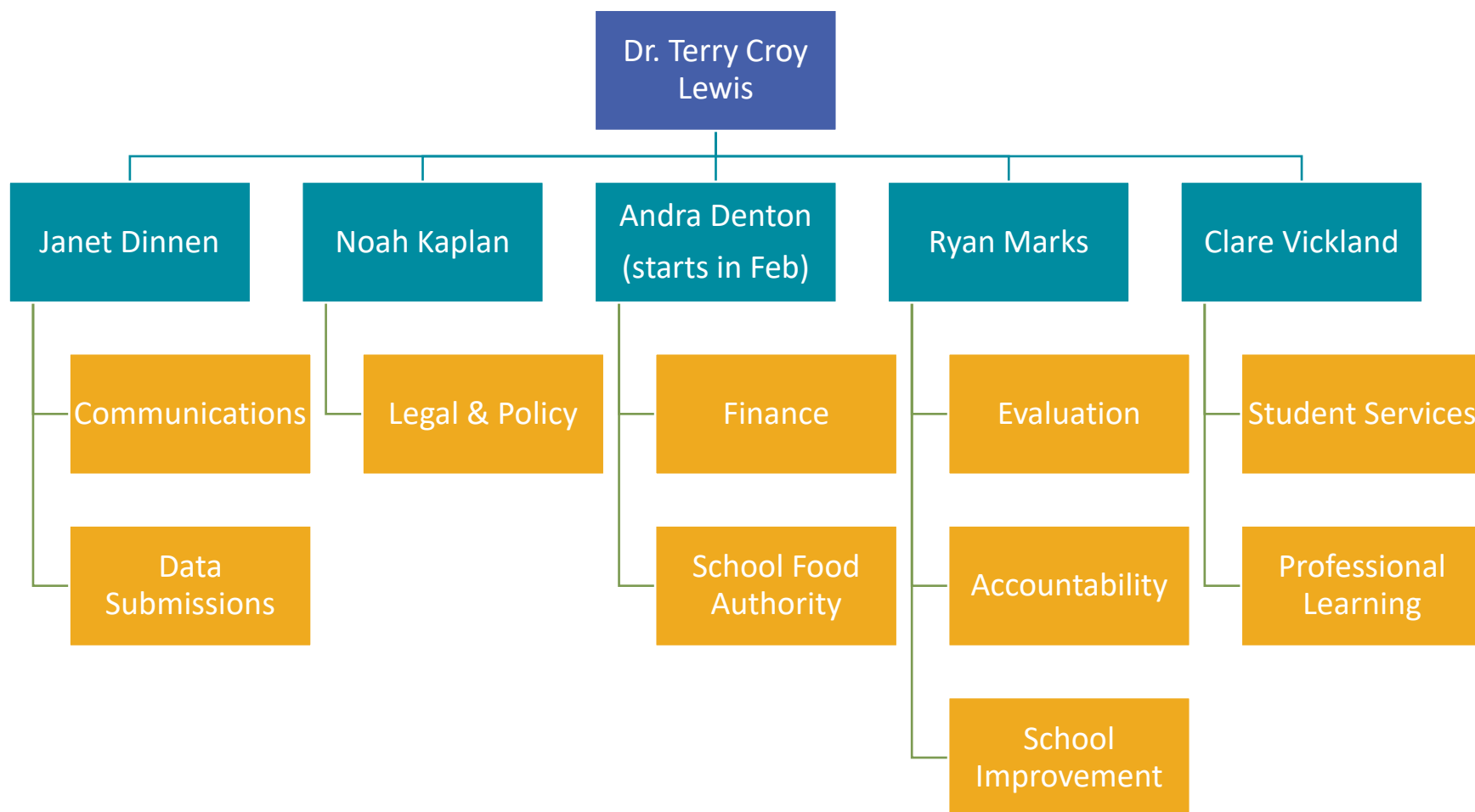


**Clare Vickland**  
*Director of Student  
Services &  
Professional Learning*

**Andra (Andi) Denton will join us as the new Director of Finance starting in February!**



# CSI Departmental Overview





# CSI School Support Liaison



**John Brendza**  
***School Support Liaison***  
**[JohnBrendza@csi.state.co.us](mailto:JohnBrendza@csi.state.co.us)**



# CSI Board of Directors



BRENDA BAUTSCH  
DICKHONER



ERIC LERUM  
**PM COMMITTEE**



JILL ANSCHUTZ  
**BOARD CHAIR**



KENNY SMITH



LUKE RAGLAND



MARIBEL OBRIQUE



NICHOLAS MARTINEZ



TAMARA OLSON



TOM BRINEGAR  
**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

## Board Member Appointment

- Appointments by the Governor or Commissioner of Education
- Appointed for 3-year terms (up to 2 terms)
- Must meet criteria set forth in statute

Committee Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month, and regularly scheduled Board meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month. Visit the [CSI BoardDocs page](#) for more information.



# CSI Overview



# Our Mission



Our mission is to foster **high-quality** public school **options** for **all students.**



# CSI Portfolio By The Numbers

**42**

## Schools

Serving 25 students to 2,000 students

**20k**

## Students

From preschool through 12<sup>th</sup> grade

**23**

## Towns & Cities

From Towaoc to Fort Collins, Fruita to Aurora

**16**

## Education Models

From Classical to Montessori, Early College to Alternative Education Campuses

**17**

## School Districts

With exclusive chartering authority and without

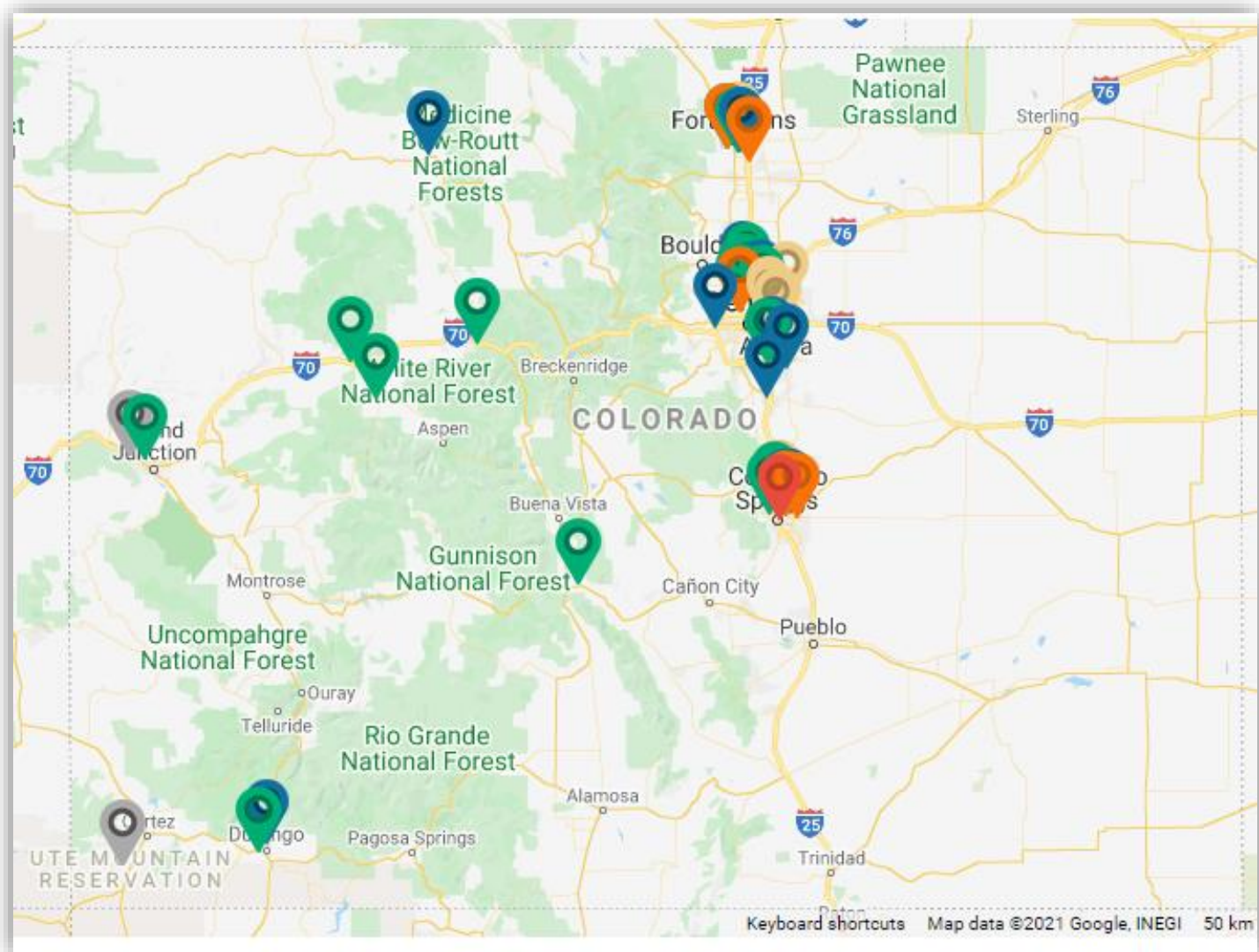
**6%**

## 2022 Enrollment Growth

Unique programming options from homeschool to online



# CSI Schools





# Portfolio Updates

School	Location	Grades
Kwiyagat Community Academy ( <b>new</b> )	Ute Mountain Ute Reservation	K-1 in Year 1 → K-5 at buildout
Colorado Early Colleges-Colorado Springs ( <b>expansion</b> )	Colorado Springs	6-12
CEC Single-District Online Programs ( <b>expansions</b> )	Each CEC campus	Same grades served at existing campus
Launch High School ( <b>closure</b> )	Colorado Springs	9-12

*Prospect Academy and PSAS e-Learning Academy are anticipated to open in Fall 2022 (1-year delay)*



# CSI takes an active approach to evaluating and improving upon service to all students.





# How are we doing?

Comparable to state average with our % of:

- Students of color
- English Learners
- Students in poverty
- Students with a 504

Trending upwards over time with:

- Students with IEPs
- Students with a 504





# School Board Key Responsibilities



# As a school board member, your role is to:



**Focus  
relentlessly on  
student  
achievement**



**Ensure  
exceptional  
school leadership**



**Commit to  
exemplary  
governance**



**Act strategically**



**Raise and use  
resources wisely**



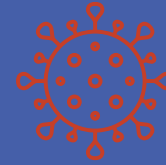
**Maintain legal and  
regulatory  
compliance**



# Governance vs Management

Governance	Management
Primarily the role of the School Board	Primarily the role of School Leadership
Answering the “what” questions	Answering the “how” questions
Strategic	Operational
Long-term and Annual Decisions	Day-to-day and Program Decisions
Hire and Evaluate School Leadership	Hire and Evaluate Other Staff

# COVID Moved the Line



The COVID-19 pandemic has been an unprecedented exception

Rapidly changing situation	Not part of prior planning or strategy	“What” to do questions that needed to be answered
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The need for rapid board action is largely over

Almost two years to settle on board preferences	School leaders now experienced with responses	Situational changes are part of a repeated cycle
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It's time for boards and leaders to settle back into their traditional roles and responsibilities



# Exceptional School Leadership: School Leader Evaluation

Which steps of an effective process has your board completed this year?

- ☐ Goal Setting
- ☐ Regular Monitoring and Feedback
- ☐ Mid-year evaluation
- ☐ Complete Performance Evaluation

Objectives of an effective evaluation:

- Feedback is critical in helping the school leader grow.
- Informs decision-making in a highly competitive education employment market
- Negotiate compensation for the next school year (prior to finalizing your budget)



# Exceptional School Leadership: **School Leader Succession**

- Parting ways with a school leader is a major decision. Your board should:
  - Use a defined process that is fair and transparent
  - Ensure there is a plan to maintain day-to-day operations of the school, including a plan for an interim school leader
  - Have a job description, search plan, and adequate time to find the right candidate to lead your school
  - Communicate effectively with your school community and involve them in the process
- Even if you don't *plan* to make a change in school leader any time soon, you should still be ready in case the need should arise.



# Wise Use of Resources:

## The Impact of Enrollment

### Enrollment is:

- A key indicator of school quality via parent choice
- The primary driver of your school budget
- The first step in growing your educational impact



### Work with your school leader to:

- Project accurate enrollment
- Plan for student recruitment
- Attend parent information sessions
- Assist with community events



# Exemplary Governance:

## Communication with your Authorizer



CSI will communicate  
with school boards:

- Annual performance reporting
- School compliance issues
- Authorization processes
- Training opportunities



School boards will  
communicate with CSI:

- Changes to articles of incorporation, bylaws, board membership, policy changes
- Annual assurances



# Breakout Discussion

- Introduce yourself with:
  - Your Name
  - School Name
  - Number of Years on the Board
- Discussion Questions:
  - What has your board done well in focusing on governance?
  - How could your board improve in maintaining the line between governance and management?





# Supports and Resources for School Boards

# CSI Supports



**Board Governance Newsletter** is sent on a quarterly basis to CSI school board members and provides policy updates, resources, reminders of upcoming deadlines, and training opportunities.



**Board Training** is offered live throughout the year and via online modules specifically geared at new board members. Topics are identified by school board members.



**Board Networking Events** are offered in-person and regionally throughout the year offering existing board members a chance to build their networks.



**CSI Committee and Board Meetings** are scheduled monthly August-June, and provide an opportunity for school governing board members to engage with CSI Board members.



**Strategic Planning** resources and training are available to assist boards in implementing a process for creating a strategic plan that addresses the school's specific needs and aligns with established academic targets.



**Customized Board Leadership & Conflict Resolution Coaching** is provided by CSI consultants to address both planned and ad hoc requests of school governing boards. CSI governing boards can receive ~9 hours of tailored support annually.



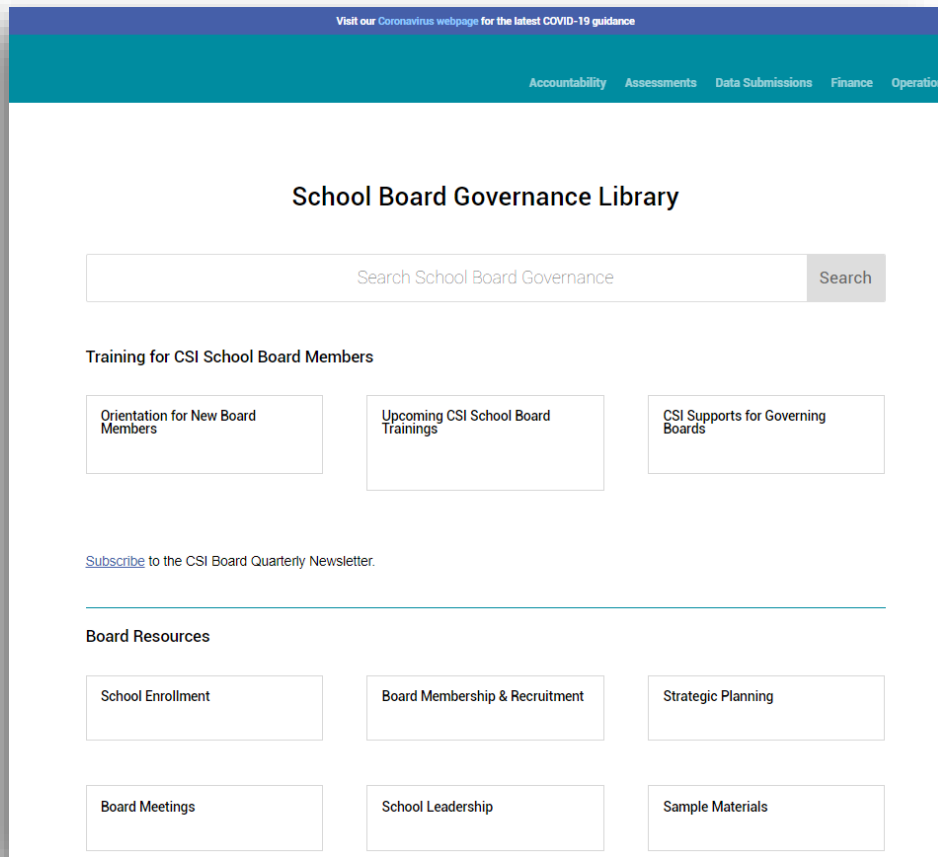
**Guidance Resources and Tools** are developed by CSI Staff and on an ongoing basis throughout the year to address key topics such as accountability, financial compliance, board meeting and minutes protocols.



**Board Meeting Reviews** will occur throughout the year, with the goal that members of the CSI staff and board will plan to attend at least one board meeting for each CSI school.



# CSI Resource Libraries



## Board Governance:

- CSI Authorization
- Board Membership & Recruitment
- Strategic Planning
- Board Meetings
- School Leadership
- Charter Contract

## Legal & Policy:

- CSI Authorization

Board resources can be found at: [resources.csi.state.co.us/school-board-governance](https://resources.csi.state.co.us/school-board-governance)



# Types of Resources

## Guidance

- School Leader Evaluation
- Open Meetings

## Tools

- Board Meeting Compliance Checklist
- Governance Needs Assessment

## Samples

- Board Meeting Calendar, Agenda, Minute Templates
- Sample Policy Language

## Recorded Trainings

- Accountability
- Compliance Monitoring
- Special Populations



# Support from Outside CSI

## Colorado Department of Education (CDE) Schools of Choice Unit – for all schools

- Board Training Modules
- Board Fundamentals Training
- Topic Based Webinars

Access CDE Charter  
School Board Resources

## Colorado League of Charter Schools (CLCS) – for member schools

- Crisis Support
- Technical Assistance
- Resource Library
- Board Recruitment Bank
- Live Board Training (\$)
- Strategic Planning Development/Facilitation (\$)
- Leader Hiring/Transition Support (\$)

Access CLCS Charter  
School Board Resources



# Save the Dates

## All School Leaders Gathering

Monday, February 28<sup>th</sup>

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

## Colorado League of Charter Schools Conference

Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>

## Upcoming CSI School Board Governance Training Webinars

April 7<sup>th</sup> and May 12<sup>th</sup>

Stay tuned for more information!

Register here: [resources.csi.state.co.us/csi-school-board-training/](https://resources.csi.state.co.us/csi-school-board-training/)



# Questions?