



Our vision is to develop a community of reflective learners who advocate for themselves, others, and a just world.

COUNCIL/SAC MEETING AGENDA

February 20, 2025, 5:30 to 7:30 PM

[Google Meets Link](#)

Invite, Inform, Connect

In addition to its role as a vital governance mechanism, Council meetings offer an opportunity to nurture productive and strategic intentions aimed at serving the community at large. The goal of every council meeting should be for community members to leave feeling informed, inspired, and impassioned to contribute to fulfilling the school’s vision and mission.

Facilitator: Sarah, Travis, GBC

Minutes: Michelle

Time Keeper: Sarah

Online Moderator: Elizabeth

Items	Notes	Who	Time
Welcome	Mindfulness	Kristin	5:30 (5 min)
Community Comments	Community members have 1 minute to share their thoughts with the Council	Council	5:35 (10)
SAC Meeting	<p>Principal’s Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Budget Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There are no new updates from the last budget meeting. ○ We are beginning to build the budget for next year ● FRC Recommendation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Adopt the new salary schedule for Director of Operations ○ Agreed that Fund 11 should have a reserve of 10-20% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ \$562,850.40- \$1,125,700.80 ● CMAS Participation <p>DAC Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Updates from DAC meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ New Charter School Application denied. <p>Last SAC: Apr. 17</p>	JGBC	5:45 (30 min)



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Hawks Happenings and Celebrations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kelly • Karen 	Faculty	6:15 (15 min)
Committee Updates	See below	Committees	6:30 (30 min)
Items for Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Enrollment Seat Acceptance Window change from 10 days to 5 days • Change Open Enrollment Preferences 		7:00 (25 min) - 1 minute proposal -3 minute discussion - 1 minute vote
Adjourn	Thank you for coming!	Council Members	7:25

5-Minute Mindfulness Practice

1. Find a Comfortable Space (1 minute)

- Sit or lie down in a comfortable position. You can close your eyes or keep them softly open with a downward gaze.
- Let your body relax. Take note of any tension in your muscles and release it. Let your hands rest in your lap or at your sides.

2. Focus on Your Breathing (2 minutes)

- Take a deep breath in through your nose, hold for a moment, and exhale slowly through your mouth.
- Now, let your breath find a natural rhythm. Pay attention to the sensation of your breath as it moves in and out. Feel your chest or belly rise on each inhale and fall on each exhale.
- If your mind starts to wander, gently guide your attention back to your breath.

3. Body Scan (1 minute)

- Shift your attention from your breath to your body. Start at the top of your head and slowly move down.
- Notice how each part of your body feels. Are there any areas of tightness, warmth, or discomfort? Simply observe, without judgment, and relax each part as you scan downward—forehead, neck, shoulders, chest, back, arms, legs, and feet.

4. Anchor to the Present Moment (1 minute)

- Focus on the present. Listen to the sounds around you, feel the surface you're sitting on, and notice the temperature of the air on your skin.



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- Take a moment to mentally acknowledge, "I am here, in this moment." Let any lingering thoughts or distractions pass without engaging with them.

5. Closing the Practice

- Take one final deep breath in, and as you exhale, imagine releasing any remaining tension or stress.
- Slowly bring your awareness back to your surroundings. Wiggle your fingers or toes, and when you're ready, gently open your eyes.

Committee Updates

- **Wanna know what's happening and when?:**
 - Add the school's calendar to your iCal or GCal using this link:
https://ho8.bvsd.org/calendar/calendar_602.ics
- **Development Committee:**
 - **What:** Oversees fundraising and marketing efforts. Parent volunteers work with the administration to develop campaigns to raise money for all of the extra programming that is unique to Horizons (e.g. Outdoor Ed, Winter sports, individualized learning support systems, etc.).
 - **When:** The Development committee meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 2:30. ***Our next meeting is March 4th, 2024 from 2:30pm - 3:30pm***
 - **How to get involved:** If you are skilled or enthusiastic (or both!) about fundraising, marketing, and events planning, or if you'd like to help us meet our development goals in any way, we would love to see you at our next meeting. For more information on joining the Development Committee, contact the Assistant Head of School, Kristin Hauger at kristin.hauger@bvsd.org
 - **Upcoming Events:**
 - **Colorado Gives** fundraising campaign November 1-December 10
 - **[Save the Date Prom Rewind Auction & Gala](#)** - Prom Rewind, Embassy Suites
 - Next Auction & Gala Meeting March 14th - noon (Friday) (online option too) - we'd love you to join!
 - [Ongoing Auction Planning Committee Meeting Dates](#)
 - [Now Accepting Sponsorship Levels HK8 Prom Rewind 2025](#)
 - [Now accepting Auction Donations HK8 Prom Rewind 2025](#)
 - Reach out to Hk8auction@gmail.com if you have sponsorship and/or auction/raffle donations
 - February: All month long fundraiser with [Settembre Cellars](#)



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- Upcoming Dine and Donate - Sweet Cow (Table Mesa) March 17th - 40% goes back to Horizons
 - **Social Media Committee**-Looking for people to create a robust social media presence for our school. Email hk8socialmedia@gmail.com for more info
 - [#BIGKIDSPRAYTOO TimeLine and Updates](#)
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- **Equity, Diversity, & Belonging (EDB):**
 - **What:** Parent volunteers meet with Faculty, and Staff. Any and all community members are welcome!
 - **When:** The EDB committee meets as needed
 - **How to get involved:** We are always welcoming new members.. Please join us! If you are interested to join our email list of notifications of meetings and sharing ideas, please email hk8edb@gmail.com.
 - **Events:** EDB hosts workshops, coffee connections, and book fairs, all to develop a sense of belonging and share perspectives we may otherwise miss.
 - **Coffee Connections** Feb 7th 8:30-10. Let's Celebrate our history, American History, Black History! Join Jasmine Graves Black-Clemmons and Quinn Black for a workshop.
 - **Black History Month EDB Facebook Page** The Month of Feb we have been posting either a local event or a way to honor Black History Month. The Origins of Black History Month, Poems with Printouts about Black History for kids of all ages, events all around Colorado, and historical facts and figures. We know Black is History is part of American History and we learn about it all year, not just this month. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/258612758807919>
 - **Save the Date!! Taste of Horizons -Friday, Feb 28th. 6-8** Join your Horizons Community for a night of getting to know each other a little better. Bring a dish, or tradition, that is significant to your family. One that represents a custom, special memory, or specific culture. Bring the whole family! We will have a meaningful art project that everyone can contribute to that will then be on public display at the school.
 - **EDB Classroom Lending Library Books**-This month the EDB committee has gathered new library books, with the support of our local librarians, with diverse perspectives for our students' classrooms. Please take a moment to ask your kiddo if there has been any interesting read-alouds, new books to choose from for DEAR time, or maybe they will bring one home.
 - **Banned Book Club**-January featured book is **Brown Girl Dreaming by Jaqueline Woodson**. Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an



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African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. Touching and powerful, each poem is both accessible and emotionally charged, each line a glimpse into a child's soul as she searches for her place in the world. Woodson's eloquent poetry also reflects the joy of finding her voice through writing stories, despite the fact that she struggled with reading as a child. Her love of stories inspired her and stayed with her, creating the first sparks of the gifted writer she was to become.

- **Be the Change- What is it?** A bite sized monthly practice you can do to make a huge impact on your child and your community. The Equity, Diversity, and Belonging Committee created this call to action to help our community make a bigger impact on our world. We all have the ability to create positive ripple effects. Let's create a better world! *We are always accepting ideas for Be the Change.* **January**-Let's Raise a Generation of Children Who Are Thoughtful, Informed, and Brave About Race. **The EmbraceRace podcast** brings you the best and latest advice on how to guide kids around race through informative conversations with researchers, practitioners and community members. In this inaugural season, we counter long-standing myths about race and kids and talk about How Kids ACTUALLY Learn About Race. The podcast is an extension of the work of EmbraceRace and is hosted by EmbraceRace cofounders, Melissa Giraud and Andrew Grant-Thomas. Thanks to the EmbraceRace staff and to our podcast production team (more on them below) for their contributions and magic making!
<https://player.captivate.fm/episode/60ad7cde-2bdd-4534-a53c-7eb58ee85b50>
- **Padlet**-Share ideas and insights on the books we are reading. EDB has created a [Link to EDB Banned Book Padlet](#) for all of us to share our thoughts and insights on these amazing books. You can find all the books from last year and the new books for this year. Share your thoughts and let's connect asynchronously!

- **Horizons Community Group (HCG):**

- **What:** A collection of Parent volunteers who help to plan events and promote a strong, vibrant, socially active community at Horizons. Liaisons are also under the umbrella of HCG. All are welcome!
- **When:** The HCG/liaisons meet on the last Tuesday morning of the month. HCG hosts Coffee Connections which meets the first Friday morning of the month. *We are always looking for ideas for Coffee Connections.*
- **How to get involved:** For more information go to helpatschools.com or email horizonscommunitygroup@gmail.com or horizonsk8.org
- **Upcoming Events:**



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- **BVSD Neurodiversity Policy Conversation February 28th 11:45-12:45** Are you curious to learn more about BVSD's new Neurodiverse Policy? Join Kate Bachtel from our Learning Lab for a conversation.
- **Family Game Night March 6th 6-7:30** Bring your favorite board or card game and come spend an hour playing and teaching friends a game or two. Sign up to set up, clean up, or bring a game. [Sign up on helpatschools](#)
- **Coffee Connections March 7th 8:30-9.** Executive Function with Stacey Acquavella
- **Neurodiversity Support Group** Tuesdays 6:30 March 11th, 18th April 8,15,22,29
Would you like to connect with other parents of neurodivergent youth at Horizons? Consider joining us for facilitated discussion and resource sharing. Email kate.bachtel@bvsd.org to register.
- **Food Drive and Council March 13th *date change from March 20th.** Food Drive for Kaizen Food Share. Month of March. What do we need? Un-expired and nonperishable food. Drop food off at the front office or join Council and bring food <https://www.kaizenfoodrescue.org>
- **Feed the Teachers March 19, 20, 21** Support Horizon's teachers during Conference Days. Please consider providing food, drinks, and treats to fuel our teachers who are here for long days.
- **Book Club-Stacey Acquavella** is a PEN Pal with PEN America-The Parent Teen Connection-How to Build Lifelong Family Connections by Susan Caso Friday **April 11th 8:30-10** Book Club Meeting 18 free books for those that are interested

Concordance

What is it and why is it important?

The concordance model of decision-making and voting is used at all Horizons meetings council, board meetings, and faculty meetings. Concordance serves as an extension of the idea that clearly communicating with each other in a safe space allows for everyone to have a voice in the discussion. It allows for disagreement and exploration of alternate ideas fostering better mutual understanding and a more inclusive decision making.

The Concordance Voting Process:

- A valid motion is brought forth.
- A discussion regarding verbiage typically precedes the motion being seconded.
- Once a motion has been seconded, the voting members proceed with a vote.
- If unanimous agreement is reached, the motion passes.



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- If unanimous agreement is not reached, those who are not in agreement are encouraged to present what they are objecting to and offer alternate solutions/amendments.
- Following a discussion, the original motion is often modified and the process repeats.