
FALCON CREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL

Falcon Creek Middle
School Parent
Teacher Community
Organization

FCMS PTCO BYLAWS

Bylaws

Falcon Creek Middle School Parent Teacher Community Organization

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ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of the organization shall be the Cherry Creek School District Parent Teacher Community Council, Inc. Falcon Creek Middle School PTCO, hereafter known as the PTCO.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

1. The purpose of the PTCO shall be to assist in attaining the highest level of education and welfare for the entire student body of Falcon Creek Middle School through the cooperative efforts of the Faculty and Staff, the Cherry Creek District community and the families.
2. This PTCO is a subordinate organization of and is organized under authority granted by the Cherry Creek School District Parent Teacher Community Council, Inc., otherwise known as CCSD Parents' Council.
3. This PTCO is organized solely for charitable, scientific, literary or educational purposes as defined in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. This organization is not a private foundation.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP**1. GENERAL**

General membership shall consist of the parents or guardians of students, the administrators, the faculty and the staff of Falcon Creek Middle School.

2. ASSOCIATE

Associate membership shall consist of the students of Falcon Creek Middle School and interested members of the community.

3. DUES

No dues shall be required for membership.

ARTICLE IV: ELECTED OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

Executive Board

1. PRESIDENT/CO-PRESIDENTS

- a. To call and preside at all meetings of the organization.
- b. To be a member ex-officio of all committees.
- c. To work with the Executive Board to appoint chairpersons of Standing and Special Committees, the Nominating Committee and representatives.
- d. To coordinate the work of all of the officers and committees so that the purpose of the organization is served.
- e. To attend CCSD Parents' Council general meetings or assign a representative (Parents' Council Representative or Representatives).
- f. To sign checks in the absence of the Treasurer.
- g. Review monthly financial statements with the Treasurer.
- h. To appoint an examiner not on the current Executive Board to conduct the year-end financial examination of the organization's book. To submit a copy of the examination to the Treasurer of CCSD Parents' Council no later than 30 (thirty) days after completion.
- i. To submit an annual Affiliation Letter to the CCSD Parents' Council asking to continue as a subordinate organization under the 501(c)(3) tax exempt group status.
- j. To attend a minimum of one CCSD Parents' Council Leadership Workshop upon election.
- k. To the best of your ability, to attend District functions where individuals from your school are invited and/or honored, including the Exceptional Volunteer of the Year event, Open Forum roundtable discussions and the Teacher of the Year banquet.
- l. To provide a copy of the Executive Board listing, including contact information (Name, Address, Phone and E-Mail Address of each) to the CCSD Parents' Council upon election.
- m. To serve as the primary contact for the principal/school.
- n. To Provide guidance and training to the incoming President.
- o. To maintain documentation of all duties to be forwarded to the subsequent President(s).

2. VICE PRESIDENT

- a. To preside in the absence of the President(s).
- b. To act as the Parliamentarian.
- c. To the best of your ability, attend school and district meetings and report back at general meetings.
- d. To serve as an advisor to committee chairs; overseeing and guiding new chairs as needed.

3. SECRETARY /SECRETARIES

- a. To record, transcribe and distribute the minutes of all PTCO and Executive

Board meetings.

- b. To maintain and keep current a copy of the Bylaws.
- c. To handle all incoming and outgoing correspondence as needed by the PTCO in the absence of a communications chair.
- d. To maintain a current listing of the Executive Board and the Committee Chairpersons.
- e. To maintain the Falcon Creek PTCO Sign-Up Genius account by creating and updating volunteer sign-ups.

4. TREASURER/TREASURERS

- a. To receive, deposit and disburse the funds of the organization, as authorized by the Executive Board.
- b. To work with the school bookkeeper to disburse budgeted funds to the school and district on a monthly basis or as needed.
- c. To work with the school bookkeeper to disburse non-budgeted funds approved through the grant approval process as needed.
- d. To submit monthly financial statements to the Board, including but not limited to the PTCO's current balance sheet, year-to-date budget vs actual net income, and bank state reconciliation.
- e. To present a financial status report at each PTCO General Meeting.
- f. To approve and pay invoices to the Treasurer for PTCO expenses, ensuring that the expenses are materially within the approved budget. In the event that expenses materially exceed the budgeted amount, the Treasurer will submit a proposal for a budget extension or reallocation to the Executive Board.
- g. To manage the PTCO's bank accounts and oversee the reconciliation of the Organization's accounts with bank records.
- h. To submit financial records for examination by July 15 to Executive Board (review to be completed by August 15).
- i. To prepare the Annual Budget in conjunction with the Budget Committee for approval by the Executive Board and ratification by the General Membership.
- j. To submit a copy of the Annual Budget to the Treasurer of CCSD Parents' Council upon formal approval by the PTCO membership.
- k. To sign the Affiliation Letter for CCSD Parents' Council along with the President.
- l. To attend a minimum of one CCSD Parents' Council Treasurer's Workshop upon election.
- m. To register the organization as a Charitable Organization in the State of Colorado with the Secretary of State.
- n. To file all annual financial statements/tax returns and schedules, regardless of income, with the Internal Revenue Service and the Colorado Secretary of State.
- o. To send copies of each filing to the Treasurer of the CCSD Parents' Council no later than 30 (thirty) days after such filing.
- p. To adhere to the cash procedures policy and financial policies of the PTCO.

5. Fundraising Chair

- a. Perform the duties of the President(s) in the absence of the President(s) and Vice

President.

- b. Gather and report on the organizational and financial progress of all fundraising activities at Executive, General and/or Emergency Board meetings.
 - c. Account for and oversee fund collections for the annual fundraising event.
 - d. To maintain documentation of all duties and activities to be forwarded to the subsequent year chairperson (s).
- 6. Communications Chair(s)**
- a. Coordinate and distribute all online communication and related materials submitted from any PTCO source in the Falcon Express.
 - b. Work with the President(s) and Principal to manage and coordinate all PTCO internal and external communications, to ensure consistency, accuracy, equity and comprehensive coverage.
 - c. To oversee the Facebook website to ensure timely distribution of information to parents.
 - d. To maintain documentation of all duties to be forwarded to the subsequent year chairperson (s).

ARTICLE V: ELECTION OF OFFICERS

1. The slate of candidates for each office shall be presented at least 30 (thirty) days prior to voting.
2. Any member in good standing is allowed to run for office.
3. The election shall take place in the spring of each school year.
4. Nominations shall be accepted from the floor at a general meeting on the condition that the nominee consents or through self-nomination in an open format.
5. Election shall be by voice vote if there is only one nominee for an office. If more than one candidate is nominated for an office, the election shall be by a plurality of those present and voting at a general meeting by a written ballot.
6. The term of the office for all members of the Executive Board shall be from July 1st to June 30th.
7. No officer shall be eligible to serve in the same office for more than two consecutive years unless no nominee presented, then the existing officer shall continue until such time as a replacement can be found, no longer than one year.
8. In the event a vacancy should occur among the elected officers, the President(s) should call a meeting of the Executive Board within 30 (thirty) days to appoint a new officer to finish the unexpired term.
9. A person can hold two Executive Board positions only when there are no other candidates for the positions available.
10. Officers can be removed from office with or without cause by a two-thirds vote of those present at a regular meeting where previous notice/warning was given to the officer being removed and in consultation with the school.

ARTICLE VI: BOARD COMPOSITION

1. The Executive Board shall consist of the following officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Fundraising Chair, Communications Chair, and a designated district administrator (Principal or Assistant Principal). Any of these Executive Board positions may be cochaired. The immediate Past President can stay on for one year as an advisor at the request of the new board.
2. The PTCO General Board shall consist of the Executive Officers, Representatives, and Standing Committee Chairpersons. All positions may be cochaired.
 - a. **Representatives**
 - To attend meetings and report at the PTCO General meetings.
 - To represent the interests of Falcon Creek PTCO, school, and community to the organizations whose meetings they attend.
 - b. **Standing Committee Chairpersons**
 - To report to the Executive Board.
 - To attend and report to the PTCO general meetings as needed.
 - To maintain documentation of all committee duties and activities to be forwarded to the subsequent year Chairperson(s).

ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS

1. Regular meetings of the membership shall be held during the school year. The meeting dates for the entire year should be advertised before the beginning of the school year, but no less than 30 days prior to the meeting, through print and electronic means available to the organization.
2. Meetings shall be open to all members of the organization and interested community members.
3. Special meetings of the Executive or General Board may be called by the President(s) or the Principal with a five-day notice, through print and electronic means available to the organization.
4. A joint meeting of the outgoing and incoming Boards shall be held at the last regular meeting of each school year.
5. Members of the Board shall attend all regularly scheduled meetings during the year and may not be absent from more than three meetings. Failure to comply may constitute a vacancy. Exceptions to this policy may be appealed to the Executive Board.
6. Minutes shall be kept at all general membership meetings.
7. Meetings shall follow Robert's Rules of Order.
8. General PTCO Meeting agenda shall be available to the membership at least 24 hours prior to the meeting date.
9. General PTCO Meeting minutes shall be available to the membership within one week of the meeting date.

ARTICLE VIII: OPERATING PRINCIPLES

The following are the operating principles to be followed by this PTCO, as required by the Cherry Creek School District Parent Teacher Community Council, Inc. (CCSD Parents' Council).

1. The organization shall not engage in or endorse any commercial activities. This does not, however, prevent the organization from carrying on fund raising activities related to its purpose. Nor does it prevent a commercial enterprise from sponsoring an activity related to the organization's purpose.
2. TITLE 26, SECTION 4911 of the IRS Code
 - a. A Parent Teacher 501(c)(3) Tax-Exempt Organization is allowed:
 - i. To participate in political activities and supporting or influencing legislation, such as a school budget issue or a referendum.
 - ii. To participate in activities to influence legislation that may be considered as directly connected to the "survival" of the organization, such as a referendum supporting education.
 - iii. To have a speaker come and present information for or against proposed legislation.
 - b. A Parent Teacher 501(c)(3) Tax-Exempt Organization is not allowed:
 - i. To expend monies to have a candidate running for election as a speaker at a meeting, or to endorse a political candidate.
 - ii. To expend a "substantial" amount of their funds on activities to influence legislation. A conservative rule of thumb is that the PTCO spend no more than five percent (5%) of its annual expenditures in support of election activities.
 - c. No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of its members, directors, officers or other private persons. The organization may carry on only those activities permitted under the Internal Revenue Code, Section 501(c)(3).
 - d. Upon the dissolution of this organization and after paying for the debts of the organization, the remaining assets shall be distributed to one or more non-profit organizations, which are tax exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

ARTICLE IX: AFFILIATION WITH CCSD PARENTS' COUNCIL

1. This organization is structured under the authority of the Cherry Creek School District Parent Teacher Community Council, Inc. (CCSD Parents' Council) and is chartered as a subordinate organization in accordance with the rules prescribed by the CCSD Parents' Council.
2. An annual Affiliation Letter shall be signed by the President and Treasurer of the PTCO to the CCSD Parents' Council President affirming their continuation as a subordinate organization under the CCSD Parents' Council Tax Exempt 501(c)(3) status with the Internal Revenue Service. A copy of the document with the original or facsimile signature shall be provided the CCSD Parents' Council. (A signature received via a FAX or electronic document is deemed acceptable.)
3. The membership fee required by the CCSD Parents' Council shall be an obligation of this organization.
4. A copy of the bylaws, including certain provisions required by the CCSD Parents' Council, shall be forwarded to the CCSD Parents' Council Treasurer upon adoption. Further, when amendments are made to the Bylaws, a copy of the amended Bylaws shall be submitted to the CCSD Parents' Council Treasurer.
5. Copies of all annually required financial filings to the Internal Revenue Service and the Secretary of State (State of Colorado) shall be submitted to the Treasurer of the CCSD Parents' Council within 30 days of filing.
6. Permanent books and records shall be maintained with sufficient detail to adequately reflect all sources of income and nature of expenditures. Such books and records will be made available for inspection, at reasonable times, upon request of an authorized representative of the CCSD Parents' Council.
7. The President (or Co-Presidents) of this organization shall be a member/members of the CCSD Parents' Council. If the President(s) are unable to attend regular Parents' Council meetings, it is recommended that one or more Parents' Council representatives be assigned to attend and report during regular PTCO meetings.
8. As a subordinate organization of the CCSD Parents' Council, this group is obligated to operate in accordance with provisions required by the CCSD Parents' Council and the Operating Principles outlined in these Bylaws, and is subject to investigation, mediation and decisions of the Parents' Council Executive Board, as deemed necessary to uphold the Purpose of this organization and protect its tax status. Failure to comply with these provisions could result in withdrawal by the CCSD Parents' Council of the charter of this organization and removal of all affiliate benefits.

ARTICLE X: FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year shall begin on July 1st and end on June 30th of the following year.

ARTICLE XI: QUORUM, VOTER ELIGIBILITY AND VOTING**1. ELIGIBLE VOTERS**

- a. The General Membership and Board Members present at any meeting shall be entitled to vote for the purpose of transacting the business of the organization.

2. QUORUM

- a. All eligible voters at a meeting shall constitute a quorum.

3. MAJORITY VOTE

- a. Unless otherwise required in the Bylaws, a majority vote shall decide all matters at the meeting.

4. PRESIDENT VOTING

- a. The President shall vote only in the event of a tie vote.

5. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- a. Whenever a member or officer has a financial or personal interest in any matter coming before the Executive Board or general board, the affected person shall fully disclose the nature of the interest and withdraw from discussion, lobbying, and voting on the matter. Any transaction or vote involving a potential conflict of interest shall be approved only when a majority of disinterested members determine that it is in the best interest of the organization to do so. The minutes of meetings at which such votes are taken shall record such disclosure, abstention and rationale for approval.

6. VOTING BY ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION.

- a. The Executive Board may take action, without a meeting, by electronic communication if action is required before the next scheduled meeting. A notice stating the action to be taken and the time by which a response is required must be included in the electronic communication to each member of the Board.
- b. A board member may vote or demand action not be taken without a meeting by the required response date in like communication.
- c. Failure to respond by the time stated in the notice will have the same effect as abstaining from voting.
- d. The action passes with affirmative vote from the simple majority of the Executive Board.
- e. The action must be ratified at the next scheduled meeting and documented in the minutes.

ARTICLE XII: AMENDMENTS

1. Bylaws shall be reviewed by the Board annually.
2. These Bylaws may be amended at any general meeting by a majority of the votes of the General members and Board members present and voting, provided that written notice of the proposed amendment(s) shall have been given thirty (30) days prior to the meeting, and have prior approval by the Executive Board.

ADOPTION, ADMENDMENT HISTORY & SIGNATURES

Original adoption: 10/23/2008

Amendment history:

- 02/08/2012
- 05/31/2013
- 10/13/2018
- 11/14/2019

In Witness thereof, the FCMS PTCO executive board members have set their hands, the year, and the date below:

Board Member	Signature	Date
Sarah Otto		
Steve Clerkin		
Alan Lavizzo		
Jennifer Ryan		
Christy Hitchcock		
Suzanne Tshako		
Kate Gooch		