

October 18, 2022 at 6:00 PM | 6200 S. Mooney Blvd., Visalia, CA 93277

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/4183238475>

Meeting ID: 418 323 8475

Join by Phone: (669) 900-6833

Monarch River Mission Statement

The mission of Monarch River Academy is to develop the individual gifts of students in Tulare County and adjacent counties to become proficient in Common Core State Standards and become critical thinkers, responsible citizens and innovative leaders prepared for academic and real-life achievement in the 21st Century. The mission will be accomplished in a personalized environment that fosters successful achievement through quality, personalized, standards-based education, which could include online coursework, offline textbook work, and unique hands-on and experiential learning experiences facilitated in partnership with students, parents, staff, and community.

Directors Present

Dr. Sam Nofziger (In Person), Elizabeth Wagner (In Person), Dr. Craig Wheaton (In person), & Dr. Monique Ouwinga-DeRuiter (Remote)

Directors Absent

Sarah Sanchez

Guests Present

Dr. Laurie Goodman (In person)

Joanna Fung, Maria Thoeni, Jenny Plumb, Dr. Damien Phillips, Denise Voth, Anna Wilkinson, Rhonda Duerksen, & Kimmi Buzzard (Remote)

Minutes

1. Opening Items
1.A. Record Attendance

1.B. Call the Meeting to Order
Dr. Sam Nofziger called the meeting of the board of directors of Monarch River Academy to order on Tuesday, October 18, 2022 at 6:01 PM.
1.C. Flag Salute
Dr. Sam Nofziger led the Flag Salute.
1.D. Approval of the Agenda
Dr. Monique Ouwinga-DeRuiter made a motion to approve the agenda. Elizabeth Wagner seconded the motion. The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.
1.E. Public Comment
No public comments were made.
1.F. Review & Approval of Minutes for the September 13, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes
Elizabeth Wagner made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 13, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes. Dr. Craig Wheaton seconded the motion. The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.
2. Finance
2.A. August 2022 Financial Report
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Laurie Goodman shared the school's finances through August. <p>Dr. Craig Wheaton made a motion to approve the August Financials. Elizabeth Wagner seconded the motion. The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.</p>
2.B. Executive Director & Deputy Director Divvy Expenses - September 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steph Johnson shared that there were no Executive Director or Deputy Director Divvy expenses from September.
2.C. Revised Compensation Policy & Annual Office Supply Stipend
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Laurie Goodman shared that legal provided guidance that a stipend is the most cost efficient way to compensate school staff for office supplies instead of reimbursing for

mileage and collecting receipts.

- Dr. Craig Wheaton asked if the stipend was taxable income. Dr. Goodman confirmed it is.
- The school has not determined if the annual stipend will be cut in a separate check or included as part of a regular paycheck.

Dr. Craig Wheaton made a motion to approve the updated Compensation Policy and Office Supply Stipend.

Dr. Monique Ouwinga-DeRuiter seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

2D. Revised Coordinator & Counselor Salary Schedule

- Steph Johnson provided an explanation of the reason for the Coordinator and Counselor Salary Schedules.

Elizabeth Wagner made a motion to approve the updated Compensation Policy and Office Supply Stipend retroactive to July 1, 2022.

Dr. Monique Ouwinga-DeRuiter seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

3. Academic Excellence

3.A. PUBLIC HEARING: Educator Effectiveness Grant

- Dr. Laurie Goodman presented the reason for the public hearing.

Dr. Craig Wheaton made a motion to open the public hearing at 6:12 pm

Dr. Monique Ouwinga-DeRuiter seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

Elizabeth Wagner, Board Member, provided comment about Professional Learning Communities and inquired if they will be made available to Parent/Guardian Learning Coaches. Dr. Laurie Goodman shared how the PLCs would run through staff and Parent/Guardian Learning Coaches.

Elizabeth Wagner, Board Member, encouraged that PLCs and Professional Development need to address differentiation of level, topics of interest, and dissemination of information and resources.

Dr. Craig Wheaton made a motion to close the public hearing at 6:23 pm.

Elizabeth Wagner seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

3.B. Dashboard Indicators

- Dr. Laurie Goodman presented the school's "Report Card" with eight priorities that will be released to the public.
- The goal is a rating of 5 for each area.
- Dr. Sam Nofziger would like to hear from staff for all four areas with a self reflection score of a three in a future Board Meeting about the reflective process and what the plans for improvement look like.

3.C. LCAP Addendum

- Steph Johnson presented the LCAP Addendum and acknowledged Jenny Plumb's hard work.
- Jenny Plumb described how the school meets all students' needs whether that be through Outstanding Direct Instruction or with resources and supports based on individual student/parent needs.
- Dr. Sam Nofziger pondered whether some students/families are not interested in Explicit Direct Instruction because of the name for the supports and if perhaps more can be done to brand the program in a more approachable way.

Elizabeth Wagner made a motion to approve the LCAP Addendum.

Dr. Monique Ouwinga-DeRuiter seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

3.D. Revised English Learner (EL) Master Plan

- Dr. Laurie Goodman presented the revised EL Master Plan highlighting the changes.
- Elizabeth Wagner asked if this document would be translated. Dr. Goodman assured everyone that upon request, any document would be translated.

Elizabeth Wagner made a motion to approve the revised EL Master Plan.

Dr. Monique Ouwinga-DeRuiter seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

3.E. High School Course Work & Graduation Credits Policy - Board Policy No. 6147

- Steph Johnson presented the new policy and shared why it is needed.
- Dr. Sam Nofziger commented that this policy does not include dual enrollment and asked for confirmation this is intentional. Dr. Goodman confirmed this.

Dr. Monique Ouwinga-DeRuiter made a motion to approve the High School Course Work & Graduation Credits Policy.

Dr. Craig Wheaton seconded the motion.

<p>The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.</p>
<p>3.F. Revised Grade Level Promotion & Acceleration Policy & Retention Criteria - Board Policy No. 5200</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school is bringing this policy back to the Board highlighting the new language about grade level acceleration. <p>Elizabeth Wagner made a motion to approve the Revised Grade Level Promotion & Acceleration Policy & Retention Criteria - Board Policy No. 5200. Dr. Monique Ouwinga-DeRuiter seconded the motion. The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.</p>
<p>3.G. Board Metrics Report</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steph Johnson presented this month’s Board Metrics Report. • Dr. Monique Ouwinga-DeRuiter shared her appreciation for all the hard work from school staff as evidenced in the Fall Survey Results. • Dr. Craig Wheaton requested that the published school Dashboard report be brought before the Board in November or December.
<p>4. Operations</p>
<p>4.A. Uniform Complaint Procedure (UCP)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Laurie Goodman presented the school’s updated UCP. • Dr. Damien Phillips assured the Board he will follow the UCP with fidelity and care. • Dr. Sam Nofizger reiterated that the Board is here to support whenever the need arises. <p>Dr. Craig Wheaton made a motion to approve the revised Uniform Complaint Procedure (UCP). Elizabeth Wagner seconded the motion. The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.</p>
<p>4.B. Revised Executive Director Job Description to Change the Position Title to Superintendent</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Laurie Goodman shared the reason for the title change. • The change has been run past legal as well as the school’s authorizer. • Dr. Craig Wheaton supports the change and shared how such a seemingly small change can make a significant impact on the type of information that will be made accessible to this role.

Dr. Craig Wheaton made a motion to approve the Revised Executive Director Job Description to Change the Position Title to Superintendent.
Elizabeth Wagner seconded the motion.
The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

5. Governance

5.A. Board Calendar - November Board Meeting

Elizabeth Wagner made a motion to cancel the November 15, 2022 Board Meeting.
Dr. Craig Wheaton seconded the motion.
The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

5.B. Brown Act Training Date in December 2022

- Dr. Laurie Goodman provided an update on the plan for this year's Brown Act Training.

5.C. Meeting Format

Dr. Sam Nofziger made a motion to hold all future Board meetings in a hybrid format.
Elizabeth Wagner seconded the motion.
The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

6. Closing Items

6.A. Board of Director Comments & Requests

- LCAP Reports for the four areas that scored a 3 in the self-reflection.

6.B. Announcement of the Next Scheduled Board Meetings

Regular: December 13, 2022 at 6:00 PM

6.C. Adjourn Meeting

Dr. Monique Ouwinga-DeRuiter made a motion to adjourn the Board Meeting at 7:13 PM.
Dr. Craig Wheaton seconded the motion.
The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:13 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Dr. Sam Nofziger

Prepared by:
Rhonda Duerksen

Noted by:

Board Secretary

Public Comment Rules: Members of the public may address the Board on agenda or non-agenda items through the teleconference platform, Zoom. Zoom does not require the members of the public to have an account or login. Please either utilize the chat option to communicate to the administrative team of your desire to address the Board or simply communicate orally your desire to address the Board when the Board asks for public comments. Speakers may be called in the order requests are received. Comments are limited to 2 minutes each, with no more than 15 minutes per single topic. If a member of the public utilizes a translator to address the Board, those individuals are allotted 4 minutes each. If the Board utilizes simultaneous translation equipment in a manner that allows the Board to hear the translated public testimony simultaneously, those individuals are allotted 2 minutes each. By law, the Board is allowed to take action only on items on the agenda. The Board may, at its discretion, refer a matter to school staff or calendar the issue for future discussion.

Note: The Governing Board encourages those with disabilities to participate fully in the public meeting process. If you need a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, to participate in the public meeting, please contact the Governing Board Office at (562) 758-0511 at least 48 hours before the scheduled board meeting so every reasonable effort can be made to accommodate you. (Government Code § 54954.2; Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, § 202 (**42 U.S.C. § 1213**))

Note: Times listed on the agenda are estimates only and do not represent the actual time each agenda item will take place during the Board meeting. Similarly, the length of time noted for each of the agenda items also represents estimated duration, and not the actual length of time allocated for each.