

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

Directors Present (In-Person):

Dr. Sam Nofziger, Elizabeth Wagner, Dr. Craig Wheaton, Sarah Sanchez, & Dr. Monique Ouwinga-DeRuiter

Director(s) Absent:

None

Guests Present:

In Person - Dr. Laurie Goodman, Jenny Plumb, Dr. Damien Phillips, & Rhonda Duerksen

Remote - Dr. Steven James, Denise Voth, Maria Thoeni, Natalie Douty, Christopher Williams, & Kimmi Buzzard

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 June 20, 2023 at 6:01 PM.

C. Flag Salute

Dr. Nofziger led the flag salute.

D. Discussion & Potential Action on the Approval of the Agenda

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to approve the agenda.

Dr. Craig Wheaton seconded the motion.

The Board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

E. Public Comment

No Public Comments were made.

F. Discussion & Potential Action to Approve the May 9, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes

Dr. Monique Ouwinga-DeRuiter made a motion to approve the May 9, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes.

Sarah Sanchez seconded the motion.

The Board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Finance

A. Discussion & Potential Action on the 2023-2024 School Budget

Dr. Nofziger welcomed Christopher Williams to work with Monarch River Academy. The Board is looking forward to working with Mr. Williams and his company, Absolute Charter Group.

Mr. Williams presented the school's 2023-2024 Budget.

Dr. Craig Wheaton appreciates the care and strategic approach to be fiscally conservative. Dr. Wheaton requested a percentage of total surplus actuals and projections. Mr. Williams highlighted this information on page 20 of the budget.

Dr. Monique Ouwinga-DeRuiter asked for more information about page 14 and the significant increase in Subagreement Services from 22/23 to 23/24 & 24/25. Mr. Williams explained this involves the shared staffing and how that is being accounted for in the financial book keeping.

Dr. Craig Wheaton made a motion to approve the 2023-2024 Budget.
Elizabeth Wagner seconded the motion.
The Board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Discussion & Potential Action on the Education Protection Account (EPA)

Christopher Williams presented the Resolution and actual EPA budget. Historically, the EPA funds have been used towards non-administrative certificated salaries and benefits.

Dr. Craig Wheaton made a motion to approve the EPA budget.
Sarah Sanchez seconded the motion.
The Board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

C. Discussion & Potential Action on the Superintendent & Deputy Director Divvy Expenses

There were no Divvy transactions to report from the previous month.

D. Discussion & Potential Action on the Proposed Addition to the Fiscal Policies & Procedures Manual: Divvy Reward Points & Appreciation Program

Jenny Plumb explained the proposed Staff and Student appreciate program and how the Divvy Reward Points can be utilized to fund this program.

Elizabeth Wagner inquired how the program will recognize all students. Jenny Plumb shared how the program is based on individual goals. Dr. Sam Nofziger

shared an idea to include meeting IEP goals or something similar, and Ms. Plum shared that this is covered under Academic Milestones.

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to approve the proposed addition to the Fiscal Policies and Procedures Manual for Divvy Reward Points and Appreciation Program.

Elizabeth Wagner seconded the motion.

The Board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

III. Academic Excellence

A. Presentation & Potential Discussion on the Board Metrics High School A-G Report

Denise Voth presented the Board with a detailed A-G and College & Career Readiness Report per the Board's request.

Dr. Sam Nofziger inquired if there are A-G courses open to middle school students. Ms. Voth shared there are 3 elective options available to middle schools students.

Sarah Sanchez inquired if there's an A-G option for families that follow a Classical Educational approach. Ms. Voth explained the Course Outlines provide flexibility.

B. Discussion & Potential Action on the Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP)

Dr. Laurie Goodman presented the school's LCAP.

[Check Rhonda's notes]

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to approve the LCAP.

Elizabeth Wagner seconded the motion.

The Board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

C. Discussion & Potential Action on the Local Indicator Review

Dr. Laurie Goodman shared the current Local Indicator Review centered on the eight state priorities.

Dr. Craig Wheaton made a motion to approve the Local Indicator Review.

Dr. Monique Ouwinga-DeRuiter seconded the motion.

The Board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

D. Discussion & Potential Action on the 2023-2024 Parent Student Handbook

Maria Thoeni presented the 2023-2024 Parent Student Handbook.

Elizabeth Wagner asked about how the school plans to address and incorporate AI, perhaps using the phrase "prepared in collaboration with (insert AI platform)".
Denise Voth shared that the school is working on ways to safely and appropriately use AI in ways that support student learning.

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to approve the 2023-2024 Parent Student Handbook.

Dr. Craig Wheaton seconded the motion.

The Board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

E. Discussion & Potential Action on Changing from a Targeted to a School-Wide Title 1 School

Jenny Plumb provided explanation as to why a school-wide program fits the school's model and 5 Tiers of Support.

Dr. Craig Wheaton made a motion to approve the school changing from a Targeted to a School-Wide Title 1 school.

Elizabeth Wagner seconded the motion.

The Board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

F. Discussion & Potential Action on Grant Plans

Dr. Damien Phillips presented the Grant Plans for vote.

Dr. Craig Wheaton made a motion to approve the revised Educator Effectiveness Grant Plan, the Arts, Music, & Instructional Materials Block Grant Plan, and the Prop 28 Arts Grant Plan.

Sarah Sanchez seconded the motion.

The Board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

1. Revised Educator Effectiveness Grant Plan

2. Arts, Music, & Instructional Materials Block Grant Plan

3. Prop 28 Arts Grant Plan

IV. Operations

A. Discussion & Potential Action on the Updated Sick Leave, Personal Necessity Leave (PNL), & Paid Time Off (PTO)

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to approve the updated Sick Leave, Personal Necessity Leave, and Paid Time Off.

Dr. Monique Ouwinga-DeRuiter seconded the motion.
The Board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Discussion & Potential Action on the Compensation Policy

Dr. Damien Phillips presented the new, concise Compensation Policy.

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to approve the Compensation Policy.
Elizabeth Wagner or Dr. Monique Ouwinga-DeRuiter??? seconded the motion.
The Board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

C. Discussion & Potential Action on the Revised Salary Schedules

Steph Johnson shared that the 2023-2024 budget included these increased salary schedules.

Dr. Craig Wheaton made a motion to approve the revised Salary Schedules for Counselors, Coordinators, Directions, Teachers, and SPED Support.
Sarah Sanchez seconded the motion.
The Board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

1. Counselors, Coordinators, & Directors

2. Teacher & SPED Support

D. Discussion and Potential Action on the Field Trip Policy

Board Policy No. 6153

Steph Johnson shared that the change addresses no shows to school field trips.
The school will allow for appeals process for unique, warranted situations, such as if a student is ill inside of the 24 hour window.

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to approve the Field Trip Policy.
Elizabeth Wagner seconded the motion.
The Board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

V. Governance

A. Presentation & Discussion of the Board Metrics Report - June 2023

Steph Johnson highlighted key items in the June Board Metrics Report.

Sarah Sanchez inquired about including Teacher and Regional Coordinator information. Ms. Johnson shared that the school website will be updated as well as the staff email signatures and Back to School information.

B. Discussion & Potential Action on the 2023-2024 Board Meeting Calendar

Dr. Craig Wheaton made a motion to approve the 2023-2024 Board Meeting Calendar.

Elizabeth Wagner seconded the motion.

The Board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

C. Discussion on Annual Brown Act Training for 2023-2024

The Board would like the required Brown Act Training and add the Mission & Vision. Tuesday evening around 6 pm hybrid or in person on the 15th or 22nd of August September and one recorded option (5 modules).

D. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION: Superintendent - Closed Session

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to open Closed Session at 8 PM.

Elizabeth Wagner seconded the motion.

The Board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

E. PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT APPOINTMENT: Superintendent - Closed Session

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to end Closed Session at 8:40 PM.

Elizabeth Wagner seconded the motion.

The Board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

F. Report Out of any Action Taken During Closed Session

Dr. Sam Nofziger shared that the Board Members concluded the Superintendent evaluation and took action to appoint Steph Johnson as the Superintendent for the 2023-2024 School Year.

VI. School Administration

A. Discussion & Potential Action on the Superintendent Contract, Compensation Package, & Fringe Benefits (Medical Insurance, Mileage Stipend, & Utility

Stipend)

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to approve the Superintendent Contract, Compensation Package, and Fringe Benefits.

Elizabeth Wagner seconded the motion.

The Board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

VII. Closing Items

A. Board of Director Comments & Request

None at this time.

B. Announcement of the Next Scheduled Board Meeting

1. Regular: September 26, 2023 at 6:00 PM

C. Adjourn Meeting

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to adjourn the Board Meeting at 8:42 PM.

Elizabeth Wagner seconded the motion.

The Board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

VIII. Meeting Notes

A. 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.

B. 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))

C. 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.