

November 16, 2021 at 4:30 PM | 3610 E. Ashlan Avenue, Fresno, CA 93926

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 (remote), Monique Ouwinga (remote), Dr. Craig Wheaton (remote), & Sarah Sanchez (remote)

Directors Absent

None

Guests Present

Dr. Laurie Goodman (remote), Stephanie Johnson (remote), Dr. Steven James (remote), Jim Surmeian (remote), Yolanda Vazquez (remote), Mariah Jordan (remote), Denise Voth (remote), Marianne Hiester (remote), Maria Thoeni (remote), Tyler Hirschhorn (remote), Monica Strickland (remote), Zovig Adanalian (remote), Jessica Fain (remote), Lorraine Sewell (remote), Jenny Plumb (remote), Nicole Raven (remote), Elisabeth Lakey (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, November 16, 2021 at 4:31 PM.

1.C. Flag Salute

Dr. Sam Nofziger led the Flag Salute.

1.D. Approval of the Agenda

Monique Ouwinga made a motion to approve the agenda.
Sarah Sanchez 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

Dr. Craig Wheaton made a motion to approve the minutes from the Special Board Meeting on October 22, 2021.
Sarah Sanchez seconded the motion.
The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

2. Finance

2.A. October 2021 Financials

Jim Surmeian presented the school's financial reports that included:
The Pupil Teacher Ratios and shared that the goal is to end factoring by December of next year.

Sarah Sanchez would like to request a graph similar to the cash balance on page 18 for attendance and how it impacts our budget.

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to approve the October Financial Reports.
Monique Ouwinga seconded the motion.
The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

2.B. First Interim Report

Surmeian shared that he requested the accounting team to focus and prioritize the First Interim Report.

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to approve the First Interim Report.

Monique Ouwinga seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

2.C. High School Virtual Academy (HSVA) Term Sheet

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to approve the HSVA Term Sheet.

Dr. Craig Wheaton seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

3. Academic Excellence

3.A. Academic Decathlon Joint Charter Agreement & Resolution

Denise Voth shared an overview of what Academic Decathlon is and how students participate.

Dr. Craig Wheaton made a motion to approve the Academic Decathlon Joint Charter Agreement & Resolution.

Sarah Sanchez seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

3.B. Board Metrics Chart

- Dr. Laurie Goodman shared that the metrics are aligned to the State's standards.
- The board would like to add pupil engagement and special education to the report.

3.C. Transition & Counseling Program Updates

- Yolanda Vazquez introduced Elisabeth Lakey.
Yolanda Vazquez presented that Mental Health service language is being aligned to the 5 CASEL competencies.
- Elisabeth Lakey shared that there will be a Transition showcase in January that will help their peers and may motivate others as well as build confidence. Their team is also working on applying SEL to their daily lives and applying it to CASEL principals next semester. They will be having our High School Counselor as a guest speaker to share information with students. They will be holding an annual career fair in February. These will be recorded and shared out to reach more students.
- Yolanda Vazques shared that The Department of Rehabilitation serves the student and family for life so they are working hard to make those connections.
- Yolanda shared that they are meeting current and former students and are assisting

with creating resumes, cover letters, LinkedIn profiles, and more.

3.D.2021-2022 Extended School Year (ESY)

Dr. Steven James shared that we would like to start on Thursday June 2nd and end on June 30th which gives enough time to get necessary services ready for students.

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to approve the dates for 2021-2022 ESY.

Dr. Craig Wheaton seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

3.E. Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators

Dr. Steven James shared the hardship of finding teachers and that there is tough competition with other schools offering signing bonuses so there is a high need of teachers needed.

Dr. Craig Wheaton made a motion to approve the Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators.

Sarah Sanchez seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

3.F. Educator Effectiveness Block Grant - Plan Presentation & Stakeholder Input

Dr. Laurie Goodman shared that we will bring feedback from the surveys sent out to the next board meeting.

- Sarah Sanchez asked if this plan is able to be changed/updated if needed. Dr. Goodman shared that it is flexible and can be updated if needed.
- Dr. Craig Wheaton asked if the items listed will be able to be sustained in year 3 and 4. Dr. Laurie Goodman shared that most of the items are enhancements of what is already in place and the hope is that the need will not be so high in the future due to the items being implemented to increase student achievement.
- Monique Ouwinga asked if there was some system to measure the effectiveness of what this grant is going towards. Dr. Laurie Goodman shared that we can add this to our monthly board metrics report. We will be focusing on providing support to parents and creating surveys to find out what we can assist with most. The school will be monitoring very closely and report on this monthly.

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to approve the Educator Effectiveness Block Grant Plan.

Dr. Craig Wheaton seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

4. Operations

4.A. COVID-19 School Report

Dr. Laurie Goodman shared the County Office guidelines as well as the Governor's mandate and our risk provider, Charter Safe's recommendation for Monarch River Academy. Dr. Laurie Goodman has shared that Monarch River has 39 vaccinated employees, 1 religious exemption, 6 positive cases, 9 currently testing weekly, and one staff member on leave.

4.B. School's Enrollment Report

Dr. Laurie Goodman shared that the current enrollment number is 1,141.

4.C. Paid Sick Leave (PSL), Personal Necessity Leave (PNL), & Time Off Balances Policy

Bring back to the December board meeting of what the financial impact of banking sick leave would be for our teachers.

Dr. Sam Nofzifer would feel more comfortable tabling this item until more information can be provided.

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to table the PSL, PNL, & Time Off Balances Policy.

Dr. Craig Wheaton seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to table the motion.

4.D. Paid Sick Time Donations

Monique Ouwinga made a motion to approve the Paid Sick Time Donations

Sarah Sanchez seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

4.E. Updated Administrator Evaluation Process & Timeline

Dr. Craig Wheaton made a motion to approve the updated Administrator Evaluation Process & Timeline

Sarah Sanchez seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

4.F. Revised Educational Vendor Policies & Procedures

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to approve the revised Educational Vendor Policies & Procedures

Monique Ouwinga seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

5. Governance

5.A. Meeting Format

Dr. Craig Wheaton made a motion to meet virtually for the next board meeting and discuss this item again in December.

Monique Ouwinga seconded the motion.

The board VOTED to approve the motion.

Monique Ouwinga - Aye

Dr. Craig Wheaton - Aye

Sarah Sanchez - Naye

Dr. Sam Nofziger - Aye

5.B. Current Board Member Vacancy

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to table the Current Board Member Vacancy and bring it back to the December board meeting.

Monique Ouwinga seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to table the motion.

6. Closing Items

6.A. Board of Director Comments & Requests

- The board would like an attendance graph chart to be included in the board metrics or financial report and how attendance impacts financials.
- Add pupil engagement, special education, and the Educator Effectiveness Block Grant data to the monthly board metrics report.
- Bring back the projected costs of banking sick leave for STRS.
- Bring back the Board Member Vacancy to December
- Sarah Sanchez requested that the board receive the board packet at least 72 hours in advance.

6.B. Announcement of the Next Scheduled Board Meetings

Regular: December 7, 2021 at 4:30 PM

6.C. Adjourn Meeting

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to adjourn the Board Meeting at 6:08 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 6:08 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Dr. Sam Nofziger

Prepared by:
Mariah Jordan

Noted by:
Craig Wheaton

Dec 9, 2021

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.

Signature: Craig Wheaton
Craig Wheaton (Dec 9, 2021 08:32 PST)

Email: craigwheaton.edd@gmail.com


11-16-21 - Approved Board Meeting Minutes - MR

Final Audit Report

2021-12-09

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|-----------------|--|
| Created: | 2021-12-08 |
| By: | Kimmi Buzzard (kimmi.buzzard@theaxiagroup.com) |
| Status: | Signed |
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"11-16-21 - Approved Board Meeting Minutes - MR" History

-  Document created by Kimmi Buzzard (kimmi.buzzard@theaxiagroup.com)
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-  Document emailed to Craig Wheaton (craigwheaton.edd@gmail.com) for signature
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-  Document e-signed by Craig Wheaton (craigwheaton.edd@gmail.com)
Signature Date: 2021-12-09 - 4:32:58 PM GMT - Time Source: server
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