Monarch River Academy

Board Meeting Minutes



January 25, 2022 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, Dr. Craig Wheaton, & Sarah Sanchez (all remote)

Directors Absent

Monique Ouwinga

Guests Present

Dr. Rob Hudson, Dr. Laurie Goodman, Stephanie Johnson, Yolanda Vazquez, Mariah Jordan, Denise Voth, Maria Thoeni, Jenny Plumb, Amy Friesen, Dr. Steven James, Lorraine Sewell, Elisabeth Lakey, Victoria Pope, A. Pittman (all 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, January 25, 2022 at 4:32 PM.

1.C. Flag Salute

Dr. Sam Nofziger led the Flag Salute.

1.D. Approval of the Agenda

Dr. Craig Wheaton made a motion to approve the agenda with the amendment to move item 3A the SEL & Transition Program Student Presentations and 4B the School's Enrolment Report & 2022-2023 Enrollment Proposal above the financials. 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 Board Meeting on December 7, 2021.

Sarah Sanchez seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

4.B. Enrollment Report & 2022-2023 Enrollment Proposal

• Stephanie Johnson shared the enrollment report for 2021-2022 School Year as well as the recommended growth rate for the 2022-2023 school year.

3.A. SEL & Transition Program Student Presentations - moved to the top of the agenda

Elisabeth Lakey introduced the student who attends the SEL and Transition workshops.
 Student A. Pittman shared how the Transition program has helped him make connections/friends. He has received help creating a resume and getting a job as well and has had continued progress for the last 2-3 years.

2. Finance

2.A. November & December 2021 Financials

- Jim Surmeian from Charter Impact shared the school's financial report covering both November and December.
- Jim Surmeian provided the board with an update on the school's 2020-2021 annual audit, which is almost completed.

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to approve the November & December Financials. Dr. Craig Wheaton seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

2.B. Addition of the Utility Stipend to the Compensation Policy

 Stephanie Johnson explained the revision of the phone internet stipend to the Utility stipend.

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to approve the Utility Stipend to the Compensation Policy

Dr. Craig Wheaton seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

2.C. Addition of the Substitute Teacher Compensation to the Compensation Policy

- Stephanie Johnson explained the need for substitutes.
- Dr. Craig Wheaton would be okay with approving this but would like a clear policy to be brought back outlining details such as a maximum number of sub hours to not interfere with regular contracted work.

Dr. Craig Wheaton made a motion to approve the November & December Financials. ^Sarah Sanchez seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

2.D. California State Teachers' Retirement System (STRS) - Projected Costs Report

 Steph Johnson explained that the projected costs are not available yet but shared the progress of collecting the data.

2.E. STRS Audit Summary Report

Steph Johnson shared the information from the audit finding report from 2019-2020.

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to approve the Audit Summary Report.

Dr. Craig Wheaton seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

3. Academic Excellence

3.A. SEL & Transition Program Student Presentations

Moved to earlier in the agenda

3.B. School Accountability Report Card (SARC)

• Stephanie Johnson reviewed the SARC to the board and explained dual enrollment vs concurrent enrollment. Stephanie shared that the school is looking to expand into dual enrollment opportunities.

Dr. Craig Wheaton made a motion to approve the SARC.

Sarah Sanchez seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

3.C. High School A-G Grant

- Steph Johnson and Denise Voth shared what A-G is and how the grant would be beneficial to the school.
- Dr. Sam Nofziger added that this is about access, equity, and information.

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to approve pursuing the A-G Grant funding.

Dr. Craig Wheaton seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

4. Operations

4.A. COVID-19 School Report - January

• Steph Johnson discussed the COVID-19 School Report.

4.B. Enrollment Report & 2022-2023 Enrollment Proposal

Moved to earlier in the agenda

4.C. Proposed Revisions to the Vendor Agreement

• Steph Johnson introduced Victoria Pope who presented the revisions to the vendor Agreement.

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to approve the Proposed Revisions to the Vendor Agreement.

Dr. Craig Wheaton seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

4.D. Proposed Virtual Educational Services Addendum

• Victoria Pope explained the Proposed Virtual Educational Services Addendum

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to approve the Proposed Virtual Educational Services Addendum.

Dr. Craig Wheaton seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

4.E. Proposed Revisions to the Field Trip Policy

• Stephanie Johnson explained the red-lined items to the Field Trip Policy.

Dr. Craig Wheaton made a motion to approve the Proposed Revisions to the Field Trip Policy.

Sarah Sanchez seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

4.F. Virtual Activities Waivers

• Victoria Pope presented the Virtual Activities Waivers.

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to approve the Virtual Activities Waivers.

Dr. Craig Wheaton seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

4.G. Classified Contracts for 2022-2023

Stephanie Johnson reviewed the updates to the Classified Contracts for 2022-2023.
 Sarah Sanchez asked if this revision needed to be added to the contract due to the Governor's mandate.

Dr. Craig Wheaton made a motion to approve the Classified Contracts for 2022-2023. Sarah Sanchez seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

5. Closed Session

5.A. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION: Executive Director & Co-Director/Principal

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to enter into Closed Session at 5:42 pm.

Dr. Craig Wheaton seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to end Closed Session and return to the Open meeting at 6:11 pm.

Dr. Craig Wheaton seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

5.B. Report Out of Any Action Taken During Closed Session

- The board members exited out of closed session at 6:13 PM.
- The board finalized the 3 parts of the Admin Evaluation and Kimmi Buzzard will send the form to Dr. Laurie Goodman and Stephanie Johnson.
- Self-evaluation and Administration reports are due to the board by February 15th.

6. Governance

6.A. February Meeting Format

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

Sarah Sanchez seconded the motion.

The board VOTED to approve the motion.

6.B. Board Member Vacancy

- Steph Johnson shared that the potential member is no longer available and asked the Board if they have any direction they would like the school to go in.
- Dr. Sam Nofziger would like us to do our best to have a homeschool parent fill the vacancy.
- Sarah Sanchez concurred.

6.C. Brown Act Training

Reminder for Board Members to complete the annual Brown Act Training if it has not been done already.

6. Closing Items

6.A. Board of Director Comments & Requests

• Potential new Board Member will be brought to the Board in February.

A-G Grant Plan - Bring to the Board

6.B. Announcement of the Next Scheduled Board Meetings

Regular: February 22, 2022 at 4:30 PM

6.C. Adjourn Meeting

Dr. Craig Wheaton made a motion to adjourn the Board Meeting at 6:25 PM.

Sarah Sanchez 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

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.

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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.

1-25-2022 - Board Meeting Minutes - MR

Final Audit Report 2022-03-23

Created: 2022-03-23

By: Kimmi Buzzard (kimmi.buzzard@theaxiagroup.com)

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