

March 22, 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, & Elizabeth Wagner (all remote)

Directors Absent

Monique Ouwinga

Guests Present

Joanna Fung, Dr. Laurie Goodman, Stephanie Johnson, Jenny Plumb, Yolanda Vazquez, Denise Voth, Amy Friesen, Dr. Steven James, Lorraine Sewell, James Surmeian, Michelene Fitzgerald, Kimmi Buzzard (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, March 22, 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 change of making agenda item 3.F. a Discussion & Potential Action item
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

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to approve the minutes from the Board Meeting on February 28, 2022 with the edit to change the number of children that Elizabeth Wagner homeschools 3 children.
Elizabeth Wagner seconded the motion.
The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

2. Finance**2.A. February 2022 Financials**

- Jim Surmeian from Charter Impact shared the school's financial report.
- Sarah Sanchez made a motion to approve the February 2022 Financials.
Dr. Craig Wheaton seconded the motion.
The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

2.B. Auditor Selection Form

- Jim Surmeian presented the school's Auditor Selection Form.
- Sarah Sanchez made a motion to approve the Auditor Selection Form.
Elizabeth Wagner seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

3. Academic Excellence

3.A. Pupil Tiered Re-Engagement Report

- Steph Johnson shared how the school's Tiered Re-engagement Programs are going thus far this year. Some of the highlights include:
 - Outstanding Direct Instruction (ODI) 246 students participate and 70% are showing improved STAR 360 Scores.
 - 13 out of 56 students that were in the Non-Compliance Process went through with an Administrative Withdrawal. All others were provided with supports to get the student and family back on track.

3.B. Virtual Academy Report

- Maria Thoeni presented information about the Elementary and Middle School Virtual Academy Programs including:
 - Who the program serves
 - Program overview
 - How the program gauges success - STAR 360
 - Parent feedback
- Elizabeth Wagner asked for clarification on the STAR 360 data presented and if only VA students were included. Maria confirmed that yes, this was correct.

3.C. Educator Effectiveness Grant Report

- Dr. Laurie Goodman shared about how the grant funds have been used so far this year including:
 - Professional Development
 - SPED Conferences
- Full spending report will be presented to the Board at the next meeting.
- Elizabeth Wagner asked what the timeline for spending is. Dr. Laurie Goodman shared that there are three years to spend the funds, and are being strategic about its use to impact cash flow and to avoid factoring.

3.D. Occupational Therapist (OT) & Speech & Language Pathologist (SLP) Positions

- Dr. Steven James presented the two positions for in-house OT and SLP services.
- The team anticipates challenges finding qualified candidates to fill the needs of the school.
- Elizabeth Wagner asked for more clarification on the use of different OTs/SLPs for testing vs services.

- Dr. Craig Wheaton highlighted the large number of student OT assessments and reiterated that these will be challenging positions to fill.
- Dr. Sam Nofziger asked about the exit criteria for services. Dr. Steven James described the system the school uses.
- Elizabeth Wagner asked for clarification about progress reports and how they are used to determine eligibility for exiting services. Dr. Steven James shared more about the timeline and requirements for testing.
- Sarah Sanchez commented that having in-house staff does make sense considering the students are not progressing.
- Yolanda Vazquez shared several resources with the Board:
 - <https://www.sbcselpa.org/sites/default/files/2018-08/SELPA202-Eligibility-and-Exit-Guidelines-for-Language-Speech-Hearing-Specialist-Manual.pdf>
 - <https://charterselpa.org/fiscal/>
 - <https://charterselpa.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/nonpublic-agencies-and-schools-information.pdf>
 - <https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/se/ds/npageninfo.asp>

Elizabeth Wagner made a motion to approve the positions.

Sarah Sanchez seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

3.E. Secondary Education Specialist Position

- Denise Voth shared a proposal with the Board for a Secondary Education and how the position will change and truly focus on HS students and programs.
- Elizabeth Wagner asked for clarification on what IGP stands for. Denise Voth shared that these are Individual Graduation Plans.
- Elizabeth Wagner noted that the job description needs to be updated to use “Teacher” instead of “HST.”

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to approve the position.

Dr. Craig Wheaton seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

3.F. High School A-G Grant Plan

- Dr. Laurie Goodman shared the details of the A-G Grant Plan.

Dr. Craig Wheaton made a motion to approve the High School A-G Grant Plan.

Elizabeth Wagner seconded the motion.

The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

4. Operations

4.A. COVID-19 School Report

- Dr. Laurie Goodman discussed the COVID-19 School Report.

4.B. Enrollment Report

- Dr. Laurie Goodman presented the school's current enrollment numbers and withdrawal figures.

4.C. Staff & Student Interaction Policy

- Dr. Laurie Goodman presented the Staff & Student Interaction Policy.

Elizabeth Wagner made a motion to approve the Staff & Student Interaction Policy.
Sarah Sanchez seconded the motion.
The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

4.D. Employee Driving Policy & Guidelines

- Dr. Laurie Goodman presented the Employee Driving Policy & Guidelines.

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to approve the Employee Driving Policy & Guidelines.
Elizabeth Wagner seconded the motion.
The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

5. Administrator Evaluations

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

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to enter into Closed Session at 5:55 PM.
Elizabeth Wagner seconded the motion.
The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

Dr. Craig Wheaton left the meeting at 6:50 PM.

Dr. Sam Nofziger made a motion to end Closed Session and return to the Open Meeting at 7:13 PM.
Elizabeth Wagner seconded the motion.
The board VOTED unanimously to approve the motion.

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

- Dr. Sam Nofziger reported that the Board took action to meet with Dr. Goodman and Steph Johnson at the April Board Meeting to provide their Board Evaluations.

6. Governance

6.A. Form 700

- Dr. Laurie Goodman reminded the board to complete and return their Form 700 this week if possible.

6.B. April Meeting Format

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to meet in person for the next board meeting if a location can be secured and to discuss this item again during the April board meeting.
Elizabeth Wagner seconded the motion.
The board VOTED to approve the motion.

7. Closing Items

7.A. Board of Director Comments & Requests

- An A-G Report focused on progress being made on increasing A-G rates (part of A-G Grant Plan) every three months.
- Update Board and the public on the meeting location and guidelines for the April Board Meeting.

7.B. Announcement of the Next Scheduled Board Meetings

Regular: April 26, 2022 at 4:30 PM

7.C. Adjourn Meeting

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to adjourn the Board Meeting at 7:24 PM.
Elizabeth Wagner 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 7:24 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Dr. Sam Nofziger

Prepared by:
Kimmi Buzzard

Noted by:

Craig Wheaton
Craig Wheaton (Jun 2, 2022 19:24 PDT)

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.

3-22-2022 - Approved Board Meeting Minutes - MR

Final Audit Report

2022-06-03

Created:	2022-06-01
By:	Kimmi Buzzard (kimmi.buzzard@theaxiagroup.com)
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"3-22-2022 - Approved Board Meeting Minutes - MR" History



Document created by Kimmi Buzzard (kimmi.buzzard@theaxiagroup.com)

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