



## Monarch River Academy

### Minutes

#### Regular Scheduled Board Meeting

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**Date and Time**

Tuesday February 23, 2021 at 5:00 PM

**Location**

3610 E. Ashlan Avenue  
Fresno, CA 93726

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/9854259770>

Meeting ID: 985 425 9770

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.

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**Directors Present**

Ashley Wiens (remote), Craig Wheaton (remote), Monique Ouwinga (remote), Samuel Nofziger (remote), Sarah Sanchez (remote)

**Directors Absent**

*None*

**Guests Present**

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Dr. Rob Hudson (remote), Kimmi Buzzard (remote), Laurie Goodman (remote), Maria Thoeni (remote), Steph Johnson (remote), Steven James (remote), Yolanda Vazquez (remote)

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## **I. Opening Items**

### **A. Record Attendance**

### **B. Call the Meeting to Order**

Samuel Nofziger called a meeting of the board of directors of Monarch River Academy to order on Tuesday Feb 23, 2021 at 5:02 PM.

### **C. Flag Salute**

Sam Nofziger led the pledge of allegiance.

### **D. Approval of the Agenda (p. 1-3)**

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to approve the agenda.

Monique Ouwinga seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

#### **Roll Call**

Craig Wheaton Aye

Sarah Sanchez Aye

Samuel Nofziger Aye

Ashley Wiens Aye

Monique Ouwinga Aye

### **E. Approve Minutes (p. 4-8)**

Ashley Wiens made a motion to approve the minutes from 1-26-2021 Regular Scheduled Board Meeting on 01-26-21.

Craig Wheaton seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

#### **Roll Call**

Sarah Sanchez Aye

Craig Wheaton Aye

Samuel Nofziger Aye

Ashley Wiens Aye

Monique Ouwinga Aye

### **F. Executive Director Report**

- Dr. Laurie Goodman presented school updates.
- Yolanda Vazquez shared that there is an increase in social-emotional learning needs.
- In-person services, events, and meetings are pending the changes with County, CDE, and CDC guidance.
- Dr. Craig Wheaton emphasized that small cohorts/small group in-person instruction be provided to high-needs students.
- Dr. Steven James said facilities and teacher COVID vaccinations are factors in opening up more in-person opportunities.

Craig Wheaton made a motion to amend the agenda to include Public Comments.

Ashley Wiens seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

Sarah Sanchez Aye  
Ashley Wiens Aye  
Monique Ouwinga Aye  
Craig Wheaton Aye  
Samuel Nofziger Aye  
Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

**II. Finance**

**A. January Financials & Second Interims (p. 9-33)**

Darlington Ahaiwe presented the January Financial and Second Interims which will include a 2-year budget projection to be submitted to the County.

Dr. Sam Nofziger inquired about the enrollment numbers and projections. Dr. Goodman and the authorizer are working on some enrollment growth. The budget would be adjusted based on the approved numbers. Minimum wage changes could also impact the budget.

Dr. Craig Wheaton appreciates the conservative budget and projections that include the COLA while including a buffer for insurance increases.

Craig Wheaton made a motion to approve the January Financials & Second Interims.

Ashley Wiens seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

Samuel Nofziger Aye  
Craig Wheaton Aye  
Sarah Sanchez Aye  
Ashley Wiens Aye  
Monique Ouwinga Aye

**B. Budget Considerations for 2021-2022 School Year (p. 34-35)**

- Dr. Goodman presented Enrollment and Staffing projections for the 2021-2022 school year.
- Dr. Sam Nofziger asked for details of how the growth will impact the school programmatically and the workload on the staff. Dr. Goodman and Steph shared there is current leadership capacity for growth as the quality of teacher leaders is abundant within Monarch River. Dr. James shared that his intention is to secure high-quality SPED educators early in the hiring season, so they are poised and ready for the new school year.
- Dr. Craig Wheaton emphasized that the school is continually focused on the quality of the academic program and to take care that growth is sustainable.
- Monique Ouwinga asked about the enrollment growth caps for charters. The growth/funding cap was for the current school year and has not, as of yet, been extended.

Monique Ouwinga made a motion to approve the Budget Considerations for 2021-2022 School Year.

Ashley Wiens seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

Samuel Nofziger Aye  
Sarah Sanchez Aye  
Monique Ouwinga Aye  
Ashley Wiens Aye  
Craig Wheaton Aye

**III. Academic Excellence**

**A. 2021-2022 School Calendar (p. 36-37)**

Craig Wheaton made a motion to approve the 2021-2022 School Calendar.

Ashley Wiens seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

Samuel Nofziger Aye  
Sarah Sanchez Aye  
Craig Wheaton Aye  
Monique Ouwinga Aye  
Ashley Wiens Aye

**B. Title IX Sexual Harassment Policy & Grievance Procedures (p. 38-48)**

Ashley Wiens made a motion to approve the Title IX Sexual Harassment Policy & Grievance Procedures.

Monique Ouwinga seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

Ashley Wiens Aye  
Craig Wheaton Aye  
Samuel Nofziger Aye  
Sarah Sanchez Aye  
Monique Ouwinga Aye

**C. Transgender & Gender Nonconforming Students Policy (p. 49-55)**

Ashley Wiens made a motion to approve the Transgender & Gender Nonconforming Students Policy.

Craig Wheaton seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

Ashley Wiens Aye  
Samuel Nofziger Aye  
Craig Wheaton Aye  
Sarah Sanchez Aye  
Monique Ouwinga Aye

**D. Anti-Harassment / Discrimination / Intimidation / Bullying / Retaliation Policy (p. 56-62)**

Monique Ouwinga made a motion to approve the Anti-Harassment / Discrimination / Intimidation / Bullying / Retaliation Policy.

Ashley Wiens seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

Craig Wheaton Aye  
Sarah Sanchez Aye  
Monique Ouwinga Aye  
Samuel Nofziger Aye

**Roll Call**

Ashley Wiens      Aye

**IV. Operations**

**A. Updated Public Random Drawing-Lottery Policy (p. 63-66)**

Dr. Goodman presented the Public Random Drawing-Lottery Policy highlighting the two-week Open Enrollment period, the lottery process, and the waitlist.

Ashley Wiens made a motion to approve the Updated Public Random Drawing-Lottery Policy.

Craig Wheaton seconded the motion.

Dr. Sam Nofziger inquired about how the Open Enrollment period will be shared with the community outside of the school website. Dr. Goodman said that the school is looking into publishing a notice in the local paper.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

Ashley Wiens      Aye

Samuel Nofziger      Aye

Craig Wheaton      Aye

Sarah Sanchez      Aye

Monique Ouwinga      Aye

**B. Updated Residency Policy (p. 67-71)**

Dr. Goodman presented the Residency Policy highlighting the change the allowable duration of student/family extended vacation to between four and six weeks.

Ashley Wiens made a motion to approve the Updated Residency Policy.

Craig Wheaton seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

Sarah Sanchez      Aye

Samuel Nofziger      Aye

Craig Wheaton      Aye

Monique Ouwinga      Aye

Ashley Wiens      Aye

**C. Comprehensive Safety Plan 2021-2022 (p. 72-103)**

Sarah Sanchez made a motion to approve the Comprehensive Safety Plan for 2021-2022 with the addition of two signs in the appendix.

Ashley Wiens seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

Monique Ouwinga      Aye

Sarah Sanchez      Aye

Samuel Nofziger      Aye

Craig Wheaton      Aye

Ashley Wiens      Aye

**D. Evaluation Policy (p. 104-106)**

Steph Johnson gave an update on how the teacher evaluations are progressing.

The reflection component in combination with the teacher standards and expectations has been powerful and collaborative.

Dr. Goodman described the improvement process of what happens should a teacher have a poor evaluation.

Craig Wheaton made a motion to approve the Evaluation Policy.  
Ashley Wiens seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

Monique Ouwinga Aye  
Samuel Nofziger Aye  
Ashley Wiens Aye  
Craig Wheaton Aye  
Sarah Sanchez Aye

**E. Auditor Selection (p. 107-116)**

Craig Wheaton made a motion to approve the Auditor Selection of Christy White for the 2020-2021 audit.  
Monique Ouwinga seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

Monique Ouwinga Aye  
Samuel Nofziger Aye  
Craig Wheaton Aye  
Ashley Wiens Aye  
Sarah Sanchez Aye

**V. Closing Items**

**A. Board of Director's Comments & Requests**

No board comments or requests.

**B. Announcement of the Next Regular Scheduled Board Meeting**

March 23, 2021 at 5:00 pm

The Board will revisit the possibility of an in-person meeting in April.

**C. Adjourn Meeting**

Samuel Nofziger made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 pm.  
Craig Wheaton seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** 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 6:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Samuel Nofziger

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Prepared by:  
Kimmi Buzzard

Noted by:

Craig Wheaton  
Craig Wheaton (Mar 31, 2021 07:54 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) 584-0427 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. § 12132)).

# 2-23-21 - Board Meeting Minutes - Monarch River

Final Audit Report

2021-03-31

Created:	2021-03-31
By:	Bryanna Brossman (bryanna@inspireschools.org)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAIEcevyBEm1lfBErVPnKUtdBbRzsGUdN

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