

APPROVED

Board of Directors Workshop Minutes Math & Science Academy Monday, October 21, 2019 Room 10

8430 Woodbury Crossing, Woodbury, MN 55125

Call to Order by Lisa Anderson at 5:00 pm

Members Present:

Voting:

Lisa Anderson, Chair & Teacher Member
Jeff Eng, Vice Chair & Parent Member
Noah Lanseth, Treasurer & Teacher Member
Judy Seeberger, Secretary & Teacher Member
Cody Schniepp, Community Member
Dan Ellingson, Parent Member
Michelle Kurkoski, Teacher Member
Adam Bartz, Community Member

Non-voting:

John Gawarecki, Director (ex officio)
Judith Darling, BKDA, Contracted Financial Manager (ex officio)

Absent:

Voting:

Ramesh Aki, Parent Member

Non-voting:

Emily Wong, Student Member

Discussion:

1. Extracurricular Transportation Policy - Proposed changes to policy 710 were discussed. There is a bussing shortage in the district which affects transportation of students to extracurricular events. The policy was reviewed with an eye toward addressing issues of liability given the increase in transportation via private vehicle to events. Many questions were raised and discussed. We'd like to get this policy revised and in place prior to the beginning of winter sports, but this is unlikely given the work that needs to be done yet.
2. Draft questions for MSA Stakeholders re: Expansion. The idea is to ask some questions both for information and to alert parents that we are looking at expansion. Draft questions so far are:
 1. If a new location were to be chosen, would you still consider enrolling your student at MSA so long as the school remained within the current boundaries of South Washington County District 833?
 2. If MSA were to relocate, is it important to you that the middle school and high school remain on the same campus?

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3. Besides geographic location, what other key factors are most important to you in the decision for expansion of MSA to a new location?

The Expansion Committee wants to make sure they identify the right questions to ask. If there are any other key questions you think might be important, please let the Expansion Committee know.

Workshop was adjourned at 6:05 pm

Submitted and Approved:
Judy Seeberger, Secretary

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Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Math & Science Academy Monday, October 21, 2019 Room 10

8430 Woodbury Crossing, Woodbury, MN 55125

1. **Call to Order** by the Chair, Lisa Anderson, at 6:16 pm.

Vision and Mission read by Emily Wong.

2. **Roll Call of Members**

Present:

Voting:

Lisa Anderson, Chair & Teacher Member
Jeff Eng, Vice Chair & Parent Member
Noah Langseth, Treasurer & Teacher Member
Judy Seeberger, Secretary & Teacher Member
Cody Schniepp, Community Member
Dan Ellingson, Parent Member
Michelle Kurkoski, Teacher Member
Adam Bartz, Community Member

Non-voting:

John Gawarecki, Director (ex officio)
Judith Darling, BKDA, Contracted Financial Manager (ex officio)
Emily Wong, Student Member

Absent:

Voting:

Ramesh Aki, Parent Member

Non-voting:

None.

3. **Approval of Agenda (note any board member conflicts of interest)**

Conflicts of Interest: None.

Discussion:

None.

Motion to approve the agenda.

Moved by: Michelle Kurkoski

Second: Adam Bartz

Vote: 8-yes 0-no 0-abstain

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The motion carries.

4. Open Forum

None.

5. Approval of September 16, 2019 Workshop and Meeting Minutes.

Discussion:

Names mis-spelled - Codi should be Cody; Michele should be Michelle

Motion to approve the September 16, 2019 Workshop and Meeting Minutes.

Moved by: Jeff Eng Second: Cody Schniepp

Vote: 8-yes 0-no 0 abstain

The motion carries.

6. Chair's Report

None.

7. Director's Report

1. Student Achievement

- a. The boys and girls cross country teams won the EMAC Championship trophy on Wednesday, October 16th.
- b. The girls volleyball team won the 3rd place EMAC trophy at their recent conference tournament.

2. Facilities Management

- a. Current facilities updates for this school year include adding cameras in Building D and B along with cameras to cover the Parking Lot. Assuming contractor availability remains stable, this should be accomplished during winter break.
- b. Backflow for Building B has been upgraded to comply with requirements.
- c. Trane was out on October 4th to look at chiller and replacement options.

3. Communication and Community Relationships

- a. Attended the MSA PTO meeting on October 14th. Discussions on modified transcripts and the conference schedule were conducted.
- b. Professional development training for staff on October 16th was conducted. Focus on Culturally Responsive Pedagogy was a focus along with a technology update.
- c. Attended the MACS Annual Meeting on October 3rd, where MSA was recognized for being in existence for 20 years with a plaque.

4. Human Resources Management

- a. Terminated the contract of Andrew Tretter due to violations of several school Policies.
- b. Hired Aron Hellner as a long term substitute teacher for PE/Health for the remainder of semester 1.
- c. Posted openings for an Educational Assistant, Special Education Teacher (maternity leave), and a Traffic Control person. Establish a system for keeping staff continually informed of important matters and allowing opportunities for regular input and follow through.
- d. Attended the Senior Night Volleyball game on September 25th, as well as the Cross Country Conference Championships on October 16, 2019.
- e. Attendance at soccer, volleyball, and Earth club were mentioned in the October

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Newsletter.

8. Reports from Board Committees and Task Forces (as applicable)

(Reminder: Reports should be submitted in writing in Board prep packets and included with agenda.)

Board Committees: Academics (Ms. Anderson) Departments met to discuss SAM goals; Discussed modified transcripts;

Annual Fund (AFC) (Mr. Langseth) - Discussed ways to spend funds, possibly used for transportation costs - primarily academic like field trips vs sports/extracurricular activities; possible use for communication (monitors in buildings with information);

Communications (Ms. Kurkoski) - Met week before MEA; new member is joining, an MSA parent; discussed increased awareness/visibility of BOD members, adding photos to a BOD page to make members more recognizable; continuing to investigate automated chat bot and/or blog; teacher dashboard updated with new and rearranged buttons

Personnel (Ms. Anderson) - Met for the first time, will be meeting last Monday of each month at 4:30; started with Director's evaluation and will move backwards from there

Finance (Mr. Langseth): Judith Darling discussed moving some money from CDs that matured into a savings account because its interest rate was better; She discussed the ADM; We made some big expenditures from the Repair and Replacement fund; There is some money available for safety and security expenditures

Motion to approve the September 16, 2019 financials statements.

Moved by: Cody Schniepp Second: Lisa Anderson

Discussion:

Ms. Darling reviewed the financials. There is a one time funding, Safe School, at \$16,000. It can be used on items such as security cameras or new doors.

Vote: 8-yes 0-no 0-abstain

The motion carries.

School Expansion Possibilities (Mr. Eng) - Next meeting is next Tuesday. Will be discussing questions to pose to stakeholders, how to pose them, and prepare for retreat in November.

9. Consent Agenda

None.

10. Old or Unfinished Business

a. Cruz-Guzman Request

Discussion: John Gawarecki gave an update. The case is currently in mediation. The plaintiffs claim that school choice has led to a re-segregation of schools in Mpls and St Paul. They further claim that students cannot receive an adequate education in schools that are segregated.

Jurisdiction has been established in prior rulings. They are now seeking to answer a number of questions. Some of those which apply to charter schools include: What is an adequate education and how is that defined? What does diversity mean? How do the goals of integration and school choice co-exist? For example, how do you require integration in a school like Hmong academy? What limitations should there be in school choice? What does accountability in education mean? How do you document accountability? This affects MSA because there are 3 charter schools who have intervened, and MACS has established a fund to pay their legal fees. If the funds run out, the charter schools lose their seat in the mediation. MACS is requesting that all charter

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schools contribute \$3/student. MACS has a seat at the mediation through the 3 charter schools

Motion that MSA approve contributing \$3 per student (533 x \$3 = \$1,599) to MACS's MN Charter School Joint Action Fund for joint legal action.

Moved by: Noah Langseth

Second: Lisa Anderson

Discussion:

Board members discussed the financial commitment and the importance of supporting this. There is funding available in the budget and it will benefit MSA as a charter school. If this case was lost then it would split school districts into 8 pie pieces and there would be no choice in schools.

Vote: 8-yes 0-no 0-abstain

The motion carries.

b. MSA Stakeholder Feedback

Discussion: Tabled until another meeting.

11. Items for Discussion and Decision

a. Policy 710 Extracurricular Transportation

Discussion: Tabled until another meeting.

b. Annual Report

Discussion:

Mr. Gawarecki noted that it is also on the website. Next year, the format will be revamped to reflect new contractor goals. The World's Best Workforce will be a bigger section.

Motion to approve 2018-2019 Annual report.

Moved by: Adam Bartz

Second: Dan Ellingson

Vote: 8-yes 0-no 0-abstain

The motion carries.

c. Termination of Employee

Discussion: John Gawarecki answered questions regarding the termination and plan for filling the vacancy. Mr. Helner will teach phy ed and has agreed to teach for the rest of the year if unable to fill. The position will be posted with qualifications.

d. Approval of Amended Communication Minutes from September 11, 2019.

Discussion: Amended to exclude some personnel material that should not have been disseminated to the public.

Motion to approve amended Communication minutes from September

Moved by: Dan Ellingson

Second: Cody Schniepp

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Vote: 7-yes 0-no Adam Bartz-abstain
The motion carries.

e. Policy 413 Harassment and Violence Prohibition Policy (First Reading)

Discussion: Proposed changes were identified by Michelle Kurkoski. Suggest including workplace harassment / unsafe working environment unrelated to the particular list under I. PURPOSE. Language to this effect was proposed. Other proposed changes were highlighted.

Motion to approve the First Reading of Policy 413.

Moved by: Cody Schniepp Second: Adam Bartz

Vote: 8-yes 0-no 0-abstain
The motion carries.

f. Policy 419 Drug Free Workplace and School (First Reading)

Discussion: Michelle Kurkoski discussed proposed changes to address vaping and to clarify other aspects of the policy. She will bring proposed language back to next meeting.

g. Policy 506 Student Discipline and Notice of Suspension (First Reading)

Discussion: Michelle Kurkoski went through the policy and highlighted some suggested changes. Mr. Schniepp and Ms. Kurkoski will continue to review and update.

12. Future BOD Meeting and Workshop Agenda Items

a. Strategic Plan Review

b. Policies

c. Stakeholder communication

13. Dates and Times of Upcoming BOD Workshops and Meetings:

BOD Workshop on Monday, November 18, 2019 at 5:00 pm in Room 10A.
BOD Meeting on Monday, November 18, 2019 at 6:15 pm in Room 10A.

14. Motion to adjourn at 7:55 pm.

Moved by: Michelle Kurkoski Second: Cody Schniepp

Vote: 8-yes 0-no 0-abstain
The motion carries.

Submitted:

Ia Xiong, Board Recorder

Approved:

Judy Seeberger, Secretary