

APPROVED

Board of Directors Workshop Minutes Math & Science Academy Monday, August 19, 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 Langseth, Treasurer & Teacher Member
Judy Seeberger, Secretary & Teacher Member
Codi Schniepp, Community Member
Dan Ellingson, Parent Member
Ramesh Aki, Parent Member
Michele Kurkoski, Teacher Member

Non-voting:

John Gawarecki, Director (ex officio)

Absent:

Voting:

Alexandria Ledo, Community Member

Non-voting:

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

Discussion:

Topic: MSA Director Goals

Reviewed draft version of document setting forth proposed Director Goals.

Topic: BOD Goals

Discussion continued which was begun at last workshop.

Topic: BOD Facebook Page

Dan Ellingson clarified this is an idea as a way to open a new channel of communication between parents and the Board. It does not necessarily have to be a Facebook page.

Workshop was adjourned at 6:15 pm

Submitted and Approved:

Judy Seeberger, Secretary

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Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Math & Science Academy Monday, August 19, 2019 Room 10

8430 Woodbury Crossing, Woodbury, MN 55125

1. **Call to Order** by Lisa Anderson at 6:20 pm

Vision and Mission read by Lisa Anderson.

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
Codi Schniepp, Community Member
Dan Ellingson, Parent Member
Ramesh Aki, Parent Member
Michele Kurkoski, Teacher Member

Non-voting:

John Gawarecki, Director (ex officio)

Absent:

Voting:

Alexandria Ledo, Community Member

Non-voting:

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

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

Conflicts of Interest: None

Discussion:

None

Motion to approve the agenda.

Moved by: Michele Kurkoski Second: Ramesh Aki

Vote: 8-yes 0-no 0-abstain

The motion carries.

4. **Open Forum**

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Mr. Andrew Kiragu - There was a new Spanish teacher to be hired this summer. It is the same teacher who was fired or suspended in the St. Paul Public School District and Mr. Kiragu had concerns about this. The Board clarified that the teacher will not be working at MSA. MSA does not tolerate any racist language, and anyone who uses such language will be terminated.

Ms. Heather Krisko - She wanted to know the process of handbook approvals. Board noted that the handbook is approved by the Board and provided a brief explanation.

5. Approval of July 15, 2019 Workshop and Meeting Minutes.

Discussion:
None

Motion to approve the July 15, 2019 Workshop and Meeting Minutes.

Moved by: Noah Langseth Second: Codi Schniepp

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

6. Chair's Report

None

7. Director's Report

Mr. Gawarecki noted that all hirings will be completed before school starts. MSA's retention rate is 85% which is high compared to other charter schools. It is anticipated that we will be fully staffed this week.

In order of hire date:

Erin Brault - EA -

Kaya Allen - EA -

Wendell Sletten - Band Director -

Sandi Overson - Math -

Isaac Leonhardi - Math -

Shannon Menard - SPED -

Karen Hail - Choir Director -

Carrie Hamm - Bldg B Office Manager -

Patricia Guerra - Spanish - Starts Oct 1

Bruce Wahlin - Spanish - Sep 3 - 30 (Short Term)

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Virginia Elsen - Spanish -

Aron Hellner - PE/Health - Sep 3 - Oct 11 (Long Term)

PE/Health - Andrew Tretter

13 new personnel

85% retention rate

New Employee orientation is August 21 & 22.

All Staff Orientation is August 26 - 28.

Freshman Orientation was August 12th.

Sidewalk (August 21st -23rd.), sealcoating, and striping August 25th.

8. Reports from Board Committees, Activities Director and Task Forces

Board Committees:

Academics (Ms. Anderson): No Report submitted. First meeting is in September.

Annual Fund (Mr. Langseth): No report submitted. Meeting on Wednesday, August 21.

Communications (Ms. Kurkoski): No report submitted.

Director Evaluation Process (Ms. Anderson): No report submitted.

Finance (Mr. Langseth): No report submitted. Next meeting is on September 9.

School Expansion Possibilities (Mr. Eng): Mr. Eng presented the preliminary report. Mr. Gawarecki and Mr. Eng went to visit Spectrum in Elk River. Spectrum went through an aggressive growth in 15 years. It has nice facilities. The waiting list is 10-12 students. The expansion has met their needs. They have purchased 3 buildings, retrofitted 2 gyms, and own 24 acres for track and field. Their plan is one of aggressive growth. They offer college credits directly on campus. Students have the potential to obtain an associate's degree by the time of graduation. AP classes are not as strong as MSA. They are affiliated with some universities. They are reaching their maximum attendance and will be at the same position as MSA. All teachers have masters and some have doctorate degrees that are teaching their college courses. The toughest part is the zoning and city council approvals. The up-front work took the most time. City does not support turning industrial land to school which is a tax revenue lost.

9. Consent Agenda

a. Revision of Current Policies (Second Reading)

- i. 714 Fund Balance
- ii. 204 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

b. Annual Review

- i. Policy 531 Pledge of Allegiance Policy

Discussion:

None

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Motion to approve Consent Agenda Item.

Moved by: Michele Kurkoski Second: Jeff Eng

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

10. Old or Unfinished Business

None

11. Items for Discussion and Decision

a. Policy 510.1 Extracurricular Eligibility

Discussion:

This policy was voted on 2 months ago. But there were 2 changes that were not made. Changes are to eliminate references to “quarters” and make it also applicable to fall sport.

Motion to approve Policy 510.1 Extracurricular Eligibility.

Moved by: Michele Kurkoski Second: Ramesh Aki

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

b. Policy 710 Extracurricular Transportation

Discussion:

This policy requires mandatory changes. Changes would be recommended at the next board meeting.

Motion to approve Policy Committee to work with the Activities Director to make changes to 710 Extracurricular Transportation.

Moved by: Lisa Anderson Second: Dan Ellingson

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

c. Policy 419 Tobacco Free Environment

Discussion:

Recommend “tobacco” to be replaced with “nicotine” to include vaping.

Motion to approve Policy Committee to work with the Activities Director to make changes to Policy 419 Tobacco Free Environment.

Moved by: Lisa Anderson Second: Michele Kurkoski

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

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d. Pledge of Allegiance Waiver

Discussion:

MSA is required by law to say the Pledge of Allegiance weekly or can waive it if approved by the Board. Board discussed the need to waive out of respect to students.

Motion to opt out of saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by: Michele Kurkoski

Second: Ramesh Aki

Vote: 7-yes 0-no Dan Ellingson-abstain

The motion carries.

e. Approval of Student/Parent Handbook

Discussion:

Mr. Gawarecki provided an overview. Ms. Howe did most of the edits and we thank her for her hard work. She took the handbook from last year and made it easier to find things in it. Parents/Guardians will have 5 different documents/handbooks which 3 will need to be signed acknowledging it.

Summaries of policies are in the handbook but the full policies are on the website.

Motion to approve Student/Parent Handbook.

Moved by: Lisa Anderson

Second: Jeff Eng

Vote: 8-yes 0-no 0-abstain

The motion carries.

f. Approve Performance Goals for Director For Upcoming Year

Discussion:

Corrections were made during workshop.

Motion to approve Performance Goals for Director for Upcoming Year.

Moved by: Dan Ellingson

Second: Ramesh Aki

Vote: 8-yes 0-no 0-abstain

The motion carries.

g. Approve BOD Goals

Discussion:

Corrections were made during workshop.

Motion to approve BOD Goals.

Moved by: Lisa Anderson

Second: Codi Schniepp

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

h. Determination of the Name For the Building Safety/Safety Committee (Uniformity Needed)

Discussion:

Ms. Anderson explained that there is a discrepancy on website and Board handbooks. Name change and purpose of this committee to be discussed at the next workshop.

i. Name Change of Director Evaluation Committee to Personnel Committee

Discussion:

Ms. Anderson explained that this is to revise the purpose to be more inclusive to other staff evaluation.

Motion to approve name change of Director Evaluation Committee to Personnel Committee.

Moved by: Lisa Anderson

Second: Ramesh Aki

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

j. SAM Contract Update

Discussion:

Mr. Gawarecki provided an update. SAM received feedback from the state. MSA was found to be noncompliant in 3 areas in enrollment. 1) MSA have to eliminate the requirement of staff to be at least 0.5 for enrollment. MDE recognizes staff as any amount of time worked. 2) MDE does not allow academic requirements to be put on foreign exchange students. An allowable requirement could be that the foreign exchange student meet foreign exchange student requirements which does not have academic standards. 3) Students who have missed school for 15 consecutive days is required to be dropped from the MARS reporting. The student must have to formally withdraw or be expelled. Edits and changes to enrollment policy will be reviewed and recommendations brought to the Board next month.

k. Accept Resignation of Alexandria Ledo

Discussion:

Ms. Ledo has put in her resignation. We thank her for her time on the Board.

Motion to accept resignation of Alexandria Ledo.

Moved by: Codi Schniepp

Second: Jeff Eng

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

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12. Future BOD Meeting and Workshop Agenda Items

- a. Student BOD Representative Election Timeline
- b. MSA Stakeholder Feedback
- c. Building Safety Committee
- d. SAM contract

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

BOD Workshop on Monday, September 16, 2019 at 5:00 pm in Room 10A.
BOD Meeting on Monday, September 16, 2019 at 6:15 pm in Room 10A.

15. Motion to adjourn at 7:55 pm.

Moved by: Michele Kurkoski

Second: Lisa Anderson

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

Submitted:

Ia Xiong, Board Recorder

Approved:

Judy Seeberger, Secretary