

# **DRAFT - NOT YET APPROVED**

**Board of Directors  
Workshop Minutes  
Math & Science Academy  
Monday, October 17, 2022  
Building B and Remotely  
8430 Woodbury Crossing, Woodbury, MN 55125**

**Call to Order** by Dan Ellingson at 5:00 pm

**Members Present:**

Voting:

Dan Ellingson, Chair

Maggie Burggraaff, Vice Chair

Cody Schniepp, Treasurer

Jennifer Bartle

Jeff Eng

Hetal Patel

Wendell Sletten

Teresa Ward

Non-voting:

Randy Vetsch, Director

**Absent:**

Voting:

DJ Johnston, Secretary

Non-voting:

Joseph Ayalew

Noah Yehalashet

**1. Workshop Agenda (5:00PM - 6:00PM)**

**Discussion:** The admin team created a presentation of the results of the Potential Merger Survey from MSA families and staff. Results indicated that there were mixed feelings and many questions. There is definitely a need for more answers and details if this is something that the board would like to explore further.

Executive Director Randy Vetsch proposed putting the potential merger on pause for a while. As the expansion is a strategic priority and that work needs to be a focus right now. Mr. Vetsch said an expansion is something that needs to happen regardless if a merger were to take place. Once the expansion plans are more finalized and set, the board will revisit the merger discussion.

**Workshop was adjourned at 6:00 PM**

**Submitted and Approved:**

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**Board of Directors  
Meeting Minutes  
Math & Science Academy  
Monday, October 17, 2022  
Building B and Remotely  
8430 Woodbury Crossing, Woodbury, MN 55125**

**2. Call to Order** by Dan Ellingson at 6:15 pm

Vision and Mission read by Noah Yehalashet.

**3. Roll Call of Members**

**Present:**

Voting:

Dan Ellingson, Chair

Maggie Burggraaff, Vice Chair

Cody Schniepp, Treasurer

Jennifer Bartle

Jeff Eng

Hetal Patel

Wendell Sletten

Teresa Ward

Non-voting:

Randy Vetsch, Director

Joseph Ayalew, Student Representative

Noah Yehalashet, Student Representative

**Absent:**

DJ Johnston, Secretary

**4.. Approval of Agenda**

Conflicts of Interest: None

**Motion to approve the agenda.**

Moved by: Dan Ellingson

Second: Maggie Burggraaff

Discussion:

Mr. Eng asked if the merger needed the Board to vote. Remove 16b. Process for Considering Merger Opportunity with WLA.

**Amend the motion to approve the agenda with the removal of 16b. Process for Considering Merger Opportunity with WLA.**

Moved by: Dan Ellingson

Second: Maggie Burggraaff

Discussion:

None

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

### **5. MSA Monthly Celebration - Parking Lot Attendants and Lunchroom Monitors**

Thank you to our wonderful:

Parking Lot Attendants-  
Kevin Cunningham  
Bhanu Kankanala  
Elsa Kagose  
Jeremiah Tamenut  
Sreeram Chavali

Lunch Room Crew-  
Julie Dorschner  
Manesa Manepally  
Kevin Cunningham  
Caroline Maddux  
Becky Bogan

Thanks for all their hard work in supporting student learning and safety of our learning community.

### **6. Nick Hagen (Piper Sandler) - Bonding**

Mr. Nick Hagen from Piper Sandler presented. He provided a handout to the Board. Piper Sandler underwrite financing and work with a lot of charter schools.

Mr. Hagen discussed existing debt and options or ideas to go forward with another new site.

The purpose of this was to look at a new site and get rid of the two other sites. The existing debt was refinanced in 2020. It had a low interest rate. The debt is \$8.3M outstanding. There is the ability to refinance until 2025. It cannot be forced to pay off early

Mr. Hagen explained the bond rating, percentage required for MSA to pay if federal funds are received, and interest rates. MSA is a **Triple B minus which is the highest it can go (CORRECT THIS TO MATCH THE HANDOUT)**. MSA will be required to pay 10%.

There is the assumption that the sale of the existing properties will pay the existing debt. If MSA stays, then Mr. Hagen can run the numbers.

Board discussed the obligation to sell the property or can MSA lease the property. Board also discussed the timing of the closing and construction. The merger with another school will require transparency with any new bonds.

### **7. Open Forum**

Mary Yapp - Policy 510 - Would like to keep the policy as it is.

### **8. Approval of Minutes.**

## DRAFT - NOT YET APPROVED

- a. **Motion to approve the BOD Meeting Minutes, September 19, 2022 and the BOD Special Meeting, October 10, 2022.**

Moved by: Cody Schiepp                      Second: Hatel Patel

Discussion:

**Amend motion to approve the BOD Meeting Minutes, September 19, 2022 with corrected name of Wendell Sletten.**

Moved by: Cody Schiepp                      Second: Hatel Patel

Discussion:

Board discussed additions to the Special Meeting minutes: add attendees, add pictures of bussing, and add youtube link.

**Motion to approve as amended with correct name spelling of Wendell Sletten and the changes to the Special Meeting: add attendees, add pictures of bussing (PLEASE CONFIRM IF THIS WAS THE CORRECT ITEM), and add youtube link.**

Moved by: Dan Ellingson

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

### 9. Student Representative Communication and Update

Noah Yehalashet  
- Political Science had someone come and encourage them to get out to vote.

Joseph Ayalew  
- Started the African Club. There are 50 student members.

### 10. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Vetsch provided an overview of the report in the Board packet.

- a. Enrollment Numbers Update
- b. Building/Grounds Report
- c. Give to the Max  
Board discussed liability, insurance, and setting up a new process for using the future vans for activities.

### 11. Chair's Report

Mr. Ellingson recapped the special meeting. It was to discuss the merger and expansion. DEI training was rescheduled due to conflict of schedule.

### 12. Reports from Board Committees, Activities Director and Task Forces

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Governance/Policy (Patel): Report submitted.

School Expansion (Eng): No report submitted. Mr. Eng noted the search continues. Specific sites will be published in the future. Naming sites now will put MSA at a disadvantage for negotiations.

Finance (Schniepp): Report submitted. Audit will start on the 25th.

### **Motion to approve September 2022 Financial Report.**

Moved by: Cody Schniepp      Second: Maggie Burggraff

Discussion:

None

Vote:      8-yes   0-no   0-abstain

The motion carries.

### **Motion to take a recess at 7:51 pm.**

Moved by: Wendell Sletten      Second: Maggie Burggraff

Vote:      8-yes   0-no   0-abstain

The motion carries.

### **Board resumed at 7:58 pm.**

## **13. Consent Agenda**

- a. First reading Governance / Policies Update
  - i. Policy 102 - Equal Educational Opportunity
  - ii. Policy 413 - Harassment & Violence
  - iii. Policy 510 - School Activities
  - iv. Policy 522 - Title IX Sex Nondiscrimination Policy
  - v. Policy 722 Public Data & Data Subject Requests
- b. Approve Policy 201.1 Board of Directors Election

### **Motion to approve the Consent Agenda.**

Moved by: Dan Ellingson      Second: Maggie Burggraff

Discussion:

Board discussed the inclusion of 510 in the consent agenda and whether it should be pulled out. Ms. Patel is asking Policy 510 as an emergent update to be in compliance. There is not an existing Policy 510. There is an item later in the agenda to address this.

Vote:      8-yes   0-no   0-abstain

The motion carries.

## **14. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**

### **a. Dashboard Update related to DEI**

Discussion:

Mr. Ellingson provided an overview of the dashboard provided in the board packet.

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### **15. Items for Discussion**

#### **a. Discussion on removal of Policy 510.1**

Discussion:

Ms. Patel had provided a memo in the board packet which proposes rescission of Policy 510.1. She provided an overview. Policy 510.1 is not a state mandate policy. There is a concern that when drafted items that exceed the state standard then it can have a disparate impact on kids. It compromises the EEO mandates. Any extra checks and balances on the legislature is illegal and has bad outcomes.

Board discussed the purpose of 510.1 and 510. Ms. Patel noted that it is not the same policy. MSHSL bases it on final grade and MSA does it in progress. Administration explained that intervention is done regardless of extra curricular activities or not. Board members asked to review the process that administration takes.

Mr. Ayalew noted that he has had D1 & D3 schools seek him out. MSA has high standards and should keep the policy in place. Students are aware of that and it is expected.

#### **b. Setup Executive Director survey / task force**

Discussion:

Mr. Ellingson asked for volunteers to help with the survey. Meeting will be set up. Board will approve the survey before going out.

#### **c. 1st of 2 Meetings per IV.A. for Policy 415 - Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults**

Discussion:

Ms. Patel noted that this is a state mandated policy. This would apply to students who are 18 or older. It does not affect a student today.

#### **d. BOD Training/BOD Retreat**

Discussion:

Mr. Sletten has not received any specific training. There is specific training in the first six months for new board members. Mr. Sletten asked to have training be part of the information for new board members. He also suggested that there be a board retreat.

#### **e. Process for considering merger opportunity with WLA**

Discussion:

None

### **16. Items for Decision**

#### **a. Policy 510.1**

**Motion to rescind Policy 510.1, Extracurricular Eligibility as of August 15, 2022.**

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Moved by: Hatel Patel      Second: Dan Ellingson

Discussion:

Ms. Burrgraff asked if this is a policy that the investigation said that MSA should not have. Mr. Vetsch confirmed.

Vote:

Cody Schniepp, Maggie Burrgraff, Dan Ellingson, Wendell Sletten, Hatel Patel-yes

Jef Eng and Jennifer Bartle-no

0-abstain

The motion carries.

Mr. Eng noted that he is not against the motion but voted “no” in order to have another 30 days to review.

**Motion to emergently adopt the proposed MSBA Model Policy 510, titled “Extracurricular Activities” which shall provide the following eligibility statement: “Students in grades 7-12 will be certified eligible to represent their school in MSHSL activities according to the Bylaws 108.00 found in the Official Handbook of the MSHSL.”**

Discussion:

Emergent means that it is in effect once approved. Emergent is done for critical and well being. You have one year to revisit it again. Board will review it next month again. It will still need a second reading but emergent makes it effective when it passes.

Moved by: Hatel Patel      Second: Cody Schniepp

**Motion to issue a Directive for Administration to further the Board’s commitment to: implement equity and inclusion focused internal procedures (if, as and when needed) for determining “satisfactory progress towards the school’s requirements for graduation” standard set forth by MSHSL Eligibility Bylaws that not only comply with but also actively “protects, conserves, and advances” the State and Federal mandates set forth throughout this Notice. (Policy 209, II. B. 1 - 6)**

Moved by: Hatel Patel      Second: Cody Schniepp

Discussion:

Board discussed that this isn’t a motion but the Board has issued directives in the past to make sure the administration is doing what they need to do. This is part of the dashboard and the administration is already doing it.

**Cody Schniepp rescinds his second motion.**

Discussion:

Resolution for the Board to Establish a Local Advisory Committee, in compliance with Section 208.03 of MSHSL Constitution, which states that “each school is urged to form an advisory committee for League activities.” (2022-23 Resolution for Membership, pg 2)

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Ms. Patel noted that the purpose gives the kids an avenue to go to. Administration will look at what other schools are doing and provide an update.

### **17. Future BOD Meeting and Workshop Agenda Items**

- a. November
  - i. DEI Training Nov 2022 BOD Workshops
  - ii. World's Best Workforce plan approval November
- b. December
  - i. DEI Training Dec 2022 BOD Workshops
  - ii. Approve Financial Audit
- c. January
  - i. Bonding process training
  - ii. Strategic Plan / Investigation Progress update
- d. Policies
  - i. Annual review of Student Discipline and Notice of Suspension Policy 506
  - ii. Committee will also review 503, 506, and 620

### **18. Meeting Plus/Minus**

Discussion:

Minus:

-Bulb went out.

### **19. Motion to adjourn at 9:13 pm.**

Moved by: Dan Ellingson

Second: Wendell Sletten

Vote: 8-yes 0-no 0-abstain

The motion carries.

### **Submitted:**

Ia Xiong, Board Recorder

### **Approved:**