



Monarch Academy

**Monarch Academy Public Charter School Board Minutes  
February 7, 2018  
2000 Capital Drive ~ Annapolis, MD**

**Attendees**

Eric DeVito  
Kandace Hoppin  
Ray Szyperki  
Marie Noplock  
Dona Sturn  
Carly Czynzewski

**Not in Attendance**

Crystal Fink  
Jessica Paret  
Marc Rodriguez  
Dr. Sissy Jimenez  
Loise Taliaferro  
Meghan Philbeck

**Monarch Staff**

Joel Garcia, Glen Burnie  
Susan Myers, Annapolis  
Donna O'Shea, Laurel

**The Children's Guild**

Andrew Ross  
Amanda Henck  
Duane Arbogast  
Frank Kros

**Call to Order**

On behalf of Mr. DeVito, called the meeting of the Monarch Academy Public Charter School (MAPCS) Board of Directors to order at 6:07pm. Participants introduced themselves. Two new board members were welcomed: Kandace Hoppin and Carly Czynzewski.

**Public Comments**

There were no public comments. The board calendar is posted on the AACPS website.

**Minutes**

Minutes will be voted at the next meeting.

**Conflict of Interest Forms**

Forms were distributed to board members. Board members must submit Conflict of Interest Forms.

**Finance Report**

Ms. Henck, Director of Finance, presented the Finance Report. Financial statements were provided. It is important to remember that the report reflects the first four months of the fiscal year. Taken together, the total assets increased by \$6.8M due to the addition at Global and the new building in Annapolis. Revenue is up due to an increase in the per-pupil allotment. We are currently \$830K under projected budget. Glen Burnie is under projected budget by \$250K; Global is \$345K under projected budget and Annapolis is \$233K under projected budget. Expenses over the remainder of the year will bring the expenditures closer to projected budgets. In the Annapolis assets, the \$5M asset is really the landowner's investment, but it is offset in expenditures.

**Board Education (presentation attached)**

Mr. Garcia, Assistant Principal from Glen Burnie, presented on how Glen Burnie tracks non-academic factors for students, specifically character. Generally, character is embedded in the report card and frequently reflects effort. At Glen Burnie, character is elevated beyond a traditional report card. The school seeks students to be effective learners, contribute to the community and behave ethically. The school focuses on responsibility, perseverance, quality, service and compassion, collaboration and inquiry. The school

established indicators that reflected the character traits. The “habits” are embedded in the instruction routines and become part of the learning targets.

*“How do you address subjectiveness?”*

The teachers develop the standards and focus on two particular habits. They define the behaviors, create an anchor chart, and teach how the character traits are manifested. They then track the behaviors through observational data, student work and student self-assessments. This leads to a Habits Report Card. This then becomes part of the student-led conferences.

*“Describe crew.”*

Crew is daily and is class-based in the elementary school but it is a smaller group in middle school.

*“Is this specific to Monarch Glen Burnie.”*

This is unique to Glen Burnie, but comes out of the core practices of EL. Annapolis and Global use the PYP learner profiles, which are similar.

*“What happens when they go to high schools?”*

High schools have not adopted this practice.

*“What high schools do our children attend?”*

Most go to their boundary schools and magnet schools, but many go to private schools.

*“How long has the school been tracking the Habits?”*

This is the third year of tracking the Habits.

### **Strong Schools Maryland**

Dr. Arbogast explained the Kirwan Commission work and described how the public may influence the key components of the funding formulas for the State of Maryland. A sample letter was distributed. Board members and school personnel are encouraged to send multiple letters to the Kirwan Commission as an advocacy.

Mr. DeVito and Ms. Noplock suggested creating the letters for people to sign. The board was interested in getting more details so that they can generate letters.

Mr. Szyperki suggested also letter writing to elected officials.

### **Laurel Park Impact Fees**

Mr. Szyperki shared background on the Laurel Park impact fees, its distribution, and recommendations for expenditures. The Laurel Park Impact Fee Committee has asked for \$101,197 for awnings for Monarch Global and they are requesting funding in the County Executive’s Budget.

### **Enrollment Updates** *(see attached spreadsheet)*

Dr. Arbogast shared that the lottery is complete. After offering seats, Global has 129 students on the waitlist and Glen Burnie has 642 students on the waitlist. Annapolis is seeking to fill 250 seats. They had 87 applicants from Annapolis. The superintendent of AACPS is allowing Annapolis to recruit students from the South River and Southern school districts, as well as the waitlists from Global and Glen Burnie.

### **Principal Reports**

*Annapolis – (See attached Monarch Academy – Annapolis Principal’s Report)*

Ms. Myers shared that highlights from the PYP inquiry units for each grade. Special Friends Day is March 28<sup>th</sup>. The board is invited to attend. The Lion King production will be held on May 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. The PTA is just getting established. The school celebrated the halfway point of the school year with celebratory foods.

*Glen Burnie - (See attached Monarch Academy – Glen Burnie Principal’s Report)*

Mr. Garcia provided information on the recent Wingspan presentations. PTA has a new fundraiser coming up. The second expeditions will start in March.

Mr. Garcia described the recent incident involving the finding of a substance that appeared to be heroin left under the outside decking at the school.

*Global – (See attached Monarch Global Academy – Global’s Principal’s Report)*

Ms. O’Shea reported that the newly formed robotics team took two first places in a recent competition. The International Night is Feb. 23. The new flag poles representing the international flavor of the school were recently installed. The PYP units were shared. Ms. O’Shea described the “provocation” of a teacher being mistreated so that students can see how their voice can influence change.

It was suggested that we hear from students in future board meetings.

**Adjourn**

Mr. DeVito adjourned the meeting at 8:05pm. The next meeting of the Monarch Anne Arundel board is scheduled for April 11 at 6:00pm at Glen Burnie.

Submitted by:  
Duane Arbogast