

Monarch Academy Public Charter School Board Minutes
February 10, 2016
6730 Baymeadow Drive, Glen Burnie, MD

Attendees

Dr. Sissy Chambers
Amy Duffy
Eric DeVito
Dr. Patricia Doran
Brittany Jones
Dr. Paul Rao
Dona Sturn

Not in Attendance

Loise Novo
Dr. Gbadebo Owolabi
Ray Szyperski
Michael Wodka

Monarch Staff

Raquelle Moore, Laurel
Maurine Larkin, Glen Burnie

The Children's Guild

Dr. Duane Arbogast
Amanda Henck
Dr. Andrew Ross
Susan McFaul

Call to Order

Mr. DeVito called the meeting of the Monarch Academy Public Charter School (MAPCS) Board of Directors to order at 6:30 p.m.

Board Chair

Dr. Ross stated that Mr. DeVito will assume the role of chair of the board beginning at this evening's meeting.

Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from the December 9, 2015 meeting was made by Dr. Rao and seconded by Ms. Sturn. The motion was approved.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Strategic Plan

Dr. Arbogast stated the goal for tonight's meeting is to establish the committees and benchmarks for moving forward. Committee chairs and members were identified as follows:

Marketing & Development Committee (includes marketing, development and advocacy)

Brittany Jones, Chair

Sissy Chambers

Loise Novo

Dona Sturn

Assessment Committee (includes metrics and technology)

Dona Sturn, Chair

Patricia Doran

Gbadebo Owolabi

Finance Committee (includes finance and capital plan)

Paul Rao, Chair

Amy Duffy

Eric DeVito

Mr. Szyperski will be contacted to determine his preference for a committee. The Committees should determine questions for the operator, discuss and present to the board. Each Committee will create priority items to bring to the board for discussion at the March meeting and then a time line will be set to move items forward.

Space issues – Monarch Global is in need of space as they continue to expand. A meeting is planned and decisions will be made as to how to address the expansion. The operator and school will meet initially and bring proposals to the board.

STEM Programming & Lockheed Martin – Dr. Ross stated this topic has more impact on Monarch Global and the new Annapolis school than Glen Burnie. Ms. Stephanie Hill, the key executive at Lockheed Martin, was approached as a cabaret honoree and while she didn't wish to participate in cabaret she did offer her assistance with items in the STEM field. Lockheed Martin has a foundation which provides programs to help students better understand careers available and skills that are needed which tie to STEM courses. Ms. Hill will be touring several schools and it would be helpful for them to share STEM needs to better prepare for this tour.

2nd Quarter Financials

Ms. Henck presented on the 2nd quarter financials for Monarch Academy Public Charter School as a whole and the individual schools (see attached). The organization is ahead of budget for the first six months with the majority of the savings in salaries due to the union finalizing teacher contracts late. The salaries will be adjusted in March so the budget will reflect this next

quarter. Monarch Global is currently at 701 students with 830 total student capacity at full enrollment. Monarch Glen Burnie is at maximum capacity of 676.

Project Ideas for Clifton/Larson/Allen Day of Service

Dr. Ross reported that Ms. Caputo, board chair for TranZed Alliance, works for Clifton/Larson/Allen and is interested in conducting a day of service for the schools. One person is planning to participate in the 8th grade Passages but overall they are looking for group projects that require a lot of manpower. For example, the DC Charter School is having a book drive and will need volunteers to sort, categorize, and create a library. They are willing to paint or do anything that we need. One option for Glen Burnie is the Race for Education fundraiser on April 22nd which requires many volunteers. Monarch Global's 4th grade is creating an outside classroom and could use assistance with creating it hopefully this spring. Beth Matthews will contact Dr. Ross with details. Dr. Ross will pass along all suggestions to Ms. Caputo.

Update on Annapolis School

Dr. Arbogast stated the search for a principal has begun and the hope is to select one by the end of April. It would be beneficial to find a principal that works in Anne Arundel County who understands the system and can attract teachers. A few issues so far include the three most overcrowded schools have high numbers of Latino students. There is a need to do community outreach such as churches, health dept, etc. to get to the targeted audience and to try to build a trusting relationship with that community. There is some difficulty for parents to complete the online application. We can provide assistance but they must do the application online to enter the lottery. The approval of the school was based on the overcrowding issues in nearby schools but parents still need to elect to come to our school. This is a K-5 school with a maximum enrollment of 805 students with a goal of 500 students for year one. If our target enrollment is not achieved, there could be a second lottery with an expanded area, however, this makes transportation more challenging. This school will not evolve into a middle school because we can't compete with Annapolis Middle School.

Principal Updates

Monarch Glen Burnie – Ms. Larkin reported that in May all 5th graders will do Passages and the 8th graders will do theirs in June. Wingspan was held in January. The teachers are writing and finalizing the spring expeditions which will start in March. Earth Matters is a fun class which will be researching egg incubators, building one and hatching eggs.

Monarch Global Academy – Ms. Moore reported math night was held on February 4th with 68 families participating. International night is scheduled for February 25th with 8 countries

represented with food, customs, etc. Monarch Global has eight staff members presenting at this year's NAREN conference. A PARCC night is scheduled to share expectations with parents so they better understand the testing and the results.

PTA Updates

Monarch Glen Burnie – Ms. Duffy reported a culture night was held in January for approximately 150 people. This event included a potluck dinner and art on display. The 2nd annual valentine day theme sock hop is scheduled with 2 sessions of 150 participants each. The event is \$5 per family which is donated to charity. In March there is a health and wellness night planned and April will be the Race for Education which needs volunteers to assist students, work stations, distribute water etc.

Monarch Global Academy – Ms. Moore reported Boosterthon results. The PTA have been focusing on restaurant fundraisers since the Boosterthon was such a success. Currently revising and looking for new positions on the PTA board.

Adjourn

Mr. DeVito adjourned the meeting at 8:15 pm. The next meeting of the Monarch Anne Arundel board is scheduled for March 9, 2016 at 6:30 pm.

Submitted by:

Susan McFaul
Recording Secretary