



Monarch Academy

Monarch Academy Public Charter School Board Minutes
April 11, 2018
6730 Baymeadow Drive, Glen Burnie

Attendees

Eric DeVito
Kandace Hoppin
Ray Szyperski
Marie Noplock
Dr. Sissy Jimenez
Loise Taliaferro
Meghan Philbeck
Carly Czyzewski

The Children's Guild

Andrew Ross
Duane Arbogast

Not in Attendance

Crystal Fink
Jessica Paret
Marc Rodriguez

Monarch Staff

Joel Garcia, Glen Burnie
Susan Myers, Annapolis
Beth Matthews, Laurel
Raquelle Moore, Laurel
Emily Abell, Laurel

Call to Order

Mr. DeVito called the meeting of the Monarch Academy Public Charter School (MAPCS) Board of Directors to order at 6:20pm. Participants introduced themselves.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Minutes

A motion to approve the February 7, 2018 minutes was made by Mr. Szyperski and seconded by Ms. Noplock. The motion was approved.

Board Education (presentation attached)

Beth Matthews presented how character education is infused on the PYP program through the learner profile. Ms. Matthews gave background on the Primary Years Programme as part of the International Baccalaureate program.

The Learner Profile focuses on knowledge, concepts, skills, attitudes and action. Ms. Matthews highlighted action, as part of the TranZed model of caring, commitment and contribution. In addition, inquiry and reflection are critical aspects of the profile.

Ms. Matthews described how the planning works in response to instruction and the planning structures. When asked how teachers learn PYP, the progression and why this rigorous program is not resulting in higher test scores Ms. Matthews compared teacher learning to second language learning: silence, unsure, but through collaboration, teachers begin to get it. Something clicks and teachers achieve coherence. Teachers find some comfort. Then, they see the evidence of student learning. Ms. Moore talked about how professional development is differentiated. Test scores are improving, particularly in the younger grades. Pre and post-test assessments are showing significant growth.

All students participate in PYP. There is no tracking. Grades 7 and 8 use project-based learning. Anne Arundel County resources are used when they fit.

There is a certification for PYP and we are an authorized World School. Ms. Matthews described the costs associated with implementation.

Strong Schools Maryland

Dr. Arbogast discussed the progress of the Kirwan Commission through the Maryland legislature.

HB1415 is the 2018 Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education (Kirwan) Legislation. This legislation passed the House 114-22 and the Senate 44-0. It is expected to be signed by the Governor. This legislation provides funds for five pilot programs reflective of the Kirwan Commission's recommendation as well as extends the life of the commission through 2018 in order to provide their funding report.

SB1122 - Education Trust Fund "Lock box" Fix

This legislation passed the Senate 47-0 and the House 130-2. SB1122 closes the loophole in the Education Trust Fund. This bill would create a ballot question in November to allow all Marylanders to vote to close the loophole through constitutional amendment and ensure all gaming revenue supplements the current school funding formula, something promised years ago but never happened.

The focus for the month has elevated Kirwan into the gubernatorial elections, by holding candidates accountable to their commitment to the tenets of Kirwan. Here are some questions you can ask:

- Do you support the Kirwan Commission recommendations?
- Will you vote to turn the Kirwan Commission recommendations into law?
- How will you ensure the recommendations are fully funded?

Principal Reports

Annapolis – (See attached Monarch Academy – Annapolis Principal's Report)

Ms. Myers shared the principal's report. There are concerns about the use of social media and Fountas and Pinnell data. The Lion King Jr. is scheduled in May and invitations will be sent out. The food pantry is going strong. Dr. Arbogast described the Towson University grant training ESOL teachers by providing master's degree.

The playground is moving forward with a design. There will be progress on the early childhood playground this spring. Dr. Ross shared that the final playground cost may approach \$750,000. We are looking for a cash infusion from the County Executive which could approach \$600,000. The Guild's capital budget is limited to \$1.5M a year.

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

Mr. Garcia shared the report including Expedition summaries and iReady data. The school has scheduled trips to an outdoor education facility called North Bay.

Global – (See attached Monarch Global Academy – Global's Principal's Report)

Ms. Moore presented the principal report. This included Fountas and Pinnell data, the Science Night and kudos to Heather Carnaghan who is a finalist for the teacher of the year and the success of the robotics club. Drama presentation is You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown. The PYP Expedition is May 31st.

Knights of Columbus

Mr. Szyperski presented a donation from the Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll fundraiser to the Monarch Global staff. Mr. Szyperski read a letter of commendation.

Enrollment Updates

Dr. Arbogast shared that the lottery is complete. Annapolis is seeking to fill 250 seats and have 283 applicants. The enrollment numbers were discussed. By opening the lottery to Glen Burnie and Global and

to the South River and Southern districts, our applicants have climbed to 283. We are still working hard on enrollment. We are targeting the Latino populations in Edgewater and in Annapolis. The school remains diverse in current enrollment and in applicants.

Library Update

Ms. Myers and Dr. Arbogast shared an update on the West Street Library. The library opening is April 16 at 11:00. We discussed the security of the library and the accommodations between the library and the school. The library hours will mirror closely to the school's hours.

Principal Selection

Dr. Arbogast shared the initial interviews are complete and three finalists will be invited to do a second call-back which will include a walk-through. The target to name the new principal is early May.

Adjourn

Mr. DeVito adjourned the meeting at 8:11pm. The next meeting of the Monarch Anne Arundel board is scheduled for June 13th at 6:00pm at Global.

Submitted by:

Duane Arbogast