



Monarch Academy

Monarch Academy, Anne Arundel
Board of Directors Meeting
February 13, 2019
Monarch Academy Annapolis

Minutes
Creating Courageous Children

Attendees

Dr. Sissy Jimenez
Carly Czyzewski
Kandace Hoppin
Eric DeVito
Elizabeth Noble
Jess Deinlein

Not in Attendance

Crystal Fink
Marc Rodriguez
Loise Taliaferro
Ray Szyperski
Megan Philbeck

Monarch Staff

Susan Myers, Annapolis
Kim Jakovics, Glen Burnie
Donna O'Shea, Global
Josh Sutherland
Andrew Ross
Duane Arbogast
Amanda Henck
Kathy Lane
Colleen Tyler

1. Meeting called to order at 6:10 by Eric DeVito.
2. Minutes - Minutes reviewed from 10/10/18 and 12/20/18 – however, not approved because of lack of quorum.
3. Public Comment - No members of public in attendance, so public comment section closed.
4. Financial update and Audit presentation - Financial statements and results of the consolidated entity and each of the three schools were presented by Ms. Henck. The entity and the schools are in good overall position. Annapolis is under enrolled versus budget, leading to a revenue variance and a likely operating loss for the fiscal year, which is being monitored.
5. Glen Burnie Renewal update - Principal Jakovics presented the results of the Monarch GB renewal, which was a positive renewal decision vote 8-0 on February 6, 2019. Principal Jakovics and her staff were congratulated on a fantastic effort and result. The next step is the formal process to enter into a new charter agreement, which will be provided to us by Pat Crain for our review and ultimately signature.
6. Principal's Report
 - Monarch Annapolis – Sue Myers (attached). Ms. Myers shared the enrollment numbers. Thirty students have withdrawn. Of those, 20 cited transportation issues as a reason for the withdrawal. There are currently 88 applications in the lottery, with 61 from the Annapolis catchment area. Demographics include 60% FARMS. Black history month was planned by staff and parents. Read Across America is on March 1st. Heart Market is a

collaboration with the Food Pantry. Lots of clubs going on. The school is recognizing students for academics and social growth at the quarterly Kids of Character Assembly. Ms. Myers described the PYP units.

Elizabeth Noble, PTA rep, asked if Mr. Sutherland would audit the PTA books for the first year. He believes that a third party must do a limited audit, but is checking.

A Fun Run is planned.

The PTA bylaws have been changes to add a new position called Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion.

- Monarch Glen Burnie – Kim Jakovics (attached). Ms. Jakovics shared the lottery data. She also discussed the wingspans and the implementation of the new curriculum. There is a Values Report Card being piloted. There is a group of students driving a survey around bullying. There has been a focus on student academic data. The students performed self-written monologues based on Esperanza Rising. The school is looking to increase parent volunteers. The school has significantly decreased students out of class for behavior. Mr. DeVito asked about curriculum challenges. Ms. Jakovics described that the curriculum is complex and it is taking time to learn it.
 - Monarch Global – Donna O’Shea (attached). Ms. O’Shea indicated that 68% of the applications in kindergarten are in kindergarten. ELL population has grown from 4% to 125. FARMS has increased from 20% to 35%. Parent involvement is increasing. International Night is February 22nd. Global created an arts integration position this year. Ms. Deinlein described the puppet show in third grade and elaborated on the implementation of AMP (Art, music and performance).
7. Friendraiser in April – Mr. DeVito & Dr. Ross. Dr. Ross described the Friendraiser event. The last one held at the Guild featured a dancer from Monarch Annapolis. This is an event to let stakeholders know all of the things that The Children’s Guild does. The TranZed Board wants to hold a similar event in the Annapolis area including political and arts community. The story is told through performance. Can this group suggest people who should be invited? Ms. Lane suggested that Ms. Myers, Dr. Arbogast and Ms. Lane start generating a list and then running it by Mr. DeVito. Dr. Ross indicated that April is not a hard date.
 8. New Chief of Educational Services, Kathy Lane – Dr. Ross introduced Kathy Lane as the Chief of Educational Services.
 9. STAR Ratings - Dr. Arbogast described the STAR rating system. The rating is based on PARRC performance, PARRC growth and ELL performance. In addition, chronic absenteeism, school climate and a well-rounded curriculum are considered. Dr. Arbogast expressed concerns about some of the metrics, particularly how the well-rounded curriculum is calculated. In addition, the STAR rating moving forward will include student group gap analysis. The STAR ratings for each school were distributed.

10. Enrollment Updates – Ms. Lane explained that Brandon Turner is the new Admissions Director. Ms. Lane talked about how the Annapolis market is saturated, but efforts have expanded to increase marketing and events to increase exposure. Ms. Noble suggested that a local daycare might be a good place to do a marketing event. The message about Monarch is not well known across the city. Ms. Noble felt strongly that the more people know about the school the more interest will be generated.
11. Legislative Agenda – Dr. Arbogast detailed the new proposed charter legislation and the Kirwan report. The new legislation is asking for \$1600 per student for facility support. Monarch Global and Annapolis are not considered charter schools so we are working to include that language. The rally to support the charter bill is February 19 at 5:30. The full Kirwan report will not be completed this session and large funding will not be allocated until the 2020 legislative session. We would like to support the Kirwan commission on March 7. Kirwan will significantly expand Pre-K opportunities.
12. Update on Monarch Baltimore – Dr. Ross described the circumstances of Monarch Baltimore. The school system has voted to close the school based on academic performance. The Children’s Guild is appealing the decision to the state board and asked for a stay until the state board can hear the appeal. Morgan State has agreed to support the school. If the appeal fails, the school will close in June.
13. Adjournment – Mr. DeVito adjourned the meeting at 8:07.