Monarch Academy, Anne Arundel

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, January 12, 2022

ZOOM

6:00 - 8:00 p.m. OPEN BOARD MEETING

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| **Attendees** | **Not in Attendance** | **Monarch Staff** | **The Children’s Guild** |
| Dr. Sissy Jimenez  Carley Czyzewski  Brittany Jones  Megan Philbeck  Dominique Barnes  Elizabeth Noble  Kandace Hoppin  Janine Fratantuono | Loise Taliaferro  Marc Rodriquez  Amber Marcheso  Shae Delfino  Eric DeVito  Angela Balsamo  Ray Szyperski  Jess Deinlein | Kim Jakovics, Glen Burnie  Emily Abell, Global  Charlette Manbeck,  Annapolis | Kathy Lane  Aleisa Fries  Brandon Turner  Charley Gordon |

**Minutes**

1. Call to Order – Ms. Lane

Monarch Anne Arundel Board Meeting called to order at 6:04pm by Ms. Lane on behalf of Dr. Jimenez.

1. Public Comment – Ms. Lane

None

1. Current Financial Report – Mr. Gordon



* Current year revenues are below budget but ahead of prior year
* Current year operating expenses are below budget but larger than last year
* Current year expenses are offsetting lower revenues, creating a positive change in net assets in excess of budget, but lower than prior year
* Expenses are running below due to staffing costs (Currently employing less staff than projected)

1. Review Minutes – Dr. Jimenez

* The meeting minutes from September 8, 2021 meeting were reviewed and approved by the Board
* The meeting minutes from November 10, 2021 meeting were reviewed and approved by the Board

1. Principal’s Report

* Monarch Glen Burnie – Ms. Jakovics

<https://www.smore.com/y3hxpd>

* 8 students have transferred since last report due to families moving out of state or transitioning to home schooling
* Explained Work Plan
  + - Conducted a survey to determine whether students felt physically safe in the classroom with their teacher
* 80-85% felt safe
* The mode for negative answers was “loud noise and mask use”. No common threat of bullying. This has been referred to Student Services Team for group processing
* The mode for feeling safe was “the teacher makes a difference and the impact of mask use”
* Focusing on the Well-Being of staff by hosting team-building professional development workshops and events
* The PTA and Community Dream Team sponsored event for families and teachers
* Monarch families provided financial assistance to 20 families for the winter holiday season
* Processed 52 COVID cases from 12/23-1/11
* 22 quarantined on 1/11/22
* There are staffing shortages due to COVID positive cases and childcare (resulting from closures due to COVID)
* Monarch Global – Ms. Abell

<https://www.smore.com/pzg5f>

* There are staffing shortages due to upcoming and current Maternity Leave and COVID positive cases
* Several students have transferred from MGA due to families moving out of state
* 120 students and 19 staff members reported COVID positive since the start of the school year
* 22 quarantined as of 1/11/22
* PTA provided “Friendsgiving” and breakfast for staff throughout the holidays
* Currently running 2 AVID programs
* Goal is to become a site of distinction in the next 5 years
* Ms. Abell is hosting monthly “Coffee with the Principal” events to meet families in an effort to provide feedback and support to and from the community
* MGA participated in a coat drive with Maryland City Elementary School. Any coats left in the “lost in found” will be donated by the PTA if not claimed
* Board members are invited to attend the luncheon at MGA on January 31, 2021 at 11am-1pm to dedicate the Media Center to the founding principal, Donna O’Shea and honor her contributions to MGA and AA County.
* Monarch Annapolis – Ms. Manbeck

<https://www.smore.com/yrhqsg>

* Ms. Manbeck has returned and resumed her role as Principal
* Thank you to Ms. O’Shea for filling in in Ms. Manbeck’s leave of absence!
* Several students have transferred due to families moving out of state. Numerous students have transferred to eSchool
* Construction has begun on the Penthouse remodel
* This will add two additional classrooms, bathrooms, workstations, and teacher planning space
* Teachers are attending workshops to become IB trained. Once trained, the teachers will host workshops to train the other teachers, with the goal to have 100% of all staff trained
* Classroom teachers have started Community Building Circles 3-5 days per week
* MAA School Counselor, Ms. Johnson, has partnered with 18 Middle Schools to transition 5th graders into those schools and magnet programs throughout the county
* This year, the school will transition to a Schoolwide Title I school
* The school had to transition to short term virtual synchronous instruction on 12/20-12/23 due to high number of COVID cases
* Building underwent a deep clean
* Ventilation was assessed and upgraded as necessary
* New cleaning company has been contracted to clean/disinfect every evening
* 2 daytime porters assist with high touch cleaning throughout the day
* Currently 6 positive student cases and 0 staff

1. Board membership – Dr. Jimenez
   * Recommendations and Nominations for new members

* The Children’s Guild, Ms. Lane, will be meeting with the Maryland Charter School Board Network for support in recruiting new Board members
* Dr. Jimenez requests that any recommendations from current Board members are e-mailed to her and Ms. Lane for review and consideration
* Dr. Jimenez recommends that we reach out to parents/families within the schools to determine interest of joining the Board
* Ms. Lane will review the by-laws to determine if this is a possibility

1. Committee Membership- Appoint Chairs and Committee members – Dr. Jimenez

**(Appointing Committees will be a tabled agenda item until more Board members are recruited)**

* + Governance Committee
* The current Board will be appointed as The Governance Committee. New members will be assigned to a committee based on their experience and expertise
  + Marketing, Enrollment, Finance & Facilities Committee (MEFF)
* Current Enrollment by school and Recruitment Strategy – Mr. Turner



* The new Marketing Department is revamping the Marketing Strategic Plan to provide more “how to” options and opportunities for enrollment
* Initiating new marketing efforts that will expand targeted audiences
* More information will be provided at next meeting
  + Parent Engagement, Academic Excellence & Compliance Committee (PEAC)

1. Other Business
   * Vote on meeting preference- virtual or in person

* **Dr. Jimenez decided that the next meeting in March will be virtual** and this question will be reviewed again at that time
* Dominique Barnes is introduced as a new Board member, PTA President at Monarch Global Academy

1. Adjournment – Dr. Jimenez

Monarch Anne Arundel Board Meeting adjourned at 7:37pm.