

MMCS Board Meeting Minutes

6:00 pm

February 14, 2022

255 S. May Street

Southern Pines, NC 28387

In attendance: Ben Greene, Debra Gray, Ronda Hawkins, Taylor Clement, Paul Murphy as well as school staff Kisha Young, Jennifer Sifford and Katherine Rucker. Not Present Dave Kilarski.

1. Call to Order at 6:05 pm 2/14/2022 Reading of School's Mission read by Ben
2. Public Comment:
 1. Sarah Carlson- Parent of 2 students- Concern on mask mandate
 2. Dauphine Wambles- Parent of 2 students- Concern on mask mandate
3. Board Presentation: Equity Advocacy and Accountability Committee (20 minutes, EAAC)
Discussion from the board. Katie noted if anyone had specific questions that could not be answered to please email and she will follow up with them directly or follow-up at the next board meeting.
4. Updates From Katie
 - A. General School Updates
 - a. Charter renewal update. Interview is taking place on March 11th. The charter renewal interview from 10:45 to 11:15 am with board members. We need to make a 15-20 movie to present since they cannot come on campus due to COVID.
 - b. 277 students applied for the lottery. Up 17% from last year. 40 seats were offered in Kindergarten. There are now 237 students on the waitlist between Kindergarten and sixth grade. Welcome letters to go to new families this week.
 - c. Submitted our Civil Rights Data Collection (CRDC) last week. It was completed last week by Jennifer. Only completed once every three years.
 - B. Financial, (*January Financials*)
 - a. Per pupil increase is about \$190.00 per pupil.
 - b. Health insurance policy through the state is increasing. The cost increase is around \$170.00 per month per employee.
 - c. The school will start budget planning for the 22/23 school year soon.
 - d. The Piedmont Natural Gas bill was almost \$8000.00 in the month of December. The bill came down 45% for the month of January.
 - C. New Campus, *Moore Montessori plans and exterior elevations drawings v3*
 - a. Discussion about the new campus update. Updates have been provided to the board.
 - b. Quote from the window contractor came in. That will be sent to the board. Moving forward with the windows is the next step to renovation.

5. Board Action (30 minutes)

A. Minutes for January 10th Board Meeting

- a. Debra moved to approve the January meeting minutes. Rocky 2nd. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Indoor Mask Requirement

- a. Discussion: Katie noted that the trends are improving. Rocky noted that the trends are also lowering at First Health. On Friday, at First Health, the COVID test rate was 14% positive. Katie noted that quarantines are no longer required by DHHS masked or unmasked as long as students and staff are healthy as of February 21. Ronda asked about sending out a survey to parents on how they feel in regards to optional masks. Ronda noted that the board reserved the right to call an emergency board meeting just in case a decision would need to be changed.
- b. Taylor motioned that as of March 1st to make the masks optional. Rocky seconded the motion. Motion failed by a vote of 2 to 4.
- c. Taylor motion that we follow Moore County Schools (MCS) in regards to the mask mandate. Rocky seconded the motion. Taylor noted that MCS voted to make masks optional beginning 2/15/22. Motion failed by a vote of 2 to 4.
- d. Taylor motion that we moved to make the mask optional when Sandhills Pediatrics positive rate is less than 10%. Taylor dropped motion.
- e. Paul motioned that we continue masking through February 28th. Noting that there would be a board meeting on February 28th at 6:00 pm on zoom to review school and community spread in the preceding two weeks. Ronda seconded. Motion carried by a vote of 4 to 2.

C. School Year 2022/23 Calendar

- a. Rocky motion to approve the calendar as presented in January. Debra seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Updated School Year 2021/22 Calendar

- a. Discussion: January 18th will need to be made up due to a power outage at the school due to the ice storm. Katie proposed that we update the schedule for March 7th which is parent teacher conferences to also include a remote learning day to make up for the missed school day.
- b. Taylor motioned to approve March 7th as a remote learning day. Paul seconded. Motion carried unanimously

Moved into closed session at 8:15.

6. Closed Session (purpose: N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(a)(6), related to employee contract)

Moved out of closed session at 8:35.

7. Adjourn

Ronda motioned to adjourn, Rocky seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:37. Next meeting will be February 28th at 6:00 pm.