

MILLENNIUM CHARTER ACADEMY
A CHALLENGE FOUNDATION ACADEMY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
May 20, 2014

The Board of Directors for Millennium Charter Academy met in regular session on Tuesday, May 20, 2014 at 5:30 pm. Those Directors present included Hugh Campbell, Marty Danley, Renee Francis, Ken Gwyn, Erik Moledor, and Susan Shipley. Also present were Kirby McCrary (Headmaster) and Angelia Draughn (MPACT President).

Philip Byers, David Hiatt, Greg Marshall, Cheryl Reinstadler, and Christopher Willingham were not present at the meeting.

Ken Gwyn called the meeting to order, Kirby McCrary led the Board in an Invocation, and Ken Gwyn led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Upon motion of Hugh Campbell, seconded by Susan Shipley, the Board unanimously approved the proposed Agenda amended to add in Unfinished Business a discussion of the use of recording devices in the classroom.

Upon motion of Susan Shipley, seconded by Hugh Campbell, the April 2014 Board Meeting Open Session Minutes were unanimously approved. Upon motion of Renee Francis, seconded by Hugh Campbell, the April 2014 Board Meeting Closed Session Minutes were unanimously approved.

During Public Comments a suggestion was made to install a peep hole at the back door of the Middle School lunchroom for improved security and convenience.

Angelia Draughn gave a report from MPACT:

- A Teacher Appreciation Week was held earlier this month. Treats were given to the teachers throughout the week, and they were given multiple lunches.
- MPACT is collecting requests from teachers for next year.
- The Student Leadership Council purchased a brick from the Campaign for Achievement in honor of MPACT.
- MPACT brought in over \$36,000 this year.
- MPACT amended their bylaws to allow longer terms for MPACT officers.
- The new MPACT Board is in place for next year.
- On Field Day, May 28, MPACT will provide slushes to students.
- MPACT's next big project is the August 9 student welcome back event.

Kirby McCrary presented the Headmaster's Report, emphasizing the following items:

- Mr. McCrary introduced two teachers to give presentations on Paideia seminars held in their grades this year.
 - Becky McMillian (first grade teacher) summarized the first grade inquiry into the question "What is home?"

- Christie Speer (Middle School math teacher) commented on the seventh grade investigation into “What does it mean to be human?”
- Mr. McCrary presented a video presentation prepared by the fifth grade teachers of their students’ exploration of the question “What does it mean to persevere?”
- Current enrollment is 536, 108% (536/498) of the Five Year Plan.
- Mr. McCrary projected 2014-15 enrollment of 640 students, which is eight more students than the enrollment cap we have received from the Office of Charter Schools. There are 91 students on the waiting list.
- Mr. McCrary made recommendations to hire Joanna Refvem as a (part-time) college counselor, Sarah Gebbens as an Upper School Exceptional Children (EC) teacher, and Keith Rose as a seventh/eighth grade teacher of history and mathematics. After some discussion, the Board unanimously approved a motion of Renee Francis, seconded by Marty Danley, to approve these hiring recommendations of Mr. McCrary.
- Hillsdale College has awarded the Henry Salvatori Prize for Excellence in Teaching to Millennium Charter Academy. This prestigious prize is bestowed annually upon a school that teaches in the great Western tradition, exhibiting a strong commitment to academics and to the teaching of virtue and citizenship throughout the curriculum. Representatives from Hillsdale College will travel to MCA in September to present the prize (\$25,000 for books, supplies, and equipment) in a special ceremony.
- The Board recognized and thanked Pam Braley, who authored MCA’s original application for the Henry Salvatori Prize for Excellence in Teaching. Per the Board policy encouraging individuals to write grants to further the stated mission of the school, Ms. Braley is eligible, at the discretion of the Board, for compensation of 18% of the total prize amount. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Susan Shipley, seconded by Renee Francis, to remunerate Ms. Braley \$4500 after the Salvatori Prize funds have been received by MCA.
- The middle school teachers presented an impressive array of fifty-two elective options to next year's rising sixth through eighth-grade students during a special session on Wednesday, May 7.

There was no report from the Treasurer.

Erik Moledor gave a report from the Finance Committee.

- As of today there is \$621,482 in the bank for the operating accounts and \$12,628 for the Campaign for Achievement account.
- The most recent Budget Report was presented and discussed.
- Work is continuing on next year’s Budget, which is scheduled for approval at the June Board Meeting. A draft budget will be distributed for Board review and comment before that meeting.

There was no report from the Board Development Committee.

Marty Danley gave a report High School Development Committee.

- MCA has forty confirmed high school students.
- The Campaign for Achievement has raised approximately \$15,000 thus far, and The Night of Celebration made a net profit of \$8845.
- Ken Gwyn reported for the Facilities Committee that

- We are still working on final approval of USDA loan, but hope to have it by end of next week.
- The loan for the expansion should be closed by end of June.
- The foundation of the expansion has been poured.
- The walls will be poured this week and are scheduled to be raised on May 28.
- Marty Danley reported from the Technology Committee
 - Bring your own device is being more closely investigated as a student technology option.
 - The VOIP telephone system cost was much higher than anticipated, and other options are being investigated.
 - A wireless network upgrade is being investigated.
- Kirby McCrary reported from the Athletics Committee that ninth graders will be eligible to participate with seventh and eighth graders in athletic competitions.

Ken Gwyn led a discussion about the future of the partnership between MCA and TeamCFA. After much consideration, the Board unanimously approved the following motion of Renee Francis, seconded by Marty Danley:

After careful consideration of the points raised at the April 15, 2014 MCA Board Meeting by TeamCFA Board Representative, Cheryl Reinstadler, the MCA Board accepts the conclusion that, operating under the current affiliate arrangement together, MCA and TeamCFA are incompatible on several key issues. As such, the Board moves to discontinue MCA's TeamCFA affiliate agreement effective immediately. The Board holds a great deal of respect for the mission, values, and good work of the entire TeamCFA organization and wishes TeamCFA the best in their efforts to support the development of academically rigorous, financially sustainable charter schools. Although we will no longer operate as a TeamCFA affiliate, MCA hopes to find future opportunities to support and advance the objectives of TeamCFA. The Board firmly believes that both MCA and TeamCFA approached this partnership with the best of intentions, but in the end, it seems clear that the good work of each of our respective organizations would best proceed outside of the current affiliate agreement.

The discussion of the use of recording devices in the classroom was tabled until the June Board Meeting.

Kirby McCrary recommended the following policy on criminal background checks: "Millennium Charter Academy will mirror the background check policy of Mount Airy City Schools." Upon motion of Renee Francis, seconded by Susan Shipley, the Board unanimously approved the Headmaster's recommended criminal background check policy.

Upon motion of Renee Francis, seconded by Susan Shipley, the Board unanimously approved adjournment of the meeting.

Respectfully submitted
Erik S. Moledor

Attachments: Headmaster's Report