



Monument Academy

August 17, 2011

Dear Stakeholders,

The Board of Directors is happy to announce that we have approved our charter renewal contract with District 38. Starting in November of last year, we began a process to renew our contract. By the spring, the D38 Board had approved our renewal granting us a five-year term. Over the past several months, we have been mutually developing an operational agreement and at a Special Meeting of the Monument Academy Board on August 16th, we unanimously approved the contract. The D38 Board also approved the contract at their meeting on August 18th.

While charter school contract negotiations usually address revisions brought about by changes in state statute, Monument Academy sought and was granted a number of operational requests we believe will make us a better school. Below is a short summary of some of the new contract components:

1. MA will directly provide services for their English Language Learners and Gifted students. They will receive their proportional part of all grant funding for these services. The district will provide oversight for these services without charge.
2. MA will receive access to student databases without charge.
3. MA will continue to pay for oversight in the areas of business services and superintendent/board services. Any increases in costs over the next five years for these services will be matched with increases in PPR and will not increase over two times any increases in PPR.
4. MA will receive assessment assistance free of charge (at the current levels).
5. The special education agreement changed drastically. MA will provide all services through its own staff. The district will provide oversight and will have the final say, as required by statute, in all SPED aspects (curriculum, placement and so on).
6. MA will receive a percentage distribution of any future MLO's sponsored by D38 and passed by ballot initiative.
7. Registration of MA students will occur totally at MA (parents will not be required to go to Big Red).
8. New efforts will be made to allow MA more access to D38 facilities and fields.

We are proud to be a part of District 38 and have been impressed with new Superintendent John Borman's leadership. The D38 Board of Education has assured us that they want MA as a partner and we, as a Board, have pointed to this new contract as a sign that we too want them as our partner.

We, as your elected representatives, will continue to focus on the kids and hope this new school year is a great learning experience.

Sincerely,

Tim Reiman
Board President