

MONUMENT ACADEMY
"A Charter School, a Public School of Choice"
Board of Directors Regular Meeting

November 11th, 2021 at 6pm MST
Monument Academy East Campus Band Room, #1044

Mission Statement:

The mission of Monument Academy is to provide a challenging, content – rich, academic program offered within an engaging, caring, and positive learning environment. Established on a solid foundation of knowledge, Monument Academy emphasizes academic excellence, respect, responsibility, character and exemplary citizenship.

A. CALL TO ORDER/MISSION STATEMENT/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ROLL CALL/QUORUM:

Mr. Graham called the meeting to order at 6:05pm. Mrs. Clinton read the mission statement. The Pledge of Allegiance was stated, roll call was taken, and a quorum was declared.

Board Members in Attendance:

Mr. Buczkowski
Mrs. Clinton
Mr. Dole
Mrs. McCuen
Mrs. St. Aubyn
Mr. Graham

Others in Attendance:

Mr. Holmes
Mr. Brocklehurst

B. ADDITIONS TO/APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mr. Graham motioned to amend the specific statues under our executive session matters by including C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(c) which reads to discuss confidential student information related to parent grievances and as required by under the family educational rights protection act of 1974 20USC1232G 34CFR Part 99. Mr. Buczkowski seconded. Motion carries.

C. SCHOOL SPOTLIGHT : Mrs. Elizabeth Weber was honored for her contributions to the Monument Academy community through her work as the Elementary Education Technology Director.

D. CITIZEN’S COMMENTS PERTAINING TO AGENDA ITEMS *Limit 3 minutes per person*

- a. Mrs. Stoltenberg expressed her concerns regarding the location of the 6th grade class for the 2022-2023 school year.
- b. Mrs. Sellers expressed concerns about how the school works with students with specials needs.

E. CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. Minutes from October 28th, 2021 and November 3rd, 2021 were approved as distributed by unanimous consent.
- b. The next meeting date of December 9th, 2021 in the East Campus Band Room was approved by unanimous consent.

F. REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATION & COMMITTEES:

- a. COO: Mr. Holmes
 - i. Survey results for Phase II were shared. See attached.
 - ii. A meeting with athletic coaches is being planned. Will discuss CHSAA membership as well as HS sports for next season.

MONUMENT ACADEMY
“A Charter School, a Public School of Choice”
Board of Directors Regular Meeting

- iii. Current financial position and budgeting challenges were discussed with staff at both campuses.
- b. CFO: Mr. Brocklehurst
 - i. Combined month end revenue:\$861,376
 - ii. Combined month end expenses: \$846,531
 - iii. Combined net income for month end: \$14,846
 - iv. Financial Highlights:
 - 1. Finalized a balanced revised budget for FY22. Requires approval by the school board.
 - 2. The FY21 Audit is anticipated to be substantially completed prior to the next board meeting.
 - 3. Once the FY21 Audit is complete annual metrics will be presented to show MA’s financial health.
 - 4. Revisions to the 5-year financial forecast have been discussed with Mr. Holmes and the finance committee. The \$700K deficit, shown for FY23 has almost been reduced to zero.
 - 5. Continuing to discuss financing options for Phase II. Additional options have been proposed by a second consultant. This includes looking at USDA funding options and a Design, Build & Finance (DB&F) option. DBF holds a lot of promise, allowing for starting Phase II and postponing a refinance for 1-2 years.
- c. Committees
 - i. Highway 105 Committee Report: Mrs. St. Aubyn
 - 1. The school contracted with a traffic engineer to get traffic counts and turns. We have asked the county to coordinate with CDOT to resequence the lights.
 - 2. The committee continues to coordinate with the county on the recirculation plan.
 - ii. Curriculum: Mrs. Clinton – no report
 - iii. Volunteer Committee: Mrs. Clinton
 - 1. The committee continues to push out opportunities for parents to support the West campus. Information on how to best support the East campus is being reviewed. A potential volunteer software program is being considered.
 - iv. SAAC – West: Mrs. St. Aubyn
 - 1. The West campus mid-year survey will begin Dec 1 and end Dec 10.
 - v. SAAC – East: Mrs. McCuen
 - 1. The East campus mid-year survey will be pushed out before the winter break.
 - vi. Governance: Mr. Graham
 - 1. The committee has started the systematic review of the bylaws. Intend to have an elections policy first read for the next board meeting and that policy adopted and approved by January.
 - vii. Finance: Mr. Dole
 - 1. The Board has a solid budget for current FY. The MA Foundation holds our building deeds. The MA Foundation in concert with the Finance Committee has reviewed a potential design/build finance contract. The hope is to begin work on Phase II as early as possible.
 - viii. Buildings & Facilities: Mr. Buczkowski
 - 1. Committee reviewed the Phase II survey.

G. ITEMS REQUIRING BOARD DISCUSSION/ACTION:

- a. East Campus Principal Resignation – Mr. Graham

MONUMENT ACADEMY
“A Charter School, a Public School of Choice”
Board of Directors Regular Meeting

- i. See attached statement.
- ii. Mr. Holmes stated they intend to hire an interim administrator to work with the current AP. A formal job posting for a permanent principal position will open in the Spring.
- b. Revised 2021-2022 Budget – Mr. Dole
 - i. Mr. Graham motioned to approve the review 2021-2022 fiscal school year budget as presented by our CFO, Marc Brocklehurst. Mr. Dole seconded; motion carried unanimously.
- c. Car Line West Campus – Mrs. St. Aubyn / Mr. Graham
 - i. A traffic study began Tuesday morning. The effort continues to try and find improvements. Mr. Dole pointed out there have been daily improvements. Reminder to follow the protocols per the agreement and keep focused on safety. The Board thanked the church again for agreeing to continue use of their driveway.
- d. 5th Grade Survey – Mr. Graham
 - i. Survey results were evenly divided. See attached results.
 - ii. Mr. Holmes stated they are looking at low-cost options for portables as well as what the option looks like to potentially have some 6th graders remain at West. Further discussion will be held at the January board meeting after more information and meetings are held with staff.
- e. Phase II Survey – Mr. Graham
 - i. No discussion. Please see above notes.
- f. Policy Review 1500A, 1500B, 1500C – Mr. Buczkowski
 - i. Mr. Graham motioned to accept revisions to policy 1500A, B and C as provided tonight. Mrs. St. Aubyn seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.
- g. Snow Days and Full Day Fridays – Mrs. St. Aubyn
 - i. Due to changes in carline, the elementary students lose 10 minutes of instruction time each day. If we do not need them, we will not use these full days. They would remain half days.
 - ii. Mr. Dole motioned that the MA Board of Directors approve the potential make-up days of Feb 25, March 11, April 8, and April 22, only to be applicable to the MA West Campus as needed. Mrs. St. Aubyn seconded, and motion carried unanimously.
- h. All School Fundraiser – Mrs. St. Aubyn
 - i. With upcoming budget challenges there’s interest in an all-school fundraiser. Josh and Wendy Brethour (safety solutions team) chaired the safety and SRO fundraiser a few years ago and are willing to help develop an annual fundraiser.
 - ii. Mr. Graham hereby moved to implement the Resource Development Committee and Megghan St. Aubyn would be the chair moving forward. Mr. Dole seconded. Motion carried with unanimous consent.

H. BOARD COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a. Mrs. Clinton provided PTO announcements and expressed gratitude for the excellent Veteran’s Day ceremony that was held earlier in the day.
- b. Mr. Dole applauded the Watch DOGS kickoff event and the way this program will have a positive impact on kids throughout the whole school.

I. NEW BUSINESS

MONUMENT ACADEMY
“A Charter School, a Public School of Choice”
Board of Directors Regular Meeting

- a. None

J. MOTION TO ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- a. Mrs. St. Aubyn motioned to adjourn into executive session pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b, e & f) to receive legal advice on specific legal matters, to discuss negotiating positions and to advise negotiators, and to discuss personnel matters related to facility financing, charter contract matters, and performance of school administrators. Mr. Graham seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.
- b. Mr. Graham motioned to adjourn out of executive session at 10:07pm. Mr. Buczkowski seconded the motion.

K. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Mr. Graham motioned to resume open session at 10:10pm. Mr. Dole motioned for adjournment. Mr. Graham seconded. Motion passed with unanimous consent.

L. CITIZEN COMMENTS NOT PERTAINING TO AGENDA ITEMS

November 11, 2021

Dear MA community –

Last week the Monument Academy Board, Staff, Students, and Families were all notified of the sudden resignation of our beloved East Campus Principal, Mrs. Julie Seymour. Mrs. Seymour has been an integral part of the MA community for the past 12 years, and she has called Monument Academy home for her own children's K through 8 educations. Mrs. Seymour has shown an extremely deep love, devotion, and compassion towards every student in this school, and we are all very saddened by her sudden resignation. As a board we realize that her absence will leave a large void in the leadership at our East Campus. Please know that tonight we will be discussing our steps forward and seek to have collaborative engagement in the days ahead with our COO, Administration, and Teachers at the East Campus.

This board is also very aware that when a key leadership person resigns in the middle of the school year, that rumors and accusations will abound. Over the past week, I have had many conversations, meetings, phone calls and e-mails regarding this sudden resignation. As your board president I have personally had a direct conversation with Mrs. Seymour since receiving her resignation. During that conversation I deliberately inquired and asked if there is anything this board can do to have her reconsider. She emphatically stated, "no" and that it is for *personal* reasons. At this point, all I can do is honor Mrs. Seymour's reasoning and focus on the path forward for Monument Academy. Let me be clear, we will forge ahead, and we will always remember the legacy and impact Mrs. Seymour has had on so many lives.

Furthermore, To the Staff, Teachers, Students and Parents – This board is extremely aware of the significant number of challenges Monument Academy has faced in the last 90 days. We feel your pain, we feel your frustration, and we feel your fear. With that said, this board is resolute and determined to keep moving forward, even if it is day by day. My firm conviction is that with all of us unified together, we will take Monument Academy to an even higher level of success. Please continue to hold the line and know that we are standing right beside you. Thank you for your continued trust and support, but most importantly, your prayers.

Yours in service,

Ryan Graham

President – Monument Academy School Board

Phase II Feedback Results

October 20, 2021

This is list of the items respondents rated as #1, or “must have.”

Top Priorities

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----|
| 1. Academic Wing for High School | 50 |
| 2. Competition Size Gymnasium | 42 |

High Ranked Priorities

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----|
| 3. Athletic Field | 31 |
| 4. Larger Commons Area/Cafeteria | 27 |
| 5. Performing Arts Auditorium | 26 |

Lower Priority

- | | |
|------------|----|
| 6. Library | 14 |
|------------|----|

All others, less than 7



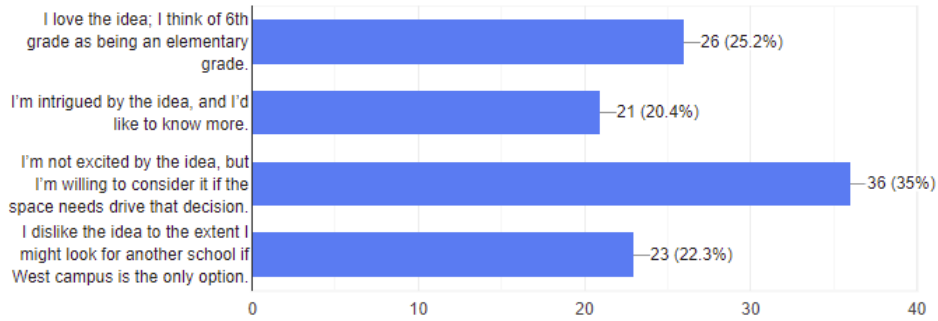
Send



Questions Responses 103 Settings

What are your thoughts on 6th grade at West campus?

103 responses



It is also possible that 6th grade parents would be given the option to choose their campus. This aligns with long-standing Monument Academy desire to partner with parents in their students' education. Parents also might like this idea if there are only older or younger siblings in a family, thereby eliminating the daily trip to the other campus. (Participation in Middle School athletics would be possible from either campus.) Your thoughts, again, on this idea.



103 responses

