

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

March 3, 2022 at 6:30pm MST  
Monument Academy East Campus Gymnasium

**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 6:35pm, read the mission statement, led the pledge of allegiance, took roll call and declared a quorum.

Board Members in Attendance:

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

Others in Attendance:

Mr. Holmes  
Mrs. Duca  
Mr. Miller  
Ms. Laura Carno  
Mr. Brian Ray  
Mr. John Castillo

**A. ADDITIONS TO/APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** The agenda was unanimously approved as presented.

**B. BUSINESS**

- a. FASTER (Faculty/Administrator Safety Training and Emergency Response) Colorado panelists presentation included comments from Mrs. Angela Duca, chair of the MA Threat Assessment Team, Mr. Brad Miller, MA Legal Counsel, Mrs. Laura Carno, Executive Director of FASTER Colorado, Mr. Brian Ray, Superintendent of Peyton School District, and Mr. John Castillo, Father of Kendrick Castillo who died at the Highlands Ranch STEM school shooting. Please see attached letter from the Board for further details or view the meeting courtesy of the OCN at this link: [2020- 03-03 MA Special - YouTube](#)

**C. ADJOURNMENT**

Mrs. St. Aubyn motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:43pm. Mr. Graham seconded and meeting was adjourned.

Dear MA Families,

The Board held a Safety Information work session on March 3, 2022. Thank you to the staff and parents who attended the meeting. The questions and comments from the MA community were extremely valuable. For those who couldn't participate, please review the information below.

**We value your engagement in this critical discussion.**

*The Board invited the following panelists to a discussion surrounding school safety: Laura Carno, representing FASTER Colorado; Brian Rea, Superintendent, Peyton School District 23; Mr. & Mrs. John Castillo, parents of Kendrick Castillo; Brad Miller, Legal Counsel, Miller Law Firm; Mr. Merlin Holmes, COO, MA; and Mrs. Angela Duca, AP MA East.*

Mr. John Castillo told the story of his son, Kendrick Castillo, who martyred his life when he rushed a school shooter at the STEM School in Highlands Ranch in May 2019. Mr. Castillo not only advocates for the FASTER program and having armed staff in schools, but also for closed school campus policy, and intentional connection as human beings. The Board was honored to have Mr. & Mrs. Castillo in attendance and thanks them for their strength and bravery.

The discussion focused on school shootings and keeping our children safe through prevention and rapid response in part by participating in the Faculty/Administrator Safety Training and Emergency Response (FASTER) program. Mr. Brian Rea from Peyton School District 23 gave the Board and MA Community a snapshot of how Peyton schools have successfully implemented this program.

FASTER training enables teachers, administrators, and other school employees to stop school violence quickly and administer medical aid immediately. FASTER is not intended as a replacement for Police and EMTs. Instead, it enables on-site personnel to save lives through prompt action.

**We encourage every parent and staff member to review the information related to this program.** The Board will be sending a short survey to all MA staff and parents asking for your opinion on whether the Board should move forward with a policy to allow highly trained staff to conceal carry at each campus.

Please take a few moments to review the following documents:

[FAQ Related to Armed School Staff](#)

[Myths Around Having Armed School Staff](#)

The MA Board values open communication. As always, if you have questions or comments, please e-mail us at [board@monumentacademy.net](mailto:board@monumentacademy.net).

In Service,

MA Board of Directors