



MG21 Governance Board Summer Retreat August 10, 2020 8:00-10:30am

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89070092211?pwd=U0ZERHRHSEpIWUtNUFJwTWdQN0ZIUT09>

Board members present: Sue Carr, Tom Howe, Phil McDade, Denise Peterson, Tom Stolper

Board members present: Steve Halverson

MG-21 Staff present: Rebecca Fox Blair, Shelby Steel

Welcome/check in.

Meeting called to order at 8:03 by Denise Peterson; notice duly given.

Round of introductions to meet our new administrator, Shelby Steel.

A. Data Review of 2019-20

Assessment of School Success: [Accountability Report](#)

1. Data and Demographics

Discussed the sorts of Special Education services provided to students. The majority of students do not have significant needs. All special ed students have an IEP; several students also have 504 plans (support given to those students who don't qualify for Spec. Ed.) Some concern about why there is a disproportionality related to the numbers of students requiring support services; that relates both to the district and MG-21 and why those levels exist.

2. Performance Measures

RFB discussed enrollment number concerns at the Middle Campus; low numbers owing to lack of face-to-face open houses and parent worries about changing schools in a pandemic. Target of 24 will not be met, but likely 16-18.

Main focus in curriculum work has been working on Project Based Learning.

Hope Survey peer-to-peer relational measures a little low; peer to staff quite high.

4 of 5 MC students with IEPs met goals.

Goal 8 is written in a way that cannot be assessed, so the goal will be rewritten, and DPI is aware of this. Measureable growth is clear in PBL process mastery, though the writing and other academic area sub-goals are impossible to assess as they are all intertwined.

Alex M taught MC math through the Aleks math program; while some did very well, this program did not meet the needs of many students. The staff is working with district math specialists to strengthen the program. Keeping algebra and geometry in-house through other curricular areas; other options for advanced math are through the district or other virtual math examples. Math remains an area of concern.

MC Reading was stronger on balance than math, though still a drop in the 7th grade, a class that was better in meeting math goals.

Goal 12 is currently unmeasurable and will be rewritten in a way that can more adequately assess the degree of equitable educational experiences at MG-21.

Parent participation goal was well-met in spite of the pandemic.

Students did meet wellness education goals; this focus was on the MC. In the report it was suggested to identify if the goals were MC, UC, or both for clarity to the readers.

Behavior issues at MC were focused on several students, 7 of whom left the MG-21 program and who made up a large proportion of the 39 behavior incidents. Tom S. suggested that the chart might be broken down in MC and UC to see the disaggregated data. A discussion explored whether than MC/UC report should be reported separately.

Restorative practices are going well.

3. [i-Ready Math](#)

4. [i-Ready Reading](#)

5. Budget Review 2018-9-Regular and Grant

Surplus funds remain in personal services, supplies and food, and computer software. In part this is because of the shortened school year owing to the pandemic--no field trips, no graduation, and so forth. So the overage will return to the MG general fund.

Grant budget also has an overage; supplies, instructional media, technology hardware not used, as well as staff training curriculum. RFB shared the purchases in AV, furniture, and tech hardware. \$48,000+ can be rolled over to next year—increased allowance of rollover from DPI due to Covid closings.

6. Continuous Improvement

RFB shared staff professional development opportunities and conferences; working on how to share intentionally with the whole staff the learning gained by individuals who attend professional development. Sue asked whether there is a minimum expectation of what and how much PD is expected. Tom H. raised issue of targeted PD to meet goals as outlined in the report.

7. MG21 Student/Parent Survey data/HOPE Survey data

Participation rates by students and parents were down, despite considerable reminders to complete the survey.

Sue asked for an exit survey for those who left the school and will work with RFB to craft an exit survey.

Sue is also very interested in recurring themes from students/parents regarding a lack of challenge and issues related to math. A discussion followed regarding how best to use this data, which represents less than half of the population.

Sue also suggested that survey be broken down between MC and UC.

8. Curriculum/MG21 Courses Review

Walking your Path was taught to MC, but that didn't start immediately.

B. New Business:

Annual approvals:

1. ACTION ITEM: Approval of [2020-21 MG21 Regular Budget](#)

RFB stayed as close as possible to last year's budget given the tight nature of upcoming budgets. Phil raised the issue that its unlikely that school will be in session through 2020-21. Denise moved to adopt the budget as presented, Phil seconded, motion carried unanimously.

2. ACTION ITEM: Approval of [2020-21 MG21 Grant Budget](#)

RFB shared that the story curriculum previously purchased was not a good fit; there is a final payment on the one year contract. She proposes that that money be reallocated to outdoor education, including hiring a consultant and also purchasing 16 canoes and two canoe trailers. Discussion about the logistics of storage during the paddling season and in the off-season, how much they'll be used, whether to rent rather than to buy, and that as a charter school we should take a risk and do something new. Concerns were shared about whether this significant outlay will be used enough to warrant the cost, in addition to other concerns about liability, costs, and whether this is the best way to meet our goals—are we going to be an outdoor education school, and if so, then perhaps planning should come before buying materials.

The Board determined to table the budget until September, moving the costs of the canoes into a general supply area.

3. ACTION ITEM: Approval of [Board Meeting Calendar 2020-21](#)

Phil put forth the need for a non-action Board meeting that is more generative and strategic in nature, than being solely fiduciary/logical. Denise moved to accept the calendar as presented, Phil seconded; in discussion Tom S. was concerned about whether we could vote not having a clear plan. Motion passed.

4. ACTION ITEM: Select **two** Gov. Board Competencies for 2020-21 [Competency Options 2020-21](#)

Other Business:

5. Virtual Start Update and Plan

A hybrid of synchronous (math and literacy) and then some support for individuals, moving to quarter system for this year only. Expectation is that there will be a touch point every day—the morning advisory. Trying to make the plan align to MGSD and make it as non-chaotic for parents; if MGSD goes to 2 days virtual, 2 days in-person, then so will MG-21, except that there will be that daily touch point each day.

6. Virtual Federal Charter School Monitoring moved to November 9, 2020

Shifted to Nov. 9, 2020 owing to the start of school.

C. Motion to convene into Closed Session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Section 19.85(1)(c) for consideration of the following: (Roll call vote) Executive Director Evaluation.

1. [Executive Director Evaluation Summary](#) and discussion

Tabled until a later meeting.

2. Review of [Executive Director Professional Development Goals for 2020-21](#)

Tabled until a later meeting.

D. Motion to adjourn Closed Session and reconvene in Open Session.

E. Adjournment

Denise moved, Phil seconded, passed unanimously.

Denise Peterson adjourned the meeting at 10:54 am.

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