

Minutes--Agenda Monona Grove Liberal Arts Charter School Governance Board Meeting

October 14, 2020, 2020 - 4:30 pm **Virtual Meeting via Zoom Meetings**

MG21 Governance Board meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 4:30

Topic: MG21 Governance Board Meeting October 14, 2020

Time: Oct 14, 2020 04:30 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86286839978?pwd=S1gvM1FJbHV6d0FFakpyRisvejJYQT09>

MG-21 Board Members Present: Sue Carr, Thom Evans, Tom Howe, Phil McDade, Denise Peterson
MG-21 Staff Members Present: Rebecca Fox Blair, Paul Marx (observing for administrative graduate classes), Melissa Hahn
Guests present: Dan Olson, MGSD Superintendent

A. Call to Order (Welcome and Introductions) **Meeting called to order at 4:37 by Denise Peterson.**

B. Declaration of Public Notice –Duly posted.

C. Approval of Minutes: [Summer Retreat August 10](#), Phil moved approval of minutes, Denise seconded, motion passed unanimously. [September 9](#), Phil moved approval of the minutes, seconded by Denise, motion passed unanimously; [September 17 Special Meeting](#) Denise moved approval, Phil seconded, motion carried unanimously.

D. Correspondence and Announcements

Superintendent Olson shared information about the coming referendum so that as stakeholders we might be aware of why we need this for operational costs. This total is higher than in past owing to 1) inflation, 2) the need to meet increased salary expectations given there is much competition for teachers, and 3) the unknown fiscal impact of Covid-19 (state revenues likely to be down, for example, so state aids may be less).

E. Reports

1. [Executive Director Report](#)- 10 min.
RFB highlighted these items in the document: change in enrollment--lost one at Upper Campus, gained one at Middle Campus; PD experiences and processes to date; new shared leadership summary document; Chromebook hardware and connectivity issues.
2. Review and Approval of September Financial Reports: [Regular Budget](#), Denise moved to approve budget review, Sue seconded, discussion surrounded whether we needed a formal approval, passed unanimously after it was determined that we need to do this for possible federal and/or state compliance. [Grant Budget](#), Denise moved acceptance of grant budget, Thom seconded, motion carried unanimously. [1st Quarter Grant Submission](#) -10 min

F. Business

1. Presentation from Katy Byrnes Kaiser and Dan Olson re: Nov. Referendum (15 min) **This was presented earlier in the agenda by Dan Olson alone.**
2. ACTION ITEM: Policy Review and Approval-15-20 min
RFB noted that these are policies that are required areas from the state, and that they are NOT written by us, but rather adapted from other sources.
 - [Financial Policies](#)
Tom Stolper had shared with RFB his concerns about passing this policy stating that we are not its authors and have little say over them, as they come from federal, state and district requirements or language rather than from our own initiative or creation. He also suggested that we create a 501 (c) (3) for the purposes of having donations come directly to MG-21 and so being able to directly manage the funds.

Sue moved approval of the financial policies, Phil seconded, motion carried unanimously.

- [Student Policies](#)

The only changes were some wording, for example, from principal to administrators and in a few other areas (IEPs, restraint, seclusion) Sue moved approval, Phil seconded, motion passed unanimously.

- [Property Policies](#)

RFB noted that any property purchased with grant funds belongs to MG-21 and the program for which it is designated. This property cannot be usurped by the district; if it is determined to sell something (the unpopular tables, for example) then the funds realized would be controlled by MG-21 and not the district. Sue moved approval of the property policies, Phil seconded, motion passed unanimously.

- [Operations Policies](#)

Sue raised issues about the presence of the dog Layla and whether that met the policies. Discussion surrounded whether parents were given the right to say no to the dog concerning allergies, distractions, or fear. No concerns were noted. Sue moved approval, Phil seconded, motion carried unanimously.

3. ACTION ITEM: Approval of [Grant Fund Carryover from 2019-20](#) 15 min
Discussion centered on additional costs, policies, and issues related to the purchase of a van. RFB noted that if we approve it, it then goes to DPI, and if they approve it, then it's likely that we'll purchase it. Phil will produce an email detailing his concerns and questions to be addressed at a later meeting. Phil moved to approve the grant fund carryover expenditures as outlined in the agenda, Denise seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
4. Final Prep for Nov. 9 Monitoring-[Interview Schedule and Questions](#) 10 min
RFB shared the considerable preparation that's gone into this, and went through the day's schedule.
5. Reminder: Accountability Report Presentation to Monona Grove BOE 10/14 7pm

G. Adjournment Denise moved to adjourn the meeting, Phil seconded, motion passed unanimously, meeting adjourned at 5:58 pm.

MG21 Governance Board Goals 2020-21

1. Legal: Develop, review and refine school policies that need to be in place.
2. Effective Governance: Improve communication between Executive Director, school staff, the board and the district.

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