



**Meridian PCS Board Meeting
August 4, 2020
Approved Minutes**

Board Members in attendance

Karen Rivas Edie
Ashton
Mahmia Richards
Justin Dulguid
Keith Collins
Payson Peabody
Steve Percy
Justin Duiguid
Ali Semir

Meridian PCS

Matt McCrea
Ariel Weissburg
Michael Russell
Shelly Anderson

TenSquare Team Members

Alexandra Pardo
Janalee Jordan-Meldrum
Jeff Cooper

Board Chair Edie Ashton called the meeting to order at 5:34 pm.

- I. Minutes
Payson Peabody moved to approve the minutes. Mahima Richards seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.
- II. New Board Officers Election
Officer vacancies from resignations due to work burdens.
Payson Peabody moved to elect Mahima Richards as Treasurer. Steve Percy seconded. Mahima Richards was elected unanimously. Mahima Richards moved to elect Steve Percy as Secretary. Karen Rivas seconded. Steve Percy was elected unanimously.
- III. Goals for 20-21 School Year
Head of School, Matt McCrea, review initial goals for SY 20-21 and highlighted the focus on student and staff safety and wellbeing, ongoing and rigorous learning for students, and support for staff and families (e.g. technology and internet access), to ensure continued learning and achievement.
- IV. School Re-Opening Plan for Fall 2020
McCrea provided an overview of the plan for Board members, noting that the plan was developed taking into consideration: DCPS plans for fall; surveys of family and staff; needs of Meridian's student population; research and best practices; and plans of neighboring jurisdictions. The plan will include virtual learning for all grades as well as in-person Learning Hubs in the 14th Street building for selected students with high needs and English language learners. The plan will be

reevaluated in October for November, based on lessons learned as well as student, family and staff feedback.



- Classes will be held Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, with Wednesdays reserved for individual interactions, projects at home, and staff professional development.
- Early childhood routines will include morning meeting, home activities on their own, read togethers online, learning bins, lunch, naptime, movement, creative arts, closing circle everyday. -
- Elementary grades will also include morning meeting, core content in morning, office hours, and creative arts and specials classes in afternoon.
- Middle School will include Advisory group meetings, daily ELA, math, social studies and science, time for individualized supports and specials.
- Every student will be provided with a Chromebook and families will receive Hotspots or access to Comcast Internet Essentials, if they need it.

The Board also review the hybrid opening, with students alternating in school and at home, which may go into effect later in the year, depending on health and safety issues. The Board also discussed possible risk factors of the plan, including: student and staff health, access to learning for students experiencing homelessness, access to COVID testing, as well as learning loss from last spring.

Steve Pearcy moved that the Re-Opening Plan be approved by the Board. Mahima Richards seconded the motion. The Board approved the Re-Opening Plan unanimously.

V. Operations and Finance

McCrea shared a staffing and enrollment update, and the Board also discussed the Accreditation process

Jeff Cooper provided an update on the end of year financials, noting that the school was in a good place. The school will complete Refinancing of Kenyon Street loan in coming weeks.

Cooper also provided an overview of the budget for SY20-21 and answered Board members' questions. Mahima Richards moved that the board approve the new budget. Karen Rivas seconded the motion. The new budget was approved unanimously.

The Board discussed passage of the Open Meetings Act, as part of the Budget Support Act, with an emphasis on the Act's implications for Board meetings.

The Board reviewed the Calendar for Board Meetings for SY 2020-21. Steve Pearcy moved that the calendar be adopted, with the annual meeting moving to November. Mahima Richards seconded the motion. The new calendar was approved unanimously.

The changes in the meeting calendar affected the board officer terms that were to expire in October. Payson Peabody moved that Board officer terms be extended through the November board meeting. Mahima Richards seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The changes in the meeting calendar also affected the terms of Class C board members that were to expire in October. Payson Peabody moved that the terms be extended through the November Board meeting. Justin Dulguid seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Board Secretary Steve Pearcy adjourned the meeting at 7:50 PM.

