



Meridian Public Charter School
June 8, 2021 Board Meeting
DRAFT MINUTES

Board Members in attendance

Mahmia Richards
Annie Hsaio
Ali Semir
Justin Duiguid
Steve Percy
Karen Rivas
Payson Peabody

Meridian Staff in attendance

Michael Russell
Matthew McCrea
Phillip McMahan

Ten Square Staff in attendance

Jeff Cooper
Janalee Jordan-Meldrum

I. Call to Order

Mahmia Richards welcomed attendees and requested a motion to call the meeting to order at 5:38 PM. Steve Percy moved that the meeting come to order. Payson Peabody seconded the motion. Roll call: In favor: Mahmia Richards, Ali Semir, Payson Peabody, Justin Duiguid, Steve Percy, Karen Rivas. Opposed: None. The motion passed to call the meeting to order.

II. Approve Agenda

Mahmia Richards requested a motion to approve the Meeting Agenda. Karen Rivas moved that the Meeting Agenda be approved. Ali Semir seconded the motion. Roll Call. In Favor: Mahmia Richards, Steve Percy, Justin Duiguid, Payson Peabody, Ali Semir, and Karen Rivas. Opposed: None. The motion passed to approve the Meeting Agenda

III. Consent Agenda

Mahmia Richards requested a motion to approve March 2021 Board Minutes. Payson Peabody moved that the March 2021 Board Minutes be approved. Steve Percy seconded the motion. Roll Call. In Favor: Mahmia Richards, Steve Percy, Justin Duiguid, Payson Peabody, Ali Semir, and Karen Rivas. Opposed: None. The motion passed to approve the March 2021 Board Minutes.

IV. Leadership Update

School Head Matthew McCrea presented most updates.

Elementary and Middle School Update:

In person 250 students, Virtual 350 students (vary by grade, PreK over half, 8th about ¼)

Return to in-person learning highlighted difficulties of virtual learning.

Meridian Students won 1st and 2nd place in One World Education citywide competition.

HS placement: 12 tier one Public Charter Schools, 27 selective public high schools
Growth of placement in above categories: 2019 - 50 % , 2020 - 75%, 2021 - 90%

Summer School Plans:

100 students, with emphasis on students with disabilities, ELL students, and poor virtual learners
8am – 12 pm classes and remediation 12-1 pm lunch, 1-6pm enrichment activities
Monday-Thursday class week, no classes Fridays
Partnerships with HU and GU – set up by MS director

End of the Year Data

Attendance improved through the year 88.7%, but behind previous year's 93.27%.
Higher truancy than previous years yet lower than city at large (20.7% vs 27%).
MAP testing indicate there was no major learning loss, similar to past year results.
Achievement testing averages at 50% and above similar to past years.
Some way behind because of virtual, some excelled virtual learners.
Growth is similar to last year, in some ways a little better .
No state tests this year.

Next Year - SY 2022 Continuation Plan

Lessons from this year:

- As a small school adapting/adjusting quickly was easy.
- In-person learning much better, hard to interact with and monitor students online.
- Retaining parent zoom meeting, computers/tablets at home in future.
- Facilities improved due to pandemic.

Students and staff experience various levels of trauma from pandemic

Plans to be submitted to OSSE and PCSB for next year, including distance learning for those who continue to need it, more counselors, emphasis on family engagement, accelerated remediation tutoring 21st cent catch up, special support for those in need.

Return to 5 day school week in person with Wednesday half day for PD and tutoring.

School in communication with families about health, vaccines, immunization.

Virtual learning available for medical exempted from in-person learning via current teachers, broadcast, or partnership with other schools).

School received funding via ESSER I, II, and III legislation as well city reopening grant, of over \$1.5 million and spent over \$1.6 million on extra staff and stipends, technology, facility improvements, assorted supplies.

Accountability Updates

This year: no PMF, star report w/o academic data.

Next year and following year: transitional goals, MAP growth data.

In two years: new charter accountability design will be in place.

School's next charter review in fall 2024.

Operations Updates

Michael Russell presented Operations Updates.

School purchased 300 student chromebooks, 20 more staff computers.

School performed lead abatement projects on both campuses.

Selected new auditor for next year as previous auditor was reducing number of clients.

School is soliciting bids for new technology provider, involving restructure of school IT.

Enrollment Update

529 enrolled of budgeted 620 (last year 565 of 650).

Like other schools, there are challenges enrolling PreK families wary of virtual learning.

School is trying to get the word out via marketing and current families.

Possible of pool of students in 161 unresolved matches from the lottery.

Compared to past years difficult to stop parents and get forms filled out.

Staffing

92% of positions filled for next year.

Interviewing for new Elementary School Director.

90% of this year's staff returning for next year.

V. FY 21-22 Budget Approval

Jeff Cooper presented the budget to the board for 620 students.

Budget total lower than SY20-21 because of PPP funding added to current year during pandemic.

Budget exceeds debt service ratio requirements of 1.25 (budget ration of 1.53)

Income from federal government and city facility funds is on conservative side.

Budget includes increase of staff to work with students who have fallen behind in pandemic.

Capital Spending of \$250,000 on computers, leasehold improvements, and school equipment.

As the budget is due to DCPCSB in July and there were still city issues on funding still uncertain, Jeff Cooper requested the budget be approved allowing changes of no more than 5% as there is no board meeting in July.

Ali Semir moved that the FY21-22 Budget be approved, allowing changes of no more than 5%.

Mahmia Richards seconded the motion. Roll Call. In Favor: Mahmia Richards, Steve Percy,

Justin Duiguid, Annie Hsaio, Payson Peabody, Ali Semir, and Karen Rivas. Opposed: None. The

motion passed to approve the FY21-22 Budget allowing changes of no more than 5%.

VI. Committee Reports

Finance Committee – Mahmia Richards reported on schools strong financials, review of SY21-22 budget, and new auditor selection.

Academic and School Culture Committee – Karen Rivas reported on committee tour of renovated Middle School Campus and efforts to highlight the school successes.

Governance Committee – Payson Peabody reported on plans for August Board Retreat and board background checks.

Mahmia Richards presented the Board Meeting Calendar for SY 21-22.

Payson Peabody moved to approve the Board Meeting Calendar for SY 21-22. Karen Rivas seconded the motion. Roll Call. In Favor: Mahmia Richards, Steve Percy, Justin Duiguid, Annie Hsaio, Payson Peabody, Ali Semir, and Karen Rivas. Opposed: None. The motion passed to approve the Board Meeting Calendar for SY 21-22.

VII. Vote to Close the Public Meeting

Karen Rivas moved to Close the Public Meeting. Ali Semir seconded the motion. Roll Call. In Favor: Mahmia Richards, Steve Percy, Justin Duiguid, Annie Hsaio, Payson Peabody, Ali Semir, and Karen Rivas. Opposed: None. The motion passed to Close the Public Meeting.

VIII. Vote to Close the Closed Session

Steve Percy moved to Close the Closed Session. Karen Rivas seconded the motion. Roll Call. In Favor: Mahmia Richards, Steve Percy, Justin Duiguid, Annie Hsaio, Payson Peabody, Ali Semir, and Karen Rivas. Opposed: None. The motion passed to Close the Closed Session.

IX. Vote to Adjourn the Meeting

Mahmia Richards asked for a motion to Adjourn the Meeting. Karen Rivas made a motion to Adjourn the Meeting. Justin Guiduid seconded the motion. Roll Call. In Favor: Mahmia Richards, Steve Percy, Justin Duiguid, Annie Hsaio, Payson Peabody, Ali Semir, and Karen Rivas. Opposed: None. The motion passed to Adjourn the Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 PM

NOT INCLUDED IN MINUTES

CLOSED SESSION NOTES

August 21 retreat

Closed session

Vision for future

Foundation – one school, comm, city. Intersects

Engage with ward 1

Coherent connected direction

Profile graduate, wraparound support, prep for HS, home for MS,

What is school about? Not just neighborhood?

Cross curricular – Crew - graduates leave ready for future

Projects in service learning – capstone projects – advocacy

Rigorous, community,

Community together

Crew (teachers, staff, students relationships) – advisees connecting with students multiple years in MS

DEI diverse equity inclusive?

EL Education – master knowledge skills, character, high quality work

Addition to curriculum present

Achievement goals – 60% vs current 40 ELA and 31 Math

EL implementation – measurements

Staff vote for joining program –

Program increase community, goals, targets, learning others

Common core standards connection with EL curriculum?

Summary of plans