

## The Marble Charter School Board Meeting Minutes

**Date:** April 2, 2025

**Time:** 5:39p

**End:**

**Location:** MCS Activity Room

Members Present:	Blythe, Sarah, Sasha, Hawkins, Justice, Rob
Members Excused:	Sue
Staff:	Sam
Guests:	

***Marble Charter School teaches a growth mindset in a unique and nurturing environment while exceeding state standards.***

### Agenda

1. Call to Order Hawkins, Sarah 2nd.
2. Reading of the Mission Statement - Blythe
3. Changes to the Agenda None
5. Approval of Agenda Hawkins motioned, Blythe 2nd.
6. Approval of minutes from 03\_05\_25 ; Sarah motioned, Rob 2nd. All approved.
7. Public Comment - NONE
8. Financials
  - a) February Budget Summary

Sam put up the summary on the projector. Small attendance center grant won't come until year end

transfer.

Working on fundraising for the field trip (FUN raisers coming up). Lunch program is where we want to be. Restricted grants - Thrift shop \$ received, waiting on Pitkin county \$3,600, CORE grant, Denied RMHF - convo with ACF regarding their funding and how they can help support MCS. Still working on funding to support a clinician at MCS one day a week. Applied to Garfield County - no word yet. History of CO grant submitted (\$250k), Aspen One for Outdoor Education applied, and the Pitkin Co Healthy Rivers for the PEAK program specifically for project based learning.

Surpassed goal for interest and savings. Field trip expenses are down. Lunch program costs are down. Wages are tracking ok. Support staff wages are up. Overall nothing has changed. Benefits are on track.

Bond - still working on first reimbursement.

Still in the red (without BOND \$) by about \$100k.

**b) Account Balances**

Reviewed account balances February. No questions.

Bela shared February reconciliations with the entire Board via email on March 10th.

**c) Budget goals and Preliminary Budget**

Sam led an activity with the Board and asked what we think is important to ensure we include in next year's budget. Sam did this with staff and shared this with the Board as well. Sam shared her priority list.

For next year: Budget for marketing or outreach (Marble Other).

Sam consulted with Tia at GWSD and decided on 35 students for a projected number (Conservative).

Sam reviewed with the Board her preliminary budget '25-'26. using this year's salary scale at RFSD, Step(honoring years of service) +3% COLA, also includes new teachers. Does not include an increase for Sam. This plan would increase salaries for staff some as much as 20%. Reviewed preliminary other

expenses.

Huge increase in insurance costs. Fire risk! \$30k Due to contract renewal the District is no longer paying for it for us. They were not really covering us, District's legal recommendation that they not cover us and we get our own insurance.

i. Student & field trip fees; lunch program; teacher salaries and sub budget, support staff, insurance

Initial preliminary budget with goals in the red by over \$150k.

Then went back and came up with another budget based on 40 students. - A lot depends on enrollment. We need to spend the money on marketing - postcards, radio ads, flyers. This budget cuts \$50k for the lunch program, and increases fundraising to \$12k. This ends in \$305 in the black.

Include student fees \$150. Keep fees for field trips, and keep student school supplies requirements.

Stipends - discussion rather than wrapped into salary. Discussion about how to honor professional development, more mission driven.

Sam suggests possibly going to a 10% increase, and offering a stipend or bonus for housing or cost of living that is somehow tied to enrollment. We don't have to follow the salary schedule.

Blythe added that this needs to include an increase for Sam. - Sam will go back and come up with another preliminary budget for our review in May.

ii. Capital Improvement/Bond Project Update

Key card access and intercom quote and final numbers for structural. Cost of the project has gone up to approximately 2.7 million. Now we need to cut things out of the scope to afford the high priority work which is the roof. Cut out about \$350k, stick to what the bond says - safety and security, heat and roof. Some key card access and cheaper alternatives. Two way radios rather than a PA system. Need to update starlink synced with a network. Still waiting on the History of Colorado grant \$250k - we really need this one!

May 17th - Packing up Museum. Need Board help. Need Boxes!! Looking into a container for storage.

Sam has approval from the Board to do the radio ad , start with one a month.

## 9. New Business

### a) Board Member Renewals

Hawkins will send emails to parents, and post on Crystal Valley Swap.

Sam has a community member idea. Blythe has a community member idea. Sam has a parent idea. Blythe has another parent idea.

Need a new President. Some discussion with Rob about considering.

Deadline for Board interest by 4/25. Week for voting. Decision by May 7th.

## 10. Old Business

### a) Director updates

#### i. Staffing Update

Sam has verbally offered the 6/8 position to someone without her teaching certificate, but she is eager to get it. She is almost done with her Masters Degree. She has outdoor education experience and behavior management. She did research on project based learning and Sam thinks she is highly qualified and vetted by Sam and the staff. She did a great job on her interview. There were a couple of other applicants.

No applicants for the facilities position. Managing the snow is the biggest challenge. Potential to hire someone just to clear snow.

#### ii. Enrollment Update

35 at this point is the estimate. Sending out registration forms to get confirmations and hopeful to get closer to 40.

#### iii. Toolbox Curriculum

Staff is practicing the tools that are very tangible. Sam will share this with the Board in the future. More to come. Kick it off and train students in the Fall.

Sarah asks about teacher appreciation week in May. We have historically done things for staff. Sam suggests shwag for the teachers. Shows school spirit. May 5th through the 9th. Hawkins will do fleeces/sweatshirts. Put it in a survey Sarah will do a survey for the teachers on all their favorite things. Survey to be turned in by Monday 4/7. Fleece orders by Tuesday 4/8. Board to take care of the fleeces. and surveys will be sent to parents as a suggestion.

**11. Executive Session – Not necessary.**

**12. Adjourn 8:11p**

Submitted by \_Blythe Tardie, MCS Secretary

Signed by Hawkins Siemon, Board President:

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