



Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2022 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
 Remote Meeting via Zoom video conference.

Attendees

Trustees in attendance at MC²: Chris O'Reilly, Jodi Adams

Trustees in attendance by phone: Katie Hamon, Jerry Appell, Amanda MacLellan

Administration/School Staff: Elizabeth Cardine, Sarah Stout (joined at 6:19)

Apologies: None

Guests: Diane Neilsen (parent), Jason Neilsen (student), James Bass (student)

Topics	Discussion	Decision
Call to Order	Called to order at 6:05 pm.	
Approval of agenda	No changes to the agenda needed.	
Public Time	Diane & son Jason came to learn more about how the board works and the transition of the school. James noted he was here to listen.	
Consent Agenda	Approval of Minutes No comments for Dec 20, 2021 minutes, but note was made for updating a typo in the May 17, 2021 non-public minutes.	Katie to update the May 17th non-public minutes to correct

	<p>Executive Director Report Current count is 56 students (numbers are going up).</p> <p>The question of whether we ask new students what brought them to MC2 (mission, dissatisfaction with previous school, etc.) came up in regards to how it might help with planning. We have responses from students going back to 2015 (200-300 total) who answered this question when applying to MC2 and thus could review them.</p> <p>After school program - use ESSER funds for after school hours for credit recovery.</p> <p>Chris, Elizabeth & Dawna spoke with John Round from the Richards Group to discuss models for offering health insurance and benefits, as our rent decreases and enrollment is increasing. Jodi brought up the question of whether it would be helpful to shop around with other charter schools in NH. Chris said they can bring this up at the next meeting. In the meantime, they were able to determine next steps (survey staff, look at how sending districts are compensating support staff including paid time off, etc.)</p>	date/time in notes.
Fundraising	<p>Gaming for Charity Other schools, including alliance for charter schools, have used this program. Proceeds can range from \$5,000 to \$86,000 based on which night and which room. MC2 has option to try it once and see what happens, as there is no immediate commitment for multiple nights.</p> <p>Amanda moved to authorize Jodi to move forward to enter into agreement for this fundraising opportunity with the Game of Chance program. Jerry seconded. Jodi, Jerry, Amanda & Chris voted yes. Katie abstained - noting support for the broader board decision but unwilling to vote yes based on previously discussed concerns. Chris referenced Standard Operating Procedures that needs to be followed, so given needed approval by the ED, he will work with Jodi.</p>	
Finance	<p>Financial Report - We can't use funds for HVAC because it's a fixture, we can't take it with us, and it's a future selling point for the space. Given that, we'll look for other ways to use ESSER money for the fit out. We do have some O'Leary grant money for fit out for AV maker space</p>	

room. We're awaiting replies from the letter drive Elizabeth coordinated to raise money to help with fit out.

Current Lease

Current landlord threatened us with eviction for February 1. Given desire to honor this, Chris reached out to the DOE for approval to go remote and they said they could work with us. Chris sent plan for remote learning to Board for approval and we have reached out to the community (Antioch, Keene Rec Center, etc.) regarding potential use of space for any in-person needs, even beyond public space. Previous move to remote learning resulted in fewer than 20 students that needed or wanted to be in person. The plan submitted to the DOE also includes a contingency in the event that we can't occupy the new location when the next term starts. This was included solely based on DOE's request and is not expected to be needed.

The question of how public we want to be regarding the circumstances of this move and earlier timeline came up. The situation was explained when reaching out to the DOE regarding remote learning and the community regarding use of space, an email went out to families about the situation and plan (which also asked for feedback), it's included in the public Board minutes, and we consulted with Chris Stout who works with the press for suggestions. Beyond that, we have the option to reach out to the media or wait until they contact us.

Jodi recommended a press release and Amanda noted that it should focus on how excited we are about the opening of the new space designed for our learners - and that we want our model to be a central visible fixture in the community. We can note that we're grateful for the support we received from the community during this transition. Idea would be a positive spin on this, regardless of the current and previous actions of the landlord at the current location.

Chris will seek approval from the DOE and he and Amanda will collaborate on a statement, to be run past Chris Stout and our lawyer.

Katie made a motion that the Board approve the plan to go remote as long as we don't receive any advice to the contrary from our

Amanda to draft press release to be run by our lawyer.

	<p>lawyer that would change that. Jerry seconded. Unanimously approved.</p> <p>Update on new site We will be renting storage space from our new landlord until we can move into the space at 310. In the meantime, he has allowed us to start using the space for specific events, including an open house on Jan. 29 (3-5 pm) and makerspace meeting on Feb. 12.</p> <p>Regarding the move, people are signing up to help (with Elizabeth, Sarah & Chris serving as shift leaders) to move out of the Emerald Street location. Scheduled move-in date for the new location is March 1, which should allow for set up by the next term on March 14.</p> <p>It was noted that the new site is moving off fossil fuel altogether and were looking for a grant for a woodchip boiler, potentially with a letter of support from us. New landlord will be doing an announcement/press release eventually regarding this.</p>	
<p>Board Members</p>	<p>Executive Director Board Membership It was clarified with Maryann that the by-laws need to be updated to move the Executive Director to an ex-officio, non-voting member of the board who can attend executive sessions with the exception of any discussing their pay. Updates to the by-laws and charter align with goals and restructuring so this will be taken up in committee as we restart those. Once specific language is proposed for those by-law updates, the full Board will be able to vote on that.</p> <p>Student and Parent Board Membership A discussion was had regarding whether the Board should include current parents and/or student positions, noting the MC2 charter, experience of Board members at other schools, legal concerns for any voting members, and public school boards with varied experiences and points of view of their members.</p> <p>Jodi to draft descriptions of student/parent board membership to take into account which should be voting members (not students) and what percentage of the Board should be filled with parents and/or students given the note about parent representation in our charter and best practices for Boards.</p>	<p>Jodi to draft descriptions for parent, student, and alumni</p>

	A potential designated seat for new alumni was also discussed.	positions on the Board.
CSI Goal Update	CAL survey was done in October and will be discussed at meeting with WestEd and the DOE on Jan. 25 regarding CSI goals. This will show what progress has been made and how we have addressed them. Chris will share info for the next Board meeting.	
2022-2023 Proposed Calendar	<p>Elizabeth shared the process used to determine the proposed 2022-2023 school year calendar, which would be a change from the current 13-3 calendar (originally implemented due to transportation requirements for Manchester campus).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Survey was completed in October by all stakeholders regarding feelings towards a calendar with cycles of 10-3 (10 weeks on and 3 weeks of break). ● Results were shared with student governance council and (parent/student) site council who looked at the data and made a recommendation to the leadership team. ● Elizabeth, Chris & Sarah created two different options and presented those to staff at the last staff meeting. Preference vote came out 2:1, leading to the calendar that will be shared with the board. <p>Jerry asked if one of the proposed calendars is more conducive to students switching into MC2 from a traditional school. The reply was that students swap into MC2 midway through terms today and aren't tied to either the sending school calendar or that of MC2.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Final recommendation includes switching to a more balanced year-round calendar of 10 weeks on and 3 weeks off. Given a surplus of 13 days, 2 additional weeks (10 days) are being added to the summer break and the other 3 non-school days will be noted in the calendar accordingly. <p>Board to vote on the final proposed calendar at the February meeting.</p>	

<p>Committee Updates</p>	<p>Site Council (3 parents, 3 staff, Chris) Doing phenomenal work, with largest parent involvement, and taking the lead on moving to the new space.</p> <p>CoCreate (Makerspace) Meets every other month (next meeting is Feb 12) with lots of positive movement. Hoping to have a current committee member join the Board, but invited anyone on the Board who might be interested to join as well.</p> <p>Fundraising / Development Feb 5 - Let It Slide - fundraising event Working on this event plus fitout fundraising. Jodi asked if the Board could get wooden name tags for use at various events. This will be done once the new space is set up and the students at the Board meeting volunteered to help.</p> <p>Other current committees are: Grants & 310 Moving</p> <p>Board is moving toward revamping some other committees as well, including finance and governance, plus succession planning, with representation from the board and community members. Committees will be a combination of permanent standing committee and temporary action ones and set up to address one versus two campuses.</p> <p>Joint Loss committee existed in the past but individual campus will have that now.</p> <p>Jodi will write up list and we can go from there.</p>	
<p>New Business</p>	<p>Amanda - thanked Chris for how he's steered the ship since he came on board. Consistent results and communication. Seeing results in increased enrollment.</p> <p>Chris noted that he has a great team and Elizabeth is co-leader.</p>	
<p>Non-Public Session</p>	<p>None</p>	

	Meeting adjourned at 7:21 pm.	
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