Magellan Charter School
Board Meeting
March 18, 2025
6:00pm

Board members in attendance: Suzy Allaire, Jim Nowak, Jessica Leggett, Ailis Monsees, John Esham, Jessica O'Donovan (non-voting)

Visitors: Jairus Dolfi, Becky Green, Lisa Freeman, Katie Carroll, Katie Greer

The meeting was called to order by J. Nowak at 6:06pm. No conflicts of interest relating to the agenda were declared.

Presentation by School Counselors, K. Carroll, K. Greer @ 6:07pm

School Counselors joined the board meeting, along with two students (Hayden Church, 8th grader and Kennedy Carver, 5th grader) to share their perspectives on the Buddy program and Positivity Project. As school buddies, Hayden and Kennedy spoke about how they encourage one another throughout the year as they stay connected in various ways such as Buddy Bingo, writing to one another, and more. They are appreciative of the supportive relationship built through this program. Students have also enjoyed many aspects of the Positivity Project, such as learning traits, attending character assemblies, and new coping skills.

The board expressed appreciation to the Counselors for their hard work and dedication to these important programs.

Approve Minutes by J. Nowak @ 6:13pm

S. Allaire moved to approve the 2/18/25 board meeting minutes. J. Leggett seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

MaP Update & Booster Update by J. Holt, K. Moffat @ 6:16pm

- MaP nomination is open for committees and jobs. MaP is also analyzing the committee lists to consider consolidating some
- My Hot Lunch Box is down $4k this year related to winter weather
- Booster – Teams are welcoming new coaches for Spring athletics. The field conditions have improved, grateful for a donation that helped with new dirt. Still waiting on the permit for fencing.

Staff Update by L. Freeman @ 6:32pm

- No updates this month

Financial Update by B. Green @ 6:34pm

Amended Budget

- The financial year has been positive so far. Still projecting conservatively for the remaining months for County revenue. Finance did increase the Obsolescence Reserve to $40k from $15k, to keep the Foundation healthy while considering possible projects needed for a maturing building. There is a $25k projected surplus. With Board approval, administration would like to move the surplus to support Staff Bonuses.
- A. Monsees moved to approve surplus to support Staff Bonuses. S. Allaire seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Safety Grant

- MCS was awarded $25K through a Safety Grant. Although the amount is a quarter of what the school applied for, the plan will move ahead with purchase of additional security cameras, which is a top priority.
- Other safety needs need to be considered in this year's Capital Campaign fundraising. This would include reinforced glass for the entrances, and classroom and office doors, and an upgraded school PA system.
- School will be purchasing new keypads for the outside doors ($1800). These will allow law enforcement to enter in the event of an emergency.

E-RATE Grant

- M. O'Shea has submitted a grant request for Magellan through E-erate (NC funding discount for technology/communication items) to upgrade the MCS network infrastructure. This would include wireless access and stronger security settings. If the grant was funded, it would cover the costs of these upgrades (~$63,000).

School Insurance

- The School Insurance renewal is increasing 8%. There is also a $50k Wind/Hail Deductible for Building/Contents. The school is still waiting for another bid before renewing.

School Updates by J. Donovan @ 7:02pm

- J. O'Donovan and J. Dolfi presented initial forward-focused ideas for a potential MCS K-2 building. Administration shared an idea of what a sample schedule could look like for teachers/students in a K-2 environment. There was discussion on the needs of K-2 students compared to upper elementary, which would include specials and a media center/library that would serve K-8. J. Dolfi shared a sample drawing with vision for a K-2 building. These plans (sample

schedule and building drawing) are a rough outline with initial ideas and thoughts. No decisions were made based on the information.
- The Board of Directors, Administrators and Finance Committee need to continue to review financial funding options. Will also need a feasibility study to determine the cost of a future project.

Committees Update @ 7:46pm

- Academic Excellence Committee: During prospective family tours, the school intentionally shared clear messaging/communications on the mission of school.
- Governance Committee: No updates
- Finance Committee: No updates
- Strategic Planning & Development:
    - Capital Campaign Committee: BOD will host an evening event for 3rd grade families on April 22nd. On May 6th the BOD will host an event to share information on the Capital Campaign at school, for all families to attend.
    - Land Sub Committee: No update
    - Head of School & Evaluation: No update

Closed Session @ 8:02pm

- On proper motion by J. Leggett and seconded by S. Allaire, the board unanimously approved to enter Closed Session pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6) to discuss a personnel issue.

- On proper motion by and seconded by A. Monsees, the board unanimously approved to leave Closed Session.

Next board meeting is scheduled for April 15th.

J. Leggett moved to adjourn, and A. Monsees seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:42pm.