The Marble Charter School Board Meeting Minutes

Date: August 6, 2025

Time: 5:30p

End: pm

Location: MCS Activity Room

Members Present:	Blythe, Rob, James, Bob Virtual: Sarah
Members Excused:	Heather, Sasha
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 5:35pm Rob called, Bob 2nd, all in favor

2. Reading of the Mission Statement - Sam read. Thank you

3. Changes to the Agenda

Sam made change to handbook.

4. Approval of Agenda

Blythe moves, James 2nd , all in favor

5. Approval of July 2nd Board meeting minutes

Rob moves, James seconded, all in favor. Bob abstained (absent at 7/2)

6. Public Comment

None

7. Financials
    a) June Budget Summary

Sam explains that we are still waiting on updates from Gunnison on a new system (LINQ) for financials so the budget summary is not perfect. She feels good about these numbers. Overall looking pretty good.

In the green by about $18k. When we include bond expenses we are in the red. Moving forward we are getting revenue back from the BEST grant.

Sam has done a lot of work to give the Board this good picture of our financials. We are confident we are not overspending and actually cutting costs to get us where we are. We started with a budget in the red by $100k, so we are doing really well.

COLO Trust bond summary - Goal is to spend it all. This matches the overall budget summary. James had a question about month end balance. Sam clarified.
Sam also reviewed the BEST grant revenue and expenditures.

b) June Bank Reconciliations and Account Balances (provided to the Board via email on Jul 8, 2025)

Reviewed account balance reports.

c) FY25-26 Budget Update

Sam thought we would need to vote to increase Sam's spending authority on the BOND project. We have budgeted a certain amount for the BOND. Sam talked to GWSD about it and we don't need to vote on it. We have the money and we will be spending more than what we had budgeted. Sam is being very transparent about it so that the Board is aware.

d) Capital Improvement/Bond project update

DPM just shared an update for the Board. Sam went through this report in detail.
James asked about being on time. Sam explained that we are not on schedule, but we are better than we thought we would a month ago. At this point, we are planning to move in around September 15th.
K-2 will be in the Art room until they move into the building.
The team is doing a lot to come up with cost effective solutions.
Happening now: the metal roof, front stairs, drywall and molding, paint. Keep a lot the same to "blend".
We now think we have enough left over to do the exterior painting and loud speakers/communication system.
We don't have enough for the air return system. This has been removed from the project.

e) Bond reserves - Approval

See above - we don't need to vote.

f) Line of Credit

Sam still can't see the line of credit. It has been approved. The Board recommends that Sam call and ask that this account is added to her online account.

g) Grant Updates

We didn't get the Gunnison Community grant. However we did get the Denver Foundation $10k yearly for three years.
Sam applied for the ACF grant.

8. New Business
   a) Board Training with the League

October 8th 4-8pm. Redstone Inn to make it easier. In person is required for that.

b) Lunch Program - Solutions & Communication

Sarah asked if there was a plan in place for kids that forget lunch. Sam has thought about this. They will have some for back up, but this won't be advertised because there won't be enough for everyone. There is a lot of brainstorming going on for potential staff and volunteers to do lunches from time to time.

Potential for fundraiser lunches - 8th graders or parent volunteers.

Sarah offers that we should include this lunch discussion in the Growth and Development committee meeting after the LKL is over.

c) Student Fees - Monthly payment question?

Sam has included an invoice for families. If a family qualifies for free and reduced lunch, then we will waive the student fees. We also will offer the payment plan if a family requests it.

d) Student/Parent Handbook

Parents are requested to review and sign every year. This includes policies and guidelines. Includes attendance, health and wellness and guidelines for behavior, re: bullying.

The school district rolled out a new program around restorative practices. All language around “mediation” was removed. Behaviors are leveled (1-5) and a list of consequences/responses. This is an attempt to make behavior management more consistent and clear.

Also added a non discrimination statement.

9. Old Business
   a) 6-8 Student Schedule Presentation

The kids spent a lot of time working on this presentation for the Board. They make a lot of good points. They researched recesses, electives and school start times.

They created a schedule and they included elective ideas.

The board is impressed with the students' work on this and we are supportive of staff supporting the kids around making their schedule the way they want to. The first unit is food science - cooking, etc. This could potentially be a solution for the lunch program.

The Board would like to invite the kids back to talk to the Board. The conversation has not ended and we want to continue the discussion.

The Board is very supportive. Sam and Lucie will be talking more about this and working with the kids further.

b) Director Evaluation Calendar and documents

Sam suggests that one Board member take the lead on this. This is what GWSD does. Blythe offers to do that this year. Blythe will develop it based on the template and keep it simple. Blythe will keep the Board up to date on progress. Include a calendar.

c) Staffing Update

Sam has offered Sarah Schlichter a position for “Forest Fridays” for K-2 to start, and maybe the start of something bigger.
Sarah is trained in risk management for outdoor education.
This may help attract more kids to come to MCS.

Conflict for Sarah for this position and the Board. She would like to accept the position. She feels she would be better served in this position.

We will review bylaws and consult with the League before the September meeting.
Not filling the assistant teacher position.

d) Enrollment Updates

This week three more kids are not returning.
We are currently at 31 students. Sam is not 100% confident about this list.
We have until October for enrollment numbers.

e) LKL and Growth & Development Committee Updates

Money into our marketing.
We need volunteers!
We need people to sign up for the race!

10. Adjourn 8:13pm Bob moved, James 2nd, all in favor

September Board meeting moved to the 10th due to OE.

Submitted by _Blythe Chapman, MCS Secretary

Signed by Rob Durham, Board President:

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