



## Magnolia Public Schools

### Minutes

#### Regular Board Meeting

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##### **Date and Time**

Thursday November 9, 2017 at 6:00 PM

##### **Location**

MPS Home Office: 250 E. 1st St. Ste. 1500 Los Angeles, CA 90012

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Board Members who joined remotely participated from the following locations:

- MSA-SD 6525 Estrella Ave. San Diego, CA 92120 (Dr. Salih Dikbas)
- 2626 Sage Rd. Houston, TX 77056 (Mr. Serdar Orazov)
- 449 36th Street #2 Brooklyn, NY 11232 (Mr. Nguyen Huynh)

The following school sites remained open for remote location access:

- MSA-1 18238 Sherman Way Reseda, CA 91335
- MSA-3 1254 E. Helmick St. Carson, CA 90746
- MSA-SA 2840 W. 1st St. Santa Ana, CA 92703

Board Members:

Dr. Saken Sherkhanov, Chair  
Dr. Umit Yapanel, Secretary  
Mr. Serdar Orazov, Treasurer  
Dr. Salih Dikbas  
Ms. Diane Gonzalez  
Mr. Nguyen Huynh  
Mr. Haim Beliak  
Ms. Charlotte Brimmer  
Ms. Sandra Covarrubias

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CEO & Superintendent:  
Dr. Caprice Young

*Notice of Closed Session Agenda Items*

Due to space limitations on the following pages of the agenda, notice of closed session agenda items is provided here.

V. A Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – Two Matters

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**Directors Present**

C. Brimmer, D. Gonzalez, N. Huynh (remote), S. Covarrubias, S. Dikbas (remote), S. Sherkhanov, U. Yapanel

**Directors Absent**

H. Beliak, S. Orazov

**Guests Present**

David Rudge, James Melendres, Mike Lyngley, Tim Buresh

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**I. Opening Items**

**A. Call the Meeting to Order**

S. Sherkhanov called a meeting of the board of directors of Magnolia Public Schools to order on Thursday Nov 9, 2017 at 7:22 PM.

**B. Record Attendance and Guests**

Please refer to attendance information above for details.

**C. Pledge of Allegiance**

B. Torres, Executive Assistant, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**D. Public Comments**

Kara Glover, senior student at MSA 3, presented her concerns on the need of additional resources such as smart boards and funding for more student activities. Sharon Whitaker, parent of 7th grade student at MSA-3 offered her public comment, she believes the school needs more support in the classroom for teachers, and recommends that a nurse be on campus along with school police. She also suggested that there be more lighting in the parking lot at night to ensure safety for the students walking in the dark. She stated that she is happy with the school because it has remained a small campus. Staff committed to looking into these issue. C. Brimmer, Board Member, mentioned her concerns about the trash bins at MSA 5 and she recommended that staff communicate

with LAUSD about the issue. She also told staff that she is providing a sample board report from a different entity as a resource for staff to use moving forward. No other public comments were made.

#### **E. Approval of Agenda**

S. Sherkhanov made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

D. Gonzalez seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Items in the agenda were taken out of order based on the urgency of certain items and on the time of presenters.

### **II. Consent Agenda**

#### **A. Approve Minutes of Special Board Meeting- September 14, 2017**

C. Brimmer made a motion to approve minutes from the Special Board Meeting on 09-14-17 Special Board Meeting on 09-14-17.

D. Gonzalez seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

#### **B. Approve Minutes of Regular Board Meeting- October 12, 2017**

C. Brimmer made a motion to approve minutes from the Regular Board Meeting on 10-12-17 Regular Board Meeting on 10-12-17.

D. Gonzalez seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

#### **C. Approve Minutes of Special Board Meeting- October 23, 2017**

C. Brimmer made a motion to approve minutes from the Special Board Meeting on 10-23-17 Special Board Meeting on 10-23-17.

D. Gonzalez seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

### **III. Action Items**

#### **A. Resolution to Authorize the Filing of Magnolia Science Academies 4 and 5 Petition Appeal to LACOE**

This item was originally requesting approval of resolutions for MSA 4 and MSA 5, however, MSA 4 was approved by LAUSD and there was only a need to approve the resolution for MSA 5. I. Soto, Interim Chief External Officer, presented this resolution to the Board. He explained the timelines and work involved for the appeal to the county. Board Members asked the team how MSA 5 would be addressing the academic scores. K. Jackson, Chief Academic Officer and B. Plonka, Principal of MSA 5, explained the academic action plan for the school and they went over the current successes.

S. Sherkhanov made a motion to approve the board resolution that authorizes the filing of the Charter Renewal Petition with the Los Angeles County Office of Education for Magnolia Science Academy 5.

D. Gonzalez seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

S. Orazov	Absent
H. Beliak	Absent
S. Covarrubias	Aye
N. Huynh	Aye
S. Dikbas	Aye
U. Yapanel	Aye
S. Sherkhanov	Aye
D. Gonzalez	Aye
C. Brimmer	Aye

**B. Approval of Intracompany Loan for MSA- Santa Ana**

N. Montijo, Chief Financial Officer, explained that state funds are currently based on last year's enrollment numbers. However, the current enrollment numbers are much higher and the revised funds will be given later in the year. Therefore, the loan being requested will be paid off once those funds are received. All questions were addressed.

U. Yapanel made a motion to authorize a \$200,000 temporary inter-agency loan to meet the cash requirement for MSA Santa Ana, as needed, and ratify the \$200,000 temporary cash transfer made October 31, 2017 to fund payroll.

S. Sherkhanov seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

D. Gonzalez	Aye
U. Yapanel	Aye
S. Sherkhanov	Aye
S. Covarrubias	Aye
S. Orazov	Absent
H. Beliak	Absent
C. Brimmer	Aye
S. Dikbas	Aye
N. Huynh	Aye

**C. Approval of 2017-18 Revised MPS Budget**

N. Montijo, Chief Financial Officer, and K. Dietz from EdTec presented the budget details to the Board. They went over the details from all sites and explained what adjustment had been made. C. Young, Chief Executive Officer, explained what actions would have to be taken if schools do not meet their enrollment numbers. All questions were addressed.

S. Sherkhanov made a motion to approve the 2017-18 revised budget and submit the same as First Interim Reports for fiscal year 2017-18 with the removal of the two clerical positions that will be discussed at a different meeting.

S. Covarrubias seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

S. Dikbas	Aye
S. Sherkhanov	Aye
D. Gonzalez	Aye
S. Covarrubias	Aye
U. Yapanel	Aye
N. Huynh	Absent
H. Beliak	Absent
C. Brimmer	No
S. Orazov	Absent

This item was discussed after Closed Session. N. Huynh left after Closed Session, he did not vote on this item.

**D. Re-evaluation of EFG Contract**

There was no discussion on this item, it was tabled for a future meeting.

**E. Approval of Addendum to Snell & Wilmer Contract**

This item was discussed in Closed Session but voted on in Open Session.

C. Brimmer made a motion to amend the Snell and Wilmer contract by not to exceed \$95,000 with written monthly updates.

D. Gonzalez seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

U. Yapanel	Abstain
S. Sherkhanov	Abstain
D. Gonzalez	Aye
H. Beliak	Absent
S. Orazov	Absent
S. Dikbas	Aye
N. Huynh	Absent
C. Brimmer	Aye
S. Covarrubias	Aye

**F. Approval of Vavrinek, Trine, Day and Co., LLP (Auditor) Contract for 2018-19, 2019-20, and 2020-21**

C. Young, Chief Executive Officer, explained why we are continuing with the same auditors, she mentioned that these auditors have worked with us for the last three years

and they have began to work with our LLCs. N. Montijo, Chief Financial Officer, also offered her input on contracting with the same auditor for next three years. All questions were addressed.

U. Yapanel made a motion to authorize Dr. Caprice Young, CEO and Superintendent of Magnolia Public Schools to enter into an agreement with Vavrinek, Trine, Day and Co.,LLP (VTD). at an annual cost of \$82,425 for the audit of MERF and Charter Schools, for fiscal years ending June 30, 2017, 2018 and 2019. Additionally, annual audit fee of \$6,000 for the LLCs and \$3,500 per year for filing of information returns.

S. Covarrubias seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

C. Brimmer	Aye
D. Gonzalez	Aye
S. Covarrubias	Aye
U. Yapanel	Aye
N. Huynh	Aye
S. Orazov	Absent
S. Dikbas	Aye
H. Beliak	Absent
S. Sherkhanov	Aye

**G. Approval of MSA-8 Bell Internet Service and Firewall, Web Filtering Services**

This item was brought back from the last board meeting. C. Young, Chief Executive Officer, explained the additional documentation that was provided from the last time this item was presented. She addressed all questions.

U. Yapanel made a motion to award the winning bid from TPx in the total amount of \$109,800 for 36 months (The monthly service total is \$3050.00) and to Authorize Dr. Caprice Young, CEO and Superintendent, to sign the contract.

S. Sherkhanov seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

C. Brimmer	Aye
U. Yapanel	Aye
H. Beliak	Absent
D. Gonzalez	Aye
S. Covarrubias	Aye
S. Sherkhanov	Aye
N. Huynh	Aye
S. Dikbas	Aye
S. Orazov	Absent

**IV. Informative Presentations**

**A.**

### **Presentation from Tim Buresh on MSA-1 Facility**

T. Buresh, Construction Manager from PrimeSource, gave a detailed presentation regarding the MSA-1 current project and possible expansion projects for the same location. M. Sahin, Principal of MSA-1, was present in person and helped address some of the questions Board Members had. CEO, C. Young, was also present to address questions. The Board appreciated the detailed presentation. T. Buresh's question was whether the board would accept or decline the extension, he offered his opinion and presented the master plan. C. Brimmer explained to the Board the importance of paying attention to the master plan. C. Brimmer, recommends that we find the money to move forward with the master plan. The Board directed T. Buresh to not make any changes to the high school design, he will complete the current design, move forward with obtaining permit process, then go out to bid and return to the Board for contract authorization. In regards to the middle school building, T. Buresh will continue his due diligence regarding the condition of the building under the change order already authorized by the Board for Franco Architect. Staff will move forward with the plan of constructing a shade shelter instead of a third building at MSA-1, the Board will have to approve a solar consultant contract at a future meeting for this project. T. Buresh explained that site improvements will have to be done in phases. For now, he will do the minimum to obtain plan clearance for the high school building (infiltration and striping) and later a plan to add perimeter fencing and the residential block wall will be created. There were no actions taken in this item, directions were given and approvals will come at a later time.

### **B. Update on MSA SA and MSA SD Facility**

M. Lengly from Gafcon presented the details of the MSA-Santa Ana project. He spoke in detail about the bids received and their amounts. He also explained what affected the cost, such as recent natural disasters and how the cost reconciliation was made. Per Board request, I. Soto, Interim Chief External Officer will work on finding funders for the project such as Home Depot. All questions were addressed. There were no actions taken on this item.

## **V. Closed Session Items**

### **A. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – Two Matters**

The Board went into Closed Session to discuss this item.

### **B. Public Announcement of Closed Session Item(s)**

S. Sherkanov, Board Chair, announced in Open Session that the Board would go into Closed Session to discuss two matters under Anticipated Litigation.

### **C. Public Report of Action, If Any, Taken in Closed Session**

S. Sherkanov, Board Chair, announced in Open Session that no actions were taken during Closed Session.

## **VI. Discussion Items**

### **A. Proposal of Creation of the MPS Board Advisory Committee**

I. Soto, Interim Chief External Officer, presented the Advisory Committee Proposal to the Board. This proposal was reviewed by the MPS Governance Committee in a previous meeting, U. Yapanel, chair of this committee reported out on what was discussed with the committee. The Board will continue to review this proposal and provide input to I. Soto. This proposal will come to the full Board for approval at a future meeting.

### **B. Discussion of Volunteer Policy**

This item was not discussed, the Board directed staff to discuss this item in the next Academic Committee meeting.

### **C. Discussion of MPS School Wellness Policy**

This item was not discussed, the Board directed staff to discuss this item in the next Academic Committee meeting.

### **D. MPS Progress on Meeting Local Performance Indicators on the CA School Dashboard**

D. Yilmaz, Chief Accountability Officer, gave the Board an update on the MPS progress on meeting local performance indicators on the CA school dashboard. He explained what resources students currently have and addressed all questions. This was a discussion item, no actions were taken.

## **VII. Closing Items**

### **A. Adjourn Meeting**

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 12:54 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
S. Sherkhanov