

APPROVED



## Magnolia Public Schools

### Minutes

#### Regular Board Meeting

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**Date and Time**

Thursday December 8, 2022 at 5:30 PM

**Location**

<https://zoom.us/j/97856064990?pwd=MHhBZCtGT0xEMIZpNEZQZVJ3RDZBPZz09>

**Meeting ID:** 978 5606 4990    **Passcode:** 021250

**One tap mobile:** +16694449171,,97856064990# US

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**Board Members:**

Mr. Mekan Muhammedov, Chair

Ms. Sandra Covarrubias, Vice-Chair

Dr. Umit Yapanel

Dr. Salih Dikbas

Ms. Diane Gonzalez

Mr. Daniel Sheehan

Mrs. Esra Eldem Tunc

**CEO & Superintendent:**

Mr. Alfredo Rubalcava

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**Directors Present**

D. Gonzalez (remote), E. Eldem Tunc (remote), M. Muhammedov (remote), S. Covarrubias (remote), S. Dikbas (remote), U. Yapanel (remote)

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**Directors Absent**

D. Sheehan

**Directors who arrived after the meeting opened**

M. Muhammedov

**Directors who left before the meeting adjourned**

S. Dikbas

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**I. Opening Items**

**A. Call the Meeting to Order**

S. Covarrubias called a meeting of the board of directors of Magnolia Public Schools to order on Thursday Dec 8, 2022 at 5:36 PM.

**B. Record Attendance and Guests**

Refer to attendance information recorded above.

**C. Approval of Agenda**

S. Covarrubias made a motion to approve the amended agenda with the removal of Closed Session Item IV C: Confidential Student Enrollment Matter.

D. Gonzalez seconded the motion.

J.Hernandez, Director of Student Services, informed the Board that the item is removed.

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

**Roll Call**

D. Gonzalez	No
M. Muhammedov	Absent
D. Sheehan	Absent
S. Covarrubias	No
U. Yapanel	No
E. Eldem Tunc	No
S. Dikbas	No

**D. Public Comments**

No public comments were made at this time.

**E. Announcements from CEO & Superintendent and Board Members**

A.Rubalcava, CEO & Superintendent, thanked everyone for being on the call.

S.Keskindurk and M.Rowell, Principals at Magnolia Science Academy - Santa Ana

highlighted that their school hosted the McDonalds Acer National Program. Their keynote

speaker was Katya Echazarreta, she is the first Mexican-born woman to go to space. All Magnolia School Principals provided highlights of their school site. Board Members thanked everyone for the amazing highlights.

M. Muhammedov arrived at 5:45 PM.

S. Dikbas left at 5:45 PM.

#### **F. Approval of Minutes from MPS Regular Board Meeting - November 10, 2022**

S. Covarrubias made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Board Meeting on 11-10-22.

E. Eldem Tunc seconded the motion.

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

##### **Roll Call**

M. Muhammedov	Aye
S. Covarrubias	Aye
E. Eldem Tunc	Aye
U. Yapanel	Aye
D. Gonzalez	Aye
D. Sheehan	Absent
S. Dikbas	Absent

## **II. Information/Discussion Items**

### **A. Data Presentation: 2022-23 MPS Demographics**

D.Yilmaz, Chief Accountability Officer, and L.Woods, Director of School Office Data & Accountability went over the Magnolia wide 2022-23 CALPADS Fall 1 demographic information. L.Woods added that the information presented is preliminary as schools are continuously collecting and entering data into the system. There have been some system issues which staff was informed that it would be resolved in January. She added that before certifying the data, they present each of the data reports to the school leaders to ensure that the data quality is there. She went over the historical enrollment by school which is on trend with what is happening across the state. Some schools enrollment increased but some others saw a decrease in the census day enrollment counts. Possible factors such as leaving the state/area or opting for virtual education options played a factor. Regarding enrollment by ethnicity there is a minimal difference from last year with the Hispanic student population being the highest demographic. She also presented the student population ethnicity percentage breakdown for each school. She presented the gender breakdown in comparison to last year. She also went over the EL student rates along with EL students with disability rates for each school. Free/Reduced preliminary rates was also presented which was in collaboration with school leaders and staff to collect majority of the forms from the students. She showcased the unduplicated pupil counts per school site. Other areas that were presented was the GATE student rates, foster youth rates and counts which increased from last year, students with disabilities count, homeless student rates and immigrant student rates. She also presented a

summary of the CALPADS Census day data from October. Board members provided feedback.

#### **B. Student Board Member Processes and Responsibilities**

J.Hernandez, Director of Student Services, stated that this was presented previously at the Nominating/Governance Committee back in November in which the Committee had provided feedback and additional information. He presented that the Board had approved the amended Bylaws back in February in which the student board member was added to the Bylaws language. He presented the application, the election process, timeline and key responsibilities that the student board member role entails. The Student Board Member will be joining their first Board Meeting in July of 2023. He also provided current processes still being formalized and discussed with principals and legal counsel. Sometime in February, information will be sent out to students and families informing them of the opportunity. This will be presented to the principals at the upcoming principals meeting to answer any further questions. Staff is still in the process of communicating with legal counsel. Board members provided feedback.

#### **C. Enrollment Projections for Magnolia Public Schools (MPS) Sites for 2023-24**

B.Lopez, Chief External Officer, presented the enrollment projections for the upcoming school year. This was in collaboration with the Accountability Department, school leaders and staff. She mentioned that this year they pushed these procedures sooner to make sure they have projections before winter break begins and before the January open enrollment window closes. This is to ensure that PACE Coordinators and school leaders continuously reach out to families. Meetings with the Outreach & Development and school site leaders have taken place to discuss strategies for enrollment activates. She presented the enrollment projection numbers for each school site.

### **III. Action Items**

#### **A. Approval of Findings to Conduct Virtual Meetings Pursuant to AB 361/Government Code Section 54953**

The Board reconsidered the circumstances of the State of Emergency related to COVID-19 in which meeting in person can directly impact the ability of the Board in addition to the all standing Board Committees (Finance, Audit/Facilities, Academic, Stakeholder and Development & Nominating/Governance Committees) and public to meet safely. In-person Board Meeting will reconvene beginning in March. Staff will undergo protocols and systems to ensure board and members of the public can meet safely.

U. Yapanel made a motion to adopt the findings relating to the ability of the MPS Board and all MPS Committees to conduct meetings due to teleconference during the State of Emergency, in reference to AB 361/Government Code Section 54953.

D. Gonzalez seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

U. Yapanel Aye  
S. Covarrubias Aye  
S. Dikbas Absent  
M. Muhammedov Aye  
E. Eldem Tunc Aye  
D. Sheehan Absent  
D. Gonzalez Aye

**B. Approval of Updated 2022-2023 Magnolia Public Schools Employee Handbook**

D.Hajmeirza, Director of Human Resources, presented the updated employee handbook which was reviewed by legal counsel. This includes regulation changes and labor codes that will become effective January 1, 2023. She went over the updates such as overpayments, family leave and eligibility, clarifying language on school paid holidays, bereavement leave for seasonal and temporary employees and language on the security cameras policy.

U. Yapanel made a motion to approve the updated 2022-23 Employee Handbook as presented with an effective date of January 1, 2023.

D. Gonzalez seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

S. Dikbas Absent  
M. Muhammedov Aye  
E. Eldem Tunc Aye  
D. Sheehan Absent  
S. Covarrubias Aye  
U. Yapanel Aye  
D. Gonzalez Aye

**C. Approval of Magnolia Science Academy-4, 6,7 and 8 Fiscal Benchmarks**

Presented previously at the Finance Committee Meeting which the Committee approved for their recommendation. S.Budhreja, Chief Financial Officer, presented the areas for improvement regarding internal controls. He went over that the recommendation for MPS to move to a single system for its accounting and payroll system is underway. Staff has reached out to vendors and still discussing with leadership for the best possible option while maintaining that all current systems are still ongoing to ensure no disruption on the organizations day to day. Staff is still exploring along with the costs and timelines. All other recommendations were implemented.

M. Muhammedov made a motion to approve the actions taken by Magnolia Public Schools (MPS) staff to address Fiscal Benchmarks noted by the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) during their last renewal for Magnolia Science Academy-4, 6, 7 and 8.

E. Eldem Tunc seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

E. Eldem Tunc	Aye
D. Gonzalez	Aye
U. Yapanel	Aye
S. Covarrubias	Aye
D. Sheehan	Absent
M. Muhammedov	Aye
S. Dikbas	Absent

**D. Approval of First Interim Reports for the 2022-23 Fiscal Year**

Presented previously at the Finance Committee Meeting which the Committee approved for their recommendation. S.Budhreja, Chief Financial Officer, presented 2022-23 first interim report which is a snapshot of the operating budget with adjustments that were made since July. He added that the Discretionary block grant would be separated into two programs - arts and music/instructional materials and learning recovery emergency block grant. He also added that this captures hold harmless and one time revenues which he mentioned that staff is mindful that this disappears overtime and are planning for changes for the upcoming year. He clarified that as discussed during the Finance Committee Meeting, the staff will have additional information from the Governor's January proposal and for that to be presented end of January/February. He went over each school site and Home Office revenues and financial health. Board members questions were addressed.

U. Yapanel made a motion to approve the fiscal year 2022-23 first interim budget reports as the most recent revised budget for the 2022-23 fiscal year.

M. Muhammedov seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

U. Yapanel	Aye
S. Dikbas	Absent
M. Muhammedov	Aye
E. Eldem Tunc	Aye
S. Covarrubias	Aye
D. Gonzalez	Aye
D. Sheehan	Absent

**IV. Closed Session**

**A. Public Announcement of Closed Session**

J.Lara, Board Secretary, stated that as mentioned during the approval of agenda, item IV C will not be discussed today and that the Board will be going into closed session to

discuss conference with real property negotiations for the property at 16600 Vanowen Street and that the Board will report out.

**B. Conference with Real Property Negotiations (§ 54956.8)**

This item was discussed in Closed Session.

**C. Confidential Student Enrollment Matter - Consideration of Compliance with Rehabilitation Plan Case No.: 20221208**

This item was removed during the approval of agenda.

**D. Report Out of Closed Session**

M.Muhammedov announced in Open Session at 7:59pm that the Board discussed certain actions proposed regarding MPS real property negotiations for the property at 16600 Vanowen Street and that the Board voted unanimously to accept the proposal as presented.

**V. 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 8:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
M. Muhammedov