APPROVED

Magnolia Public Schools

Minutes

Regular Board Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday February 8, 2024 at 6:40 PM

Location
Home Office: 250 E. 1st Street, Suite 1500, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Board Members:
Mr. Mekan Muhammedov, Chair
Ms. Sandra Covarrubias, Vice-Chair
Dr. Umit Yapanel
Dr. Salih Dikbas
Ms. Diane Gonzalez
Mrs. Esra Eldem Tunc

Student Board Member:
Melissa De La Rosa Aparicio

CEO & Superintendent:
Mr. Alfredo Rubalcava

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

Directors Absent
None

Directors who arrived after the meeting opened
U. Yapanel

Guests Present
J. Lara

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

M. Muhammedov called a meeting of the board of directors of Magnolia Public Schools to order on Thursday Feb 8, 2024 at 7:21 PM.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Board, staff and guests conducted the pledge of allegiance.

C. Record Attendance and Guests

M. De La Rosa, Student Board Member, was marked present for this meeting, joining remote. Refer to attendance information recorded above.

D. Approval of Agenda

S. Covarrubias made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.
D. Gonzalez seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

E. Public Comments

The Board listened to several public comments from members of the public regarding their grievances of co-location. Public members represented the schools of Sunny Brae and Lorne Elementary. Order of the public comments were by the order of which the Speaker Card was received by the Board Secretary. The Board also gave space for those members joining via zoom to express their sentiment.
U. Yapanel arrived at 8:01 PM.
Board Meeting paused and a break was taken.

F.

Announcements

M. De La Rosa, Student Board Member, briefed the Board on the Student Forum that she has been focusing on during her term. She reported that the forum is to give space to MPS students to hear any concerns and improvements they would like to see at their schools and share promising practices. She reported that she has been working with J. Hernandez, Director of Student Services, regarding the logistics and inviting Magnolia students to attend on February 22nd. She also reported several events happening at Magnolia Science Academy-5.

M. Muhammedov, Chair, announced that he visited Magnolia Science Academy-2. He reported on speaking with staff and visiting classrooms and enjoyed seeing staff working cohesively and enjoyed the engagement at the school site. He also reported that he visited Magnolia Science Academy-1 to view the progress of the schools facilities projects.

G. Approval of Minutes from MPS Regular Board Meeting - January 18, 2024

D. Gonzalez made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Board Meeting on 01-18-24.
S. Covarrubias seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

II. Consent Items

A. Approval of Updated Health and Safety Policy

U. Yapanel made a motion to approve the updated MPS Health & Safety Policy.
D. Gonzalez seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

B.

Approval of 2024-25 School Calendars for All MPS

U. Yapanel made a motion to approve the 2024-25 School Calendars for all MPS.
D. Gonzalez seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call	
D. Gonzalez	Aye
S. Covarrubias	Aye
U. Yapanel	Aye
S. Dikbas	Aye
M. Muhammedov	Aye
E. Eldem Tunc	Aye

III. Information/Discussion Items

A. Data Presentation: MPS’ Performance on the CA School Dashboard

D. Yilmaz, Chief Accountability Officer, informed the Board on MPS' performance on the 2023 CA School Dashboard data and tied in the CEO metrics. He detailed the state's measurements and how all Magnolia schools performed compared to the schools and districts across the state. He went over MPS' performance in English Language Arts, performance in Mathematics, performance in English Learners Progress, performance in College/Career Indicator, performance in Graduation Rates, performance in Chronic Absenteeism Rate and performance in Suspension Rates. Board asked clarifying questions which were addressed by staff.

B. Data Presentation: Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) Mid-Year Update

O. Polat, Director of State and Federal Programs, briefed the Board on the LCAP development process in which Home Office staff collaborates with school site leadership to ensure that the LCAP school-wide goals, annual measurable outcomes and specific actions are aligned to the eight state priorities that the schools engaged in with their educational partners during the development. Meetings occur throughout the year to gather updates on the outcome data and expenditure data to help measure the school's progress towards the LCAP targets and plan next steps. He reported that mid-year update reports assists the schools and educational partners to reflect on the implementation of the current LCAP. All schools mid-year report was submitted. Z. Ocel, Principal at Magnolia Science Academy-3 presented his schools mid-year report and reflected on the school operations and instruction. Board Members engaged with the staff on questions.

C. Overview of the 2024-25 Governors Proposed State Budget

S. Budhraja, Chief Financial Officer, reported on the Governor's 2024-25 State Budget to update the Board on the preliminary information that has been provided. He went over proposed new policies and funding, proposed delays and reductions impacting schools,

and ongoing state investments. He reported that they will have additional information as they get close to the May revise. He reported on MPS's current and proposed programs such as facilities project investments, staff compensation/employee benefits, investment in the Community Schools Program, Orange County expansion initiative and partnerships with other organizations. He presented the cost of living adjustment and detailed next steps. Board Members asked clarifying questions. Staff addressed all further questions from the Board.

D. Facilities Department Updates

P. Ontiveros, General Counsel & Director of Facilities, introduced K. Tomas as the newest member of the Facilities Department serving as the Assistant Project Manager. She is an alumni of Magnolia Science Academy-1 graduating in 2011. K. Tomas updated the Board on several ongoing facilities projects for Magnolia Science Academy (MSA)-1, 2, 5, Santa Ana & San Diego. M. Sahin, Project Manager, introduced James Villanueva , Gateway's Construction Manager for the MSA-5 project. James briefed the Board next steps such as meeting with Silver Creek to review up to date designs on the modular approach and releasing a bid for the DLR design to get pricing scenarios. They are working on providing these packages to the Board at a future Board Meeting. Jim Bush, Facilities Consultant, provided approval updates so far. S. Budhraja, Chief Financial Officer, updated the Board on financing for MSA-5. Board Members questions were addressed by staff.

IV. Action Items

A. Approval of 2024-25 MPS Board Committee Structure

U. Yapanel, Board Member & Chair of the Governance Committee, reported the updates to MPS' structure on the standing MPS Board Committee's. Dr. Umit Yapanel will serve as an alternate member for the Academic Committee; Mr. Mekan Muhammedov will be removed from the Nominating/Governance Committee and instead be placed as an alternate member for that committee; Dr Salih Dikbas will serve in the Nominating/Governance Committee and serve as an alternate member for the Educational Partners & Development Committee.
U. Yapanel made a motion to approve the MPS Board Committee structure to take effect on February 9, 2024.
D. Gonzalez seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

B. Approval of the MPS School Wellness Plan

J. Hernandez, Director of Student Services, briefed the Board on the updates made to the School Wellness Plan in accordance with the National School Lunch Program requirements where schools are mandated to establish local wellness policy to address nutrition and physical activity education. He reported that the plan consists of nine (9) components; Preamble, MPS Wellness Committee; Accountability; Nutrition Services; Nutrition and Health Education; Physical Activity; Other Activities that Promote Student Wellness; Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child; and Glossary.
U. Yapanel made a motion to approve the MPS School Wellness Plan for immediate implementation.
S. Covarrubias seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

C. Approval of 2024-25 School Safety Plans for all Magnolia Public Schools

J. Hernandez, Director of Student Services, reported on the Comprehensive School Safety Plans for all Magnolia schools. He reported that schools co-located and authorized by Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) adopts an integrated safe school plan. He explained that school sites co-located with other schools have one plan that is meant for all schools who are sharing that campus. He added that the plans are a live document. Board Members questions were addressed by staff.
S. Covarrubias made a motion to approve the Comprehensive School Safety Plan (CSSP) for the 2024-25 school year for the following schools within Magnolia Public Schools: Magnolia Science Academy-1, Magnolia Science Academy-2, Magnolia Science Academy-3, Magnolia Science Academy-4, Magnolia Science Academy-5, Magnolia Science Academy-6, Magnolia Science Academy-7, Magnolia Science Academy-Bell, Magnolia Science Academy-Santa Ana, Magnolia Science Academy-San Diego.
U. Yapanel seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

D. Approval of Adoption of Procedures Implementing the California Environmental Quality Act

P. Ontiveros, General Counsel & Director of Facilities, briefed the Board on the set of procedures to implement the requirements of the CA Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the Magnolia Science Academy-5 project. He reported that the CA Department of Education requires a CEQA analysis for projects funded through the Office of Public School Construction (OPSC). He added that an initial study was conducted that an extensive analysis on the impacts of the project was also completed. Exhibit A on the report is procedures implementing CA Environmental Quality Act for Magnolia Public Schools. Board Members questions were addressed by staff.
D. Gonzalez made a motion to adopt the “Procedures Implementing the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)” attached as Exhibit A for the Magnolia Science Academy— 5 project located at 7111 Winnetka Avenue (the “Project”).
M. Muhammedov seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

V. Closed Session

A. Public Announcement of Closed Session

M. Muhammedov announced that the Board will be going into closed session to discuss public employment for title: Principal and would report out any actions that may be taken.

B. Public Employment (§ 54957) Title: Principal

This item was discussed in Closed Session.

C. Report Out of Closed Session

M. Muhammedov announced in Open Session at 11:32pm that the Board discussed the item and informed the staff on next steps.

VI. 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 11:33 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
M. Muhammedov