APPROVED

Magnolia Public Schools

Minutes

Regular Board Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday April 11, 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 (remote), E. Eldem Tunc (remote), M. Muhammedov, S. Covarrubias, S. Dikbas (remote), U. Yapanel

Directors Absent

None

Directors who arrived after the meeting opened
S. Dikbas

Directors who left before the meeting adjourned
D. Gonzalez

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 Apr 11, 2024 at 6:47 PM.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Board, staff and guests conducted the pledge of allegiance lead by M. De La Rosa, Student Board Member.

C. Record Attendance and Guests

M. De La Rosa, Student Board Member, was present. It was verbally stated that Mrs. Diane Gonzalez was joining from the location at 5113 Babette Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90066. Refer to attendance information recorded above.

D. Approval of Agenda

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

Roll Call

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

E.

Public Comments

No public comments were made at this time.

F. Announcements

S. Dikbas arrived at 6:50 PM.
A. Rubalcava, CEO & Superintendent and B. Olivares, Chief External Officer, announced hat MPS was a recipient of the Federal CMO Expansion Grant. Congratulated the various staff members across the schools and Home Office who lead the effort.

M. De La Rosa, Student Board Member, reported on the successful Student Forum that occurred on February 22nd. She reported that various students across Magnolia joined to address school challenges and exchange ideas. She reported on valuable feedback received including listening to what students enjoy from their school that contribute to a good student environment. Part of feedback received was the need of additional space for students at Magnolia Science Academy-5. She reported that an additional student forum is in the works. J. Hernandez, Director of Student Services, thanked the participants on the forum for the insightful conversation and feedback.

G. Approval of Minutes from MPS Regular Board Meeting - March 14, 2024

U. Yapanel made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Board Meeting on 03-14-24.
M. Muhammedov seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

H. Approval of Minutes from MPS Special Board Meeting - March 21, 2024

U. Yapanel made a motion to approve the minutes from Special Board Meeting on 03-21-24.
M. Muhammedov seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

Roll Call

D. Gonzalez	Aye

II. Consent Items

A. Approval of Revised 2024-25 School Calendar for Magnolia Science Academy-Santa Ana

U. Yapanel made a motion to approve the revised 2024-25 School Calendar for Magnolia Science Academy-Santa Ana.
D. Gonzalez seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

B. Approval of Charter School Annual Report to the Los Angeles County Office of Education for Magnolia Science Academy-1, 2, 3, and 5

U. Yapanel made a motion to approve the Charter School Annual Report to the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) for Magnolia Science Academy-1, 2, 3, and 5.
D. Gonzalez seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

III. Information/Discussion Items

A. Enrollment Update

B. Olivares, Chief External Officer, updated the Board on the enrollment trends and applications. She reported that compared to last year, there has been an increase of applications in the pipeline. Staff has been in continuous conversations with school sites to learn of effective strategies being used. For schools that are not seeing that increase of applications, she reported that they are not far behind and staff is working with them to address this. Board Members raised questions. Staff addressed those questions and B.

Olivares added that every school is trending to meet or on their way to meet their projection goal. She noted that certain schools such as MSA-5 and MSA-7 require more strategic planning. A. Rubalcava, CEO & Superintendent, reported that these systems are much stronger now and MPS is working on meeting the projections for next school year organization wide.

IV. Action Items

A. Approval of 2024-25 Employee Pay Raise Scale for Full-Time Teaching Positions & Non-Classroom Based Academic ("NCBA") Positions & School Leaders

Previously presented at the Educational Partners & Development Committee Meeting in which the Committee approved the item to give their recommendation to the full Board. F. Del Carpio, Chief People Officer, reported that the Human Resources Department have had conversations with leadership team, principals and different departments for the data presented. The proposed changes includes an increase of the base pay for MSA-3, 4, 6, 7, San Diego and Santa Ana to ensure that all ten (10) schools are in equity; coefficient for employee qualifications will remain the same; and, the performance pay will continue to be suspended for 2024-25. S. Budhraja, Chief Financial Officer, provided an update on the economic trends and budget planning assumptions for 2024-25. He also provided a financial overview for all school sites. Principals spoke upon the appreciation of equity across Magnolia from their staff. Board Members questions were addressed. They reported on the continued vigilance on MSA-4 and the ramifications of the reduction of the CMO fee.
U. Yapanel made a motion to approve the 2024-25 Employee Pay Raise Scale for Full-Time Teaching Positions & Non-Classroom Based Academic ("NCBA") Positions & School Leaders.
S. Covarrubias seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

B. Approval of MPS School Site Classified Employees' Pay Raise Schedule for 2024-25

Previously discussed at the Educational Partners & Committee Meeting in which the Committee approved the item to give their recommendation to the full Board. F. Del Carpio, Chief People Officer, proposed the increases to the MPS classified employees. MSA-1, 2, 5 and 8 proposed increase is 2% and MSA-3, 4, 6, 7, Santa Ana, and San

Diego proposed increased is 4%. Additionally, classified employees will be eligible for one-time annual assignment duties.
U. Yapanel made a motion to approve the MPS school site classified employee's pay raise schedule for 2024-25 fiscal year.
S. Covarrubias seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

C. Approval of General Contractor Change Orders for Magnolia Science Academy-1 Tenant Improvement Project at 18242 Sherman Way

M. Sahin, Facilities Project Manager, updated the Board on the change order received for MSA-1 JAM Building at 18242 Sherman Way. The change orders came from the MSA-1 school leadership team for the purpose of having a better functioning gym. It was reported that the change orders do not impact the completion date of the project which is June 17, 2024. Colin Beal from API Construction reported on the structural changes on the change order. Board Members questions were addressed.
M. Muhammedov made a motion to approve the change orders for Magnolia Science Academy-1's Tenant Improvement project at 18242 Sherman Way (the "Project") in the total amount of $122,372.66, and further approve that MPS Staff be authorized to negotiate and sign the change order proposal for said services in such form as MPS Staff may deem appropriate and in the best interests of MPS.
U. Yapanel seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

D. Approval of MPS Volunteer Enrichment Programs Policy

A. Rubalcava, CEO & Superintendent, reported on the addition of a Volunteer Enrichment Programs Policy. This is to mitigate 3rd party companies that come to Magnolia wanting to offer program services to Magnolia on a volunteer, non-paid/free basis. Operators of programs will be subject to background check, TB tests, nature of the program, conflict of interests and additional due diligence to asses if such program fits the need of MPS and

its students and teachers. This is a volunteer policy to be an operator of a program in MPS. Board Members questions were addressed by staff.
M. Muhammedov made a motion to board approve the MPS Volunteer Enrichment Programs Policy.
D. Gonzalez seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

V. Information/Discussion Items

A. Glows, Grows & Priorities Presentations

D. Gonzalez left at 9:02 PM.
Glows, Grows, and Priorities presentations were presented by MSA-6, MSA-7 and MSA-8. School principals presented for their school site to the Board and responded to questions.

B. Facilities Projects Update

Facilities Department updated the Board of various facilities projects across the schools. Those updates include projects from MSA-1, 2, 5, 7 and Santa Ana. Board Members questions were addressed by staff.

VI. Closed Session

A. Public Announcement of Closed Session

M. Muhammedov announced that the Board will be going into closed session to discuss public employee performance evaluation for title: CEO & Superintendent and would report out any actions that may be taken.

B. Public Employee Performance Evaluation (§ 54957) - Title: CEO & Superintendent

This item was discussed in Closed Session.

C. Report Out of Closed Session

M. Muhammedov announced in Open Session at 10:07pm that the Board discussed the item and would continue discussions at the next Board Meeting.

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 10:08 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
M. Muhammedov