



MOT Charter School

Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting

Date and Time

Wednesday November 19, 2025 at 7:00 PM

Location

K8 Academy Campus
1156 Levels Road
Middletown, DE 19709

Directors Present

A. Bigesby, B. Pace, B. Reiling, C. Dallas, D. Mower-Wade, D. Whitaker, K. Swab, M. Ali Khan, M. Hewitt, S. Doan, S. Sullivan

Directors Absent

C. Slater, K. Gaines

Ex Officio Members Present

N. Southworth

Non Voting Members Present

N. Southworth

Guests Present

J. Camponelli, R. Dallas

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance and Guests

B.

Call the Meeting to Order

K. Swab called a meeting of the board of directors of MOT Charter School to order on Wednesday Nov 19, 2025 at 7:02 PM.

C. Approve Minutes

M. Ali Khan made a motion to approve the minutes from Board of Directors Meeting on 10-15-25.

D. Whitaker seconded the motion.

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

II. Public Comment

A. Public Comment

None

III. Leadership Team Presentation

A. Elementary Leadership Presentation

Jenna Camponelli and Erin Goodwin presented the initiative to improve grade school literacy

- This process has been evolving over several years
- The reading scores for MOT Charter are higher than the State of Delaware scores
- They discussed how the teachers were educated on the best practice to teach reading skills
- Implementation of Wonders program was initiated:
 - Kindergarten and 1st grades in 2019
 - 2nd and 3rd grades in 2023
 - 4th and 5th grades in 2025
 - Staffing has been modified to ensure that the program could be implemented
- Professional Learning Programs:
 - Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS) Training
 - 18 staff members are trained in LETRS
 - Science of Reading Training
 - AIM Structured Literacy Training
 - 3 staff members are in this training
 - Early Literacy Leadership Academy
 - SchoolKit Partnership
- Impact of implementing this program:
 - In 2022 150 students receiving explicit instruction using HQIM
 - In 2025 380 students receiving explicit instruction using HQIM

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- In 2022 students receiving classroom based reading intervention services
- In 2025 26+ students receiving targeted intervention services with a reading interventionist
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- Limited focus on phonics instruction after 1st grade
- Focus on phonics instruction K-3
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- 0 teachers trained in LETRS
- 18 teachers trained in LETRS
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- No professional learning surrounding the Science of Reading
- Targeted in-house professional learning focused on the Science of Reading
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- Minimal support with curriculum
- Full-time Literacy Coach position and team approach to instructional feedback and support with curriculum implementation and teacher training

B. Review and update to Admissions Policy

There are no substantive changes. There was language added due to State requirements.

IV. New board members

A. Approval of new board members

M. Ali Khan made a motion to approve to Chris Dallas admission to the Board.

M. Hewitt seconded the motion.

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

M. Ali Khan made a motion to approve Amelia Bigesby admission to the Board.

M. Hewitt seconded the motion.

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

V. Staff Experience Committee

A. Committee Report

Don Whitaker:

- Food trucks are being scheduled
- Coffee trucks are being scheduled
- Wall of Fame has a 5 person committee
 - Expectation is to have 2 inaugural people recognized for their dedication and commitment to the school

- The following years there would be 2-3 people recognized

VI. Student Experience Committee

A. Committee Report

Bernadette Reiling reported:

- Continues to promote bridge between the middle school and the high school by promoting sports events at the different campuses

Sub-Committee Safet and Security:

- Self defense class was held at an outside organization for staff members
- K-8 classrooms are requesting automatic door locks for security purposes
- There is a scheduled safety and security meeting scheduled at the HS on 11-20-2025 from 2 to 3 pm.

VII. Capital Improvement Committee

A. Committee Report

Stephen Doan reported:

- Need to ascertain the need to replace the HVAC units at the HS and the cost of this project

VIII. Finance & Operations Committee

A. Committee Report

Stephen Doan reported:

- The current financial information was reviewed, and no issues were discovered
- Discussed the issues with funding from the district due to the recent New Castle County property tax assessment
- Increased expenses due to:
 - Increased town cost for utilities
 - Increased cost for the Free Breakfast program
- The FY 24-25 audit was performed and no issues were discovered

B. Financial Statements for the 2024-2025 academic year

IX. Head of School Report

A.

Head of School Monthly Report

Ned Southworth reviewed the Head of School report that is included in the documents for this meeting's minutes

X. 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 8:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
S. Sullivan