

APPROVED



MCCPS Board of Trustees

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting

Date and Time

Tuesday January 28, 2025 at 7:00 PM

Location

Hybrid Format:

- in person at MCCPS
 - via Zoom at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/98355446062?pwd=bVg2VzE4bEZUVXJqY0R4UIJnVmZ1dz09>
-

Trustees Present

Carol McEnaney, Ellen Lodgen, Ian Hunt, Katie Holt, Kimberly Nothnagel, Polly Titcomb (remote), Stephanie Brant

Trustees Absent

Emily Promise, James Lewis, Jessica Xiarhos, Lindsay Smith

Guests Present

Eric Neagle

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance and Guests

B. Call the Meeting to Order

Katie Holt called a meeting of the board of trustees of MCCPS Board of Trustees to order on Tuesday Jan 28, 2025 at 7:03 PM.

C. Public Comment

No public comment received.

II. Board Action Items

A. Minutes to Approve: December

The board reviewed the outcome of the December board meeting as to date. No minutes have been published. Action | Ian Hunt to follow-up with Lindsay Smith and upload minutes of the December meeting for review at February meeting. Ian also to follow-up with DESE on approval of pending Board Members.

III. Head of School Report

A. December/January Report

Enrollment | Currently enrollment is currently 191 students. Since last meeting, 4 have left (including 2 to homeschooling settings + 2 sent back to home districts.) Awaiting placement for two additional students to return to home districts. New students have expressed an interest in attending MCCPS. Expect to be back at 192 by end-of mid-Feb with offers pending on 3 new students from sending districts.

Staffing | Recent departure of 5th grade staff member. HoS has built out a plan to support 5th grade through to the end of the year. This has been shared with parents / pupils. Board shared perspectives on feedback received from parents. Prompt communication from HoS was well received from parents. Staff moral remains positive despite changes.

Admissions | Record number of applications received (100 + more applications in this round)
230 applications were received. However, only 19% from sending districts. Potential drivers include new Swampscott school. Open houses well attended, but low interest from sending schools. HoS shared that while we currently 120 from sending districts. This is slated to decrease based on projections from applications. While school can realize target of 230 pupils, target is not aligned with 80/20 sending ratio requested by DESE in Charter Renewal. HoS to discuss with DESE potential options school may have. Board shared perspectives on potential strategies to increase number of sending pupils.

Charter Report | The preliminary DESE Charter report has been received. Key Challenges - governance, open meeting law and academic oversight from the board. Board discussed topics and solutions to mediate challenges (e.g onboarding strategy for new board members).

Culture & Climate | 18 of 19 staff members completed recent survey. Collaboration, speak-up, communication were key topics. Positive findings shared by the HoS. BoD congratulated HoS / LT. on findings.

Camera Surveillance Policy | Installation of additional cameras in unstructured spaces to support pupil / building safety and align with district norms. Key changes include access for MHD police (e.g ALICE), video recording moved to cloud storage etc. These changes require updated policy documents which were shared with the board. Staff have been informed. Parents pending presentation to Board. Board discussed the policy and supported HoS strategy to implement / share these changes

Adhoc Topics

- Mid-Year iReady Testing Completed (data evaluation is pending). HoS Personal Development strategies and Staff Evaluations were also shared with Board (e.g Teach Point). ALICE training between HoS / parents is planned. Additional ALICE training is also pending.
- DESE shared continuous performance review is now complete.
- HoS shared documentation on ongoing progress against goals.

B. HOS Mid Year Review

The board discussed the annual mid-review process for HoS and next steps. HoS agreed to share documentation with Board to begin mid-year evaluation. Key topic was to include school improvement goal to evaluation.

IV. Board Annual Items

A. Upcoming Agenda Items

Action Item | Identify dates for board retreat.

B. MCPSA monthly update

MCPPSA encouraged board to explore opportunities to adopt a legislation policy

C.

Stipend to hire a meeting admin for the board and its committees

Agreed not to pursue

V. Committee Updates

A. Finance Committee

No update provided.

B. Governance Committee

Discussed recruiting new members to the Governance Committee. The committee is currently below target numbers. Eric Neagle expressed an interest to join the committee. Immediate action.

C. Academic Excellence

The board discussed refreshing this committee. This includes a new chair and increasing numbers. The board recommended chair is an acting staff member. HoS to reach out to potential candidates. Board also strongly suggested increasing cadence of meetings.

D. Development & Communications

Four fund-raising events are pending, including the 30-year Anniversary and Annual Fundraiser which is on May 10.. The board discussed how to engage local community members in fundraiser and build on success of 2024.

E. DEI Committee

No update provided.

F. Personnel Committee

Update on Head of School EoY review process.

VI. Public Comment

A. Public Comment

No public comment.

VII. Closing Items

A. Recap Action Items

B. Board Comments

C. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:47 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Katie Holt

Documents used during the meeting

- Head of School Report 1_28_2025.pdf
- MCCPS Acceptable Use Policy for Surveillance Cameras.pdf