APPROVED

MCCPS Board of Trustees

Minutes

Board of Trustees Meeting

Date and Time
Tuesday April 29, 2025 at 7:00 PM

Location
Hybrid Format:

- in person at MCCPS
- via Zoom at https://us06web.zoom.us/j/98355446062?pwd=bVg2VzE4bEZUVXJqY0R4UlJnVmZ1dz09

Trustees Present
Carol McEnaney, Ellen Lodgen, Emily Promise (remote), Eric Neagle (remote), Ian Hunt, Katie Holt, Lindsay Smith, Polly Titcomb, Stephanie Brant

Trustees Absent
Kimberly Nothnagel

Trustees who arrived after the meeting opened
Eric Neagle

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance and Guests

Eric Neagle arrived at 7:30 PM.

B.

Call the Meeting to Order

Lindsay Smith called a meeting of the board of trustees of MCCPS Board of Trustees to order on Tuesday Apr 29, 2025 at 7:08 PM.

C. Public Comment

II. Academic Presentation

A. ELA I Ready Data and Trends

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1JGVgVzzA7oO7Nu-zJsTTTx8lk3F6c2FK2Ti7jvtQ-20/edit

Molly Wright presented shared an update on the schools ELA / iREADY read-out for the current school year. The test measures reading, writing, speaking and listening skills of the students. Molly shared the scope / focus of the tests, then explored the data / findings in a detailed presentation comparing fall 24 and winter / Jan 25 test scores. While scores have improved over the 6-month period, ca. 20% of the student population remains in the "at risk / concern" category. Comprehension and vocab continue to be key areas of concern for a large portion of the student population, in particular in grades 5-6.

Board members discussed findings with Molly and explored opportunities to help support the development of at-risk students. The board also explored how it could be more engaged in ongoing strategies to develop and advance student learning through additional presentations at MCCPS board meetings (e.g academic excellence updates, student council and MCCPS LT presentations). Additionally, the board also discussed how we can share student learning / development data with parents / potential community applications to support student recruitment.

B. Attachment

III. Board Action Items: Approve Minutes

A. March 2025

Katie Holt made a motion to approve the minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting on 03-25-25.
Ellen Lodgen seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call	
Carol McEnaney	Aye
Ian Hunt	Abstain
Lindsay Smith	Aye
Emily Promise	Aye
Eric Neagle	Absent
Katie Holt	Aye
Ellen Lodgen	Aye
Kimberly Nothnagel	Absent
Polly Titcomb	Aye
Stephanie Brant	Aye

IV. MCPSA

A. Advocacy Agenda Discussion and Adoption

Agenda item moved to May MCCPS Board Meeting.

B. Mass Charter Association Updates

Lindsay Smith shared recent updates from the Mass Charter Association on the perceived lack of advocacy for charter schools in the state, including a number of bills working through the state legislature. The board agreed to play its role in advocating / supporting MCCPS and the broader concepts of charter schools within the local community.

V. Head of School Report

A. April 2025 Report

Enrollment

- Current enrollment numbers were shared before HoS explored the intent to return data received by current families;172 are returning (ca 93%), with approx. 6% of the student population making choices to move to different educational experiences in our local communities. HoS has been actively engaged in understanding key reasons for families who are electing to leave the school. The board was highly appreciative of this fact-finding strategy to understand the underlying drivers.
- HoS shared expected projections are ca. 230 for the MCCPS in the 2025 - 2026 calendar year. However, applications from sending districts still remain low and below DESE-mandated targets. This concern was discussed with DESE by the HoS. DESE reiterated their preference to focus on overarching school enrollment numbers over meeting sending district numbers.

- HoS shared concerns about ensuring equity for student / family participation in school events / trips as school enrollment numbers trend upwards with concomitant changing demographies. The board discussed strategies / solutions to help provide additional financial support for students through additional fund-raising activities.

Staffing

- Interviews / recruitment are underway in key open positions, including changes to math and science leadership.

Misc

- HoS updated the board on pending reports to DESE including a draft accountability plan.
- The math team participated in a DESE / TNTP instructional course in Worcester to develop key instructional skills / capabilities.

VI. Board Annual Items

A. Upcoming Agenda Items

No discussion.

B. HOS Annual Goals

No discussion.

VII. Committee Updates

A. Finance Committee

Lindsay Smith made a motion to Approve proposed FY26 MCCPS budget.
Ellen Lodgen seconded the motion.
Emily presented the proposed budget for FY26 with an expected enrollment number of 230 students. The board reviewed and discussed.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call	
Ellen Lodgen	Aye
Polly Titcomb	Aye
Emily Promise	Aye
Carol McEnaney	No
Ian Hunt	No

Roll Call

Katie Holt	Aye
Lindsay Smith	Aye
Stephanie Brant	No
Kimberly Nothnagel	Absent
Eric Neagle	No

B. Governance Committee

No major updates. Ongoing activities to recruit new MCCPS board members continue.

C. Academic Excellence

New committee members identified and kick-off meeting is being planned.

D. Development & Communications

Ongoing planning for May 10 social / fund-raising event includes a silent auction. Oct 4 has been identified for the 30 Yrs MCCPS anniversary gala.

E. DEI Committee

F. Personnel Committee

CoB shared progress on the HoS evaluation process. CoB encouraged board members to complete BoT and Val-ED surveys.

VIII. Other Board Items

A. General Discussion

The board discussed recent parent complaint relating to staff turn-over and subsequent feedback from parent. The board reviewed procedures for parent complaints.

IX. 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 9:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Katie Holt

Documents used during the meeting

- FY26 Proposed Budget.pdf