

APPROVED



## MCCPS Board of Trustees

### Minutes

#### Academic Excellence Committee - Monthly Meeting

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**Date and Time**

Wednesday May 28, 2025 at 11:45 AM

**Location**

MCCPS Conference Room

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Please note that the in-person meeting will not be suspended or terminated if technological problems interrupt the remote connection.

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**Committee Members Present**

Chris Doyon, Elizabeth Burns, Jessica Xiarhos, Kimberly Sullivan, Molly Wright, Stephanie Brant

**Committee Members Absent**

Ellen Lodgen

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**I. Opening Items****A. Record Attendance****B. Call the Meeting to Order**

Chris Doyon called a meeting of the Academic Excellence Committee Committee of MCCPS Board of Trustees to order on Wednesday May 28, 2025 at 11:48 AM.

**II. Academic Excellence Committee****A.**

## **Charter Renewal Findings - Criterion 9: Governance**

Starting with material from the charter renewal findings related to how the Board interacts with data.

- What data is being reported?
- How is it being marked in the minutes?
- What is the frequency?
- What is being done to address any situations when the data does not reflect our goals?
- How do we generate disaggregated data?

There is also interest in identifying how the Board engages with data.

### **B. Academic Excellence Committee - Purpose**

Discussion of the tie of the committee to the Charter Renewal Findings related to governance. This discussion included the following:

- The role of the committee is focused on outputs (data) and not the inputs.
- Forms of data that will need to be presented include:
  - MCAS scores
  - i-Ready scores
  - Trimester summaries
- Traditionally the Board has been presented a summary of MCAS findings.
  - Additional data is now being presented.

This data will be reviewed by the committee before being transmitted to the Board.

Also discussed was how data will be used, including avoiding a focus on only MCAS numbers given that MCAS does not necessarily reflect the school culture and project-based learning model.

- The purpose of analyzing data will be to identify if progress is being made toward goals.

Some discussion took place around i-Ready scores.

- Are i-Ready scores a reliable means of identifying MCAS scores?
  - It was noted that generally, the answer is yes, however, there are pockets in which this is not the case.
  - Additional analysis is needed.
  - A paid subscription to Open Architects may be useful.

Discussion related to trimester grades.

- Trimester grades are not necessarily an accurate predictor of MCAS scores and other metrics.
- Chris put forward that trimester grades might be treated qualitatively.

Role of the committee related to expressing how data is to be used.

- It was acknowledged that, especially when there is Board turnover, it is difficult for Board members to know how to best utilize data.
- One of the committee's roles should be to present (train) how the Board can use data for oversight.
  - Chris will aim to put together a presentation for the Board retreat.

### **C. Director of Accountability and Academics**

KD MacDonald hired as Director of Accountability and Academics.

- Significant charter school experience.
- Has been an instructional coach, team lead, etc...
- Math/Science background and offers significant data analytical skills.
- Works directly with a CAO.

KD will offer an additional eye for analysis of data.

## **III. Other Business**

### **A. Meeting Schedule**

Next meeting, Tuesday, July 15 at 12:00 PM.

## **IV. 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 12:43 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Chris Doyon