



Monarch Montessori of Denver Charter School and
First Steps at Monarch Montessori of Denver
Board of Directors' Meeting
4895 Peoria Street, Denver, CO 80239

March 17, 2016

- I. Preliminary
 - a. Call to Order
Pursuant to proper notice of the meeting, the meeting was called to order in room 210 at 5:48 pm.
 - b. Welcome Guests
Maria Burman and Grace Ochs attended.
 - c. Roll call
A quorum was present as follows:
Board Members: Ms. Brandy Haskins (by telephone), Mr. Jim Rey, Ms. Jessica Brody, and Ms. Adey Dimalanta were present. Mr. Rob Clemens, Ms. Noel Magee, Ms. Ann Massengill, and Ms. Linda Arnold were also present.
 - d. Public Comments
Grace Ochs gave a brief presentation regarding the potential for using a blended learning model for upper elementary.
 - e. Announcements
None
 - f. Approval of Agenda
A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda as amended.
Vote: Yes – 4, No – 0
- II. Consent Agenda

A motion was made and seconded to approve the proposed February 18, 2016 Board of Director's Meeting Minutes.

Vote: Yes – 4, No – 0

III. Reports

a. PTO Representative Report

Ms. Burman noted that PTO is looking to see how to better engage with parents. PTO prepared a survey to teachers to understand their needs from PTO.

b. Financial/Treasurer Report

Ms. Linda Arnold presented the Financial/Treasurer report. February is 67% of the way through the year. Charter is at 95% for revenues, and expenses are at 60%. We have not yet gotten our federal title funds. Bond invoices have gone out. Salaries run a month behind.

First Steps is at 60% for revenue. Tuition is a little lower than anticipated, in part because of a lower number than anticipated of afternoon slots as well as leeway needed for transitions. Expenses are at 61%, which is on track. Food service is running lower than budgeted.

c. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Rob Clemens delivered the Executive Director's Report. He noted that First Steps received a four-star rating. Charter has completed the first round of math PARCC testing. Ms. Massengill is in the process of completing teacher evaluations.

d. Chief Academic Officer Report

No report was presented.

e. First Steps Program Director Report

No report was presented.

f. President's Report

No report was presented.

g. School Accountability Committee Report

No report was presented.

h. Building Committee Report

Excel should be able to move gas meter over spring break. Building plans have been submitted. There is an 8-week review timeline.

i. Technology, Infrastructure & Security Report

No report was presented.

- j. Strategic Planning & Fundraising Report
No report was presented.

IV. Q&A
N/A

V. New Business

- a. ED Evaluation/Contract Renewal Discussion
Deferred until the April meeting.
- b. Teacher Evaluations/Contract Plan
Mr. Clemens informed the Board that teacher evaluations are underway and discussed the timing for offering contracts.
- c. Parent Survey
Deferred until the April meeting.
- d. Charter – Approve Charter Calendar – Charter, First Steps, Combined
The Board reviewed and discussed the proposed calendar. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Charter Calendar.
Vote: Yes – 4, No – 0
- e. Charter – Approve Salary line item in proposed FY17FS

The Board discussed the budget options and projected enrollment.
 - 1. Option A & B
 - 2. Charter Enrollment Data
A motion was made and seconded to adopt budget Option A.
Vote: Yes – 4, No – 0
- f. Charter – Approve UIP for CDE submission, 2016-17 UIP
A motion was made and seconded to approve the UIP for CDE submission.
Vote: Yes – 4, No – 0
- g. First Steps – Approve FS Calendar
The Board reviewed and discussed the proposed calendar. A motion was made and seconded to approve the First Steps Calendar, with the addition of conferences for four year olds during the week of January 9th.

Vote: Yes – 4, No – 0

h. First Steps – Approve Salary line item in proposed FY17FS

1. Option A & B
2. Tuition Rates

A motion was made and seconded to adopt budget Option A.

Vote: Yes – 4, No – 0

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the proposed tuition rates as amended.

Vote: Yes – 4, No – 0

i. First Steps – Discuss CO Shines next steps (hold or go for 5 stars?)

The Board discussed whether to stay at four stars for three years or seek another evaluation next year to try for five stars. The Board recommended staying at four stars because attainment of a five star rating would likely require some compromises in Montessori fidelity.

j. Board Recruitment Plan

The Board discussed the need to recruit additional Board members.

k. Blended Learning Proposal for UE

Grace Ochs gave a brief presentation regarding the potential for using a blended learning model for upper elementary. This item will be brought back to the Board for a vote at the April meeting.

l. Tablet Proposal for FS

The Board reviewed and discussed the tablet proposal. The Board asked to consider the proposal at the next meeting, once the budget is updated.

VII. Recap Action Items & Assignments
N/A

VIII. Adjourn Meeting
The meeting was adjourned at 9:29 pm.