



**Thomas MacLaren School
Board of Directors Meeting
May 18, 2023**

APPROVED

The meeting took place in Room #304 at Thomas MacLaren School, 1702 N. Murray Blvd., Colorado Springs, CO 80915.

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order** Mr. von Boeck called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.
 - A. Roll Call: *Present:* Mr. Paul von Boeck, Mrs. Katherine Brophy, Mrs. Carol Neel, Mrs. Khristine Prickett Vadala, and Mrs. Meredith Wardwell Sherman (virtually). Mrs. Dawn Connely and Mrs. Diane Borre were absent. *Also Present:* Mrs. Mary Faith Hall, Executive Director, Mr. Nico Alvarado, Head of Lower School, Mr. Ben LaBadie, Head of Upper School, Mr. Tim Pingel, Assistant Head of Upper School, Mrs. Bridget Rector, Assistant Head of Upper School, Ms. Katie Maslow, Assistant Head of Upper School, Mr. Jared Gonzalez, Assistant Head of Lower School, Ms. Laura Schlichting, Assistant Head of Lower School, Mrs. Kari Coleman, Director of Personnel, Mrs. Laura Hassell, Director of Operations, and Mr. Eric Hall, Founder. A MacLaren parent attended with her son.
 - B. Public Comment (3-minute limit): There was no public comment.
 - C. Approval of Agenda: Mr. von Boeck indicated that Ms. Hawkins would join a later meeting, the next Board meeting is July 27, and the financials in the Board packet are of the month of April. Mrs. Vadala motioned approval; Mrs. Neel seconded. There was unanimous approval.
 - D. Approval of April Minutes: Mrs. Vadala motioned approval; Mrs. Neel seconded. There was unanimous approval.

- II. Board Training and Development**
 - A. CSI Representative: Ms. Hawkins will join the July Board meeting.

- III. Status Reports**
 - A. E.D. Report: Mrs. Hall reviewed the enrollment process and how projections aid budget planning. A one-time decision was made to expand the second grade to accommodate a large waitlist of siblings of current and incoming students. Mr. Hall, Mrs. Brophy, Mrs. Vadala, and Mr. von Boeck asked questions about longer-term enrollment estimates, anticipated student retention, and the one-time second grade expansion. Mrs. Hall responded with MacLaren's historical data and local demographic projections. She will include data for the July Board meeting that shows retention trends.
 - B. Dashboard: Mrs. Hall explained that the number of students in SPED programming grew during the year and that indentifying students for those supports is ongoing. Mrs. Vadala asked about fundraising efforts, and Mrs. Hall responded.
 - C. Finance Committee: Mrs. Hall explained budget revisions, including the timing of parking lot completion. Categories performing over budget, such as SPED and substitute teacher support, are being adjusted in next year's budget.

IV. Policy and Accountability

- A. Approve Amended 2022-2023 Budget: Mrs. Hall explained the appropriations resolution. Mr. von Boeck read the resolution:

MOTION: Be it resolved by the Board of Education of Thomas MacLaren State Charter School in El Paso County, that the amounts shown in the following schedule be appropriated to each fund as specified in the Adopted Budget for the ensuing fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023 – In the General Fund \$11,395,336.

Mrs. Vadala motioned approval; Mrs. Brophy seconded. There was unanimous approval.

- B. Approve 2023-2024 Student Fees: Mrs. Hall explained most fees are the same as last year. Mandatory fees are waived for families qualifying for free and reduced lunch. Voluntary fees for sports participation increased to better align with the cost of sports officials and the need to increase coach pay. Mrs. Vadala motioned approval; Mrs. Neel seconded. There was unanimous approval.

- C. Approve 2023-2024 Budget and Beginning Fund Balance resolution: Mrs. Hall highlighted the ways the budget reflects enrollment projections, updates toward Mill Levy equalization, and increased funding for SPED, capital construction, and staff salaries. Mrs. Vadala asked questions about budget adjustments at the state level and operational reserves, to which Mrs. Hall responded. Mrs. Hall explained funding in reserve for growing SPED needs and the intent to draw on facility reserves for planned campus improvement projects next year. Mr. von Boeck read the resolution:

MOTION: Be it resolved by the Board of Education of Thomas MacLaren State Charter School in El Paso County, that the amounts shown in the following schedule be appropriated to each fund as specified in the Adopted Budget for the ensuing fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024 – In the General Fund \$12,799,967.

Be it resolved, The Board authorizes the use of a portion of the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Beginning Fund Balance from the General Fund up to the amount of \$1,090,000 for the following purposes:

1. Up to \$1,000,000 is authorized from the General Fund for facility projects as approved by the Thomas MacLaren finance committee.
2. Up to \$90,000 is authorized from the General Fund for Special Education needs as approved by the Thomas MacLaren finance committee.

Mrs. Vadala motioned approval; Mrs. Brophy seconded. There was unanimous approval.

- V. **Executive Session:** Mrs. Brophy motioned to move to Executive Session to discuss contract negotiations and instructing negotiators under CRS 24-6-402(4)(e)(I). Mrs. Vadala seconded. There was unanimous approval. All non-Board members exited the meeting except for Executive Team members who were invited to join the Board. Executive Session began at 4:31 p.m. A motion to exit Executive Session was made by Mrs. Neel; Mrs. Vadala seconded. There was unanimous approval. The Board came out of Executive Session at 5:24 p.m. Regular session resumed at 5:24 p.m.

VI. Announcements

- A. Graduation, Ent Center for the Arts, May 26, 4:00 p.m.
- B. Next Board meeting, July 27, 4:00 p.m.
- C. Mr. von Boeck made note of all of the contributions to the Board of Mrs. Diane Borre in her term as Board treasurer.

VII. Adjourn: Mrs. Brophy motioned to adjourn the meeting; Mrs. Vadala seconded. There was unanimous approval. The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Julie Diving, Minutes Recorder

May 18, 2023

Date