

## Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

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January 13, 2021, 6:00 – 8:40p

Audio and Video: <https://masterycharter.zoom.us/j/93400413751>

Audio: 646-876-9923, 93400413751

### Roll Call:

MCHS: Bob Victor, Gerry Emery, Davina Dukes; Quorum: 3/3

MCS: Suzann Biemiller, Don Kimelman, Hosea Harvey, Sulaiman Rahman, Markida Ross, Judith Tschirgi, John Walsh, Kristina Wilkerson; Quorum: 8/8

Meeting Start at 6:05pm

### I. Action Resolutions

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- Accept Board Meeting Minutes  
R-210113-01a (MCHS)  
Resolved, to accept the minutes of the Board meeting of Mastery Charter High School from December 9, 2020 as presented.
- After board discussion R-210113-01a was adopted. Motion to approve R-210113-01a: Gerry Emery; Second: Dee Dukes; Motion passes with unanimous approval.  
  
R-210113-01b (All Boards, No MCHS)  
Resolved, to accept the minutes of the Board meetings of Mastery Charter School Thomas Campus, Mastery Charter School Shoemaker Campus, Mastery Charter School Pickett Campus, Mastery Charter School Mann Elementary, Mastery Charter School Harrity Elementary, Mastery Charter School Smedley Elementary, Mastery Charter School Hardy Williams Academy, Mastery Charter School Gratz Campus, Mastery Charter School Clymer Elementary, Mastery Charter School Cleveland Elementary, Mastery Charter School Pastorius-Richardson Elementary, Frederick Douglass Mastery Charter School, Mastery Charter School John Wister Elementary, and Mastery Prep Elementary Charter School from December 9, 2020 as presented.
- After board discussion R-210113-01b was adopted. Motion to approve R-210113-01b: Suzanne Biemiller; Second: John Walsh; Motion passes with unanimous approval.
- Hiring, Termination, Transfer Approvals  
R-210113-02 (All Boards, No MCHS)  
Resolved, to ratify Mastery Charter Schools staff hired between November 28, 2020 and January 1, 2021 as presented.
- After board discussion R-210113-02 was adopted. Motion to approve R-210113-02: Suzanne Biemiller; Second: John Walsh; Motion passes with unanimous approval.
- R-210113-03 (All Boards, No MCHS)  
Resolved, to ratify separations from Mastery Charter Schools between November 28, 2020 and January 1, 2021 as presented.

- After board discussion R-210113-03 was adopted. Motion to approve R-210113-03: Suzanne Biemiller; Second: John Walsh; Motion passes with unanimous approval.
- R-210113-04 (MCHS)  
Resolved, to ratify unpaid, non-contributing Professional Study Leave for Latricia Whitfield from August 28, 2018 through July 8, 2019. Please note: This sabbatical leave was approved by Human Resources in 2018, but inadvertently excluded from the list of Board resolutions at that time.
- After board discussion R-210113-04 was adopted. Motion to approve R-210113-04: Gerry Emery; Second: Dee Dukes; Motion passes with unanimous approval.

#### Finance (Yonca Agatan)

- R-210113-05a (MCHS)  
Resolved, to approve the revised FY21 budget (i.e., January revision) for Mastery Charter High School.
- FURTHER RESOLVED, to approve funding of the NST- Advocacy & Outreach team with philanthropy, and request a grant from MCSF for \$660k to cover FY21 costs, consistent with historical practice.
- After board discussion R-210113-05a was adopted. Motion to approve R-210113-05a: Gerry Emery; Second: Dee Dukes; Motion passes with unanimous approval.
- R-210113-05b (All Boards, No MCHS)  
Resolved, to approve the revised FY21 budgets (i.e., January revision) for Mastery Charter School Thomas Campus, Mastery Charter School Shoemaker Campus, Mastery Charter School Pickett Campus, Mastery Charter School Mann Elementary, Mastery Charter School Harrity Elementary, Mastery Charter School Smedley Elementary, Mastery Charter School Hardy Williams Academy, Mastery Charter School Gratz Campus, Mastery Charter School Clymer Elementary, Mastery Charter School Cleveland Elementary, Mastery Charter School Pastorius-Richardson Elementary, Frederick Douglass Mastery Charter School, Mastery Charter School John Wister Elementary, and Mastery Prep Elementary Charter School from December 9, 2020 as presented.
- After board discussion R-210113-05b was adopted. Motion to approve R-210113-05b: Suzanne Biemiller; Second: John Walsh; Motion passes with unanimous approval.
- R-210113-06 (All Boards, No MCHS)  
Resolved, to approve the MCSF expansion loan repayment plan for Mastery Prep Elementary Charter School as follows:
  - January payment - \$250k
  - Monthly payments during February through June - \$150k/month
  - Total \$1 mm repaid by the end of June
- After board discussion R-210113-06 was adopted. Motion to approve R-210113-06: Suzanne Biemiller; Second: John Walsh; Motion passes with unanimous approval.

- R-210113-07a(MCHS)  
Resolved, to adopt PDE’s “School Closure Recommendations” once a school building is open as described in the materials, which defines thresholds for closing a school building in case of positive COVID diagnoses; subject to management discretion and to making reasonable efforts to coordinate with local Department of Health guidance.
- After board discussion R-210113-07a was adopted. Motion to approve R-210113-07a: Gerry Emery; Second: Dee Dukes; Motion passes with unanimous approval.
- R-210113-07b(MCS)  
Resolved, to adopt PDE’s “School Closure Recommendations” once a school building is open as described in the materials, which defines thresholds for closing a school building in case of positive COVID diagnoses; subject to management discretion and to making reasonable efforts to coordinate with local Department of Health guidance.
- After board discussion R-210113-07b was adopted. Motion to approve R-210113-07b: Suzanne Biemiller; Second: John Walsh; Motion passes with unanimous approval.
  
- R-210113-08a (MCHS)  
Resolved to approve the school re-opening plan as presented and authorizing the CEO to approve individual school reopening plans earlier than proposed.
- After board discussion R-210113-08a was adopted. Motion to approve R-210113-08a: Gerry Emery; Second: Dee Dukes; Motion passes with unanimous approval.
- R-210113-08b (MCS)  
Resolved to approve the school re-opening plan as presented and authorizing the CEO to approve individual school reopening plans earlier than proposed.
- After board discussion R-210113-08b was adopted. Motion to approve R-210113-08b: Suzanne Biemiller; Second: John Walsh; Motion passes with unanimous approval.
  
- Board Nomination
- R-210113-09 (All Boards, No MCHS)  
Resolved, to appoint Dr. Roy Wade to a two-year term to the Board of Trustees of Mastery Charter School Thomas Campus, Mastery Charter School Shoemaker Campus, Mastery Charter School Pickett Campus, Mastery Charter School Mann Elementary, Mastery Charter School Harrity Elementary, Mastery Charter School Smedley Elementary, Mastery Charter School Hardy Williams Academy, Mastery Charter School Gratz Campus, Mastery Charter School Clymer Elementary, Mastery Charter School Cleveland Elementary, Mastery Charter School Pastorius-Richardson Elementary, Frederick Douglass Mastery Charter School, Mastery Charter School John Wister Elementary, and Mastery Prep Elementary Charter School.
- After board discussion R-210113-09 was adopted. Motion to approve R-210113-09: Suzanne Biemiller; Second: John Walsh; Motion passes with unanimous approval.

Additional Discussion:

- Yonca Agatan, CFO, presented the overview of FY21 Financials. Actual results are better than budget for most schools. Overall we are spending less than budgeted due to virtual instruction and building closures. The goal is to repurpose the year-to-date savings for any critical needs during the second half of the year.
  - Management presented on the RP1 network performance focusing on four areas:
    - Attendance and Engagement, MAP Fall Administration, Benchmarks, K-2 Lexia
      - Board & management discussed strategies to analyze data to accurately determine percentage of students not attending or engaged and to increase attendance and engagement.
      - Board shared sentiment that the focus is on reopening.
  - Management presented re-opening plans to the Board, sharing that HVAC systems will be improved to meet ASHRAE, the American Society of heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, standards. The projects to either balance and check existing systems or purchase Plasma Air Cleaners will be completed by the time staff return back to the buildings – as will testing protocols and PPE.
  - PA has made a significant shift in its guidance; for K-6, hybrid support is recommended regardless of community transmission rates.
  - CEO recommended that we adopt PA guidance & board approved.
    - K-6: Hybrid instruction is a recommended model regardless of COVID incidence or PCR rates
    - 7-12: Hybrid instruction is a recommended model if:
      - Case rates <100/100,000
- OR
- PCR test rate is <10%
  - At-risk k-12: Hybrid instruction is a recommended model regardless of COVID incidence or PCR rates
  - Board discussion encouraged Mastery to move as safely & quickly as possible.
  - HB 703 was addressed, including plans for implementation.

**II.End**

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1. No Public Comment
2. Boards Adjourned at 8:40pm
3. Future Meeting Topics:
  - Graduate Profile
  - Staff Equity & Student Suspension Data Review