

MAP ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL

Board Meeting Minutes

April 13, 2020

via Zoom due to COVID-19

The meeting of the Map Academy Charter School Board of Trustees convened at 2 PM on April 13, 2020, via Zoom due to COVID-19 stay at home orders. A quorum of members was present. The members present were: Rachel Babcock, Josh Charpentier, Mary Burke, Edward Jacobs, and David Peck. Ed Jacobs called the meeting to order at 2:05 and ascertained that sufficient members were present at the meeting, and that, accordingly, a quorum existed.

PUBLIC COMMENT: none.

CONSENT AGENDA:

The Consent Agenda included the January 13, 2020 Minutes; FY20 December, January and February Financial Reports (prepared by AAFCPA). The Financial Reports were reviewed. With no further discussion, **Josh Charpentier made a motion that was seconded by Edward Jacobs to approve the Consent Agenda by UNANIMOUS vote.**

CO-DIRECTORS REPORT:

- Map Academy Response to COVID-19
 - Bi-monthly professional deep cleaning has been in place since March 7, 2020.
 - The Co-Directors explained that the school has fully implemented a range of new practices in response to the current school closure and public health situation. The resources are housed on a new section of the Map Academy website, the [Virtual Student Center](#). The Co-Directors played a [video tutorial](#) created to orient students and families to the resources available, which include new Google Classrooms, Virtual Studios in which students can connect with teachers throughout the day, a Live Academic Support option, forms to request tech support, food delivery, assistance with Unemployment Insurance claims and other support needs, and links to a range of other services.
 - The Co-Directors explained that Map Academy has been providing food--breakfast, lunch and snacks-- 5 days a week since the closure began. Grab and go option has been available for onsite pickup but the vast majority of the food has been delivered to student homes.
 - Map Academy's established blended asynchronous academic model allows for students to earn credits at their own pace and this has continued during the closure.
 - The Co-Directors shared that the school has established a Map Love apparel fundraiser through Custom Ink.
- Institutional Advancement
 - Map Academy received a grant from the EOS Foundation for \$4000 for a new commercial refrigerator to support additional food storage necessary to support delivery of food during this closure.

- Before the COVID closure, Map Academy hosted learning/thought partner visits with leaders and staff from Boston Day and Evening Academy, Phoenix Academy and Barnstable Public Schools.
- Consistent with the goal of establishing a residential option to provide housing for housing insecure and homeless students so that they can focus on their education, Map leadership and staff visited residential programs in St. Louis and Washington DC in February to learn about best practices in providing optional housing for students. The team visited St. Joe's Place in St. Louis and Boys Hope Girls Hope and Monument Academy in DC.
- In March a team of Map Academy leads participated in a grant funded NGLC Learning Excursion to Washington DC with school leaders and staff from across Massachusetts.
- Map Academy has been actively sharing our response to COVID-19 with peers in the Barr Foundation Leaders Cohort, DESE Mass Grad Work Group and the DESE Charter Office.
- Co-Directors had been scheduled to present at the NESSC School Redesign in Action Conference, the annual DESE Mass Grad Convening and the TIEN Trauma Informed Educators Network Conference, but all of these events were canceled due to COVID.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Discussion: Year Two Full Criteria Site Visit Final Report - Map Academy received the final report from DESE's onsite visit in December 2019. The report is favorable and reflects that Map Academy is exceeding, meeting and/or on track toward all metrics.
- Discussion: COVID-19 State Budget and Map Academy Budget modeling - There is tremendous uncertainty about the impact the current COVID situation will have on state and local budgets. Co-Directors shared slides from a presentation by the MA Charter Association detailing best attempts to forecast potential scenarios. Based on all available information, the Co-Directors have prepared and shared scenarios reflecting the initial FY21 rates which included the first round of Student Opportunity Act funding, along with models using a flat tuition rate carrying FY20 rates into FY21, one assuming a 5% decrease year over year for each the next three fiscal years FY21, FY22, and FY23. In all of these scenarios, Map Academy can weather the current financial situation and expected budget declines. It is understood that these scenarios will need to be revisited as further information and guidance from DESE is released, but it is expected to remain unclear well into the summer.
- Discussion: Facilities Update - The garden level renovation project is proceeding following all appropriate social distancing measures and remains on track for completion in August 2020. It is expected that work will pick up in earnest once there is clearance from public health officials.
- Discussion and Vote: Phase II Furniture Procurement and Install - Plans were shared from Red Thread/Steelcase for furniture for the expansion to the lower level. The quote is on budget and the timeline is on track for delivery and installation in mid-August.
David Peck made a motion, seconded by Mary Burke, to approve expenditure of the Phase II furniture quote from Red Thread. The motion passed by UNANIMOUS vote.
- Discussion and Vote: April Vacation - The Co-Directors shared the the Commissioner has given districts the ability to determine whether to hold April vacation in light of the current school closure. If districts choose to hold classes during what would have been

April break, they can count those days toward the 180 day requirement. The Co-Directors recommended that closing for a week in the middle of an existing closure is not in the best interests of students. **David Peck made a motion, seconded by Mary Burke, to amend the Map Academy 2020-2021 School Calendar to have school in session for 4 days (excluding Patriots Day on Monday, April 20) during the week of April 20th, which will mean the adjusted 180th day for students will be June 16th. The motion passed by UNANIMOUS vote.**

- Discussion and Vote: 2020-2021 Academic Calendar - The Co-Directors presented a draft calendar for the upcoming school year, slated to begin on August 31, 2020 and end on June 23, 2021. **Ed Jacobs made a motion, seconded by Rachel Babcock, to approve the proposed 2020-2021 calendar. The motion passed by UNANIMOUS vote.**

OLD BUSINESS:

- Discussion: Accountability Plan Update - Revisions are underway to incorporate DESE feedback. When the document is provisionally approved by DESE it will be brought to the Board for approval.
- Discussion: May 2nd Fundraiser - The Kentucky Derby Party Fundraiser at Alden Park has been postponed.

COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS: none

DOCUMENT LIST:

- Agenda
- January 13, 2020 Minutes
- FY20 December - February Finance Reports (AAF CPA)
- Co-Directors Report
- Red Thread Phase II Furniture Invoice
- FY21 Budget Scenarios
- Map Academy Full Criteria Site Visit Report

Upcoming meeting dates

Monday, June 8 @ 4pm

David Peck made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mary Burke seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 5:05 PM.

Minutes taken by Rachel Babcock, Board Member