



BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 4, 2024 6:00 P.M.
Merit Academy Library

Vision: Students prepared for success in a free society, promoting civic responsibility and contributing their talents in a flourishing republic by pursuing beauty, truth, and good.

Mission: Merit Academy will cultivate the minds and nurture the hearts of K-12 youth in the Ute Pass/Woodland Park region with instruction in the principles of moral character and civic virtue, employing honored foundations of classical education and Core Knowledge®.

I. PRELIMINARIES.

- A. Call to order at 6:04 p.m.
- B. Roll call: Ledlie, Waggoner, Dill, Sekowski, and Illingworth present

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Ledlie moved to amend the agenda, seconded by Ms. Waggoner, to remove approval of the meeting minutes for 11/13/24 and 11/20/24. In favor: Ledlie, Waggoner, Dill, Sekowski, and Illingworth; opposed: None

III. CONSENT CALENDAR

Mr. Dill moved to approve the consent calendar, with a second by Ms. Sekowski. In favor: Dill, Sekowski, Ledlie, Illingworth, Waggoner.

IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

The Board and Headmaster had a discussion regarding various funding initiatives for the school and initiatives, including grants and funding sources being researched.

Discussion of updates to the school building, including the security badge system.

The Board held a second reading of the draft Remote Learning Policy, discussing how the policy will work and how remote days function in terms of school days. Discussion to update the adopted date on the policy with no other discussion of necessary revisions.

The Board discussed a draft Parent Policy, including a discussion of parent expected conduct and behaviors. Some adjustments were made to changes in draft language to further reflect the Board's intent with the Parent Policy. Adjustments will be made to the language for a second reading in the near future.

V. ACTION ITEMS

Ms. Sekowski moved to adopt the Remote Learning Policy as drafted, seconded by Ms. Illingworth. In favor: Sekowski, Illingworth, Ledlie, Dill and Waggoner.

VI. REPORTS.

Dean Report: Dean Hendrickson gave a highlight on Ms. Jackson, one of the school's special education professionals, highlighting her professionalism, knowledge and preparedness. She also discussed a recent experience with Ms. Willingham's fourth grade class, noting 4 engaged adults helping with the fourth grade class and how productive learning was in that observation. Mel Bucher and Amy Kaufman are also doing a fantastic job in their newly expanded positions. Dean Hendrickson also gave positive kudos for this year's new safety and security officer Brian Wilson in terms of his dedication and proactiveness in the position. Dean Hendrickson is also highlighting positive student behavior from the NewMinds repository, using those details in morning announcements to praise good student behavior. Ms. Montgomery is completely on top of planning for mid-year MAPS testing. In terms of student events, there is a choir event on the evening of December 6, the WP Christmas Parade, choir concert after the parade at UPCC, as well as additional events next week.

Headmaster Report: Dr. Pekron reports that the House Day is scheduled on December 16. Tomorrow Dr. Pekron and Dean Henderson are attending the Gazette Best Places to Work event.

Board Report: None.

VII. ADJOURN

Motion by Ms. Illingworth to adjourn at 7:26 p.m., seconded by Ms. Sekowski. In favor: Illingworth, Sekowski, Dill, Waggoner, Ledlie. Opposed: None.