



MicroSociety Academy Charter School
591 West Hollis Street, Nashua, NH03062
603-595-7877 | www.macsnh.org

Board of Trustees Special Meeting Minutes
Monday January 25, 2021
6:00pm
VIA Zoom Call

I. Board Meeting Called to order

- A. 6.02pm. Present via Zoom, Amanda Schneck, Amy Bottomley, Barbara Halevi, Thomas Malone, John Dagianis, Tom Dougherty, Cathy McNamara, Andrew McWeeney, David Glasier. Absent: John Dagianis
- B. Tom read notice regarding authorization to meet electronically due to Governor Sununu's State of Emergency Pandemic executive order 12/2020-04. All votes shall be done by roll call vote.
- C. Tom mentioned that going forward we will have a placeholder in our agenda to ratify any executive board meeting votes.

II. Public and School Community Input.

- A. Marlena Szymanski, Bethany Dion, Aaron and Pamela Missner, Erika Brown, Danielle Troy, Melody Barry, Heather Johnson, Michelle Whissel

III. New Trustees Nomination

- A. Cathy McNamara is being nominated as a MACS trustee for a period of three (3) years.

Barbara motions to accept Cathy as a new trustee. Tom M 2nds. By rollcall:

Thomas - YES David - YES Amanda - YES
Barbara - YES Tom D - YES Andrew - YES

Cathy is welcomed as a MACS trustee.

Tom M motions that we moved to a non-public session. Cathy 2nds.

Thomas - YES David - YES Amanda - YES
Barbara - YES Tom D - YES Andrew - YES Cathy - YES

Entered into executive session at 6:08pm per **RSA around personnel and reputation.**

Committee came back into public session at 6:29pm.

Barbara makes the motion to ratify the actions taken by the Executive Committee which was to voluntarily extend the school providing the FFCRA Leave and accept the minutes. Tom M 2nds. By roll call.

Thomas - YES David - YES Amanda - YES Cathy - YES
Barbara - YES Tom D - YES Andrew - YES

Tom M makes the motion to seal the Executive Session Minutes according to RSA 91-3 section 2D, Barbara 2nds. By roll call.

Thomas - YES David - YES Amanda - YES Cathy - YES
Barbara - YES Tom D - YES Andrew - YES

IV. Public Comments

- A. Marlana would like to see the board get the kids back in school. The kids are behind and they need social interaction. She would like to see them back in school
- B. Danielle would like to see what metrics we are using to make our decisions around reopening.
- C. Erica Brown wants to make sure that we are making this the safest time and looking at the safety of our kids and staff.

- D. Aaron agrees that the kids are behind educationally and socially, and he wants to see the kids get back. Other schools are doing it and he wants to see MACS do that as well
- E. Melody did not have any comments at this time
- F. Heather would like to see that the kids get back to school. As long as the kids and teachers stay within the safety measures, we should be able to get the kids back in school.
- G. Bethany agrees with Heather. She is onboard to get the kids back in two hybrid days. She feels that it is a safe choice for the kids.
- H. Michelle said that her kids received a lot out of the two days they were in person. She would like to see us open up a hybrid model.

V. School Reopening Plan

- A. Tom D mentioned that other districts, while some can reopen, they have a larger staff to accommodate and they have a lower transmission rate. We are reviewing three drivers
 - a. Transmission Rate - we are currently in a red status
 - b. Looking at the cases over a two week period - 896 cases over the last 14 days, currently in the red
 - c. New hospitalizations are in the green, but we are considering that children can bring Covid home and impact older family members.
 - d. We also look at the 7 day total test positivity rate - it is currently 11%, down 1% from the last time we checked.
- B. Our operational metrics review a level of school impact based on transmission in the facility, student absenteeism and staff capacity to conduct classes. Our decision matrix is rated from low to high in terms of impact, and community transmission from minimal to substantial. Looking at that intersection of those two points, it is recommended that we stay in the remote model at this time.
- C. Tom M mentioned that while we would love to come up with a way to get the kids back in person, we need to look at all of the data metrics. He recognizes that parents are working very hard to continue remote learning. He recognizes that although not many children are contracting the virus, we are not sure what the new variant will do to our children. We need to ensure that the adults in the building are safe.
- D. Tom M stated that we have a difficult task to do what is best for our children and for our staff. We would have a staffing issue if someone had to go out.
- E. Barbara stated to the parents that we hear you when you ask to get the kids back in school, and we want to get the kids back in school as well. There are two factors. Overall level of Covid in Nashua and surrounding areas where our