

Mesa Valley Community School

MVCS Board of Directors

Monday, September 25, 2023

Regular Meeting

5:30 PM

ATTENDANCE:

The meeting was called to order by President Nathan Brantley at 5:39 PM

Board Members Present: Nathan Brantley, Carolyn Lenderman (remote), Kalista Wickham, and Martha Brabaek (entered remotely at the conclusion of the board candidate vote)

Board Members Absent: Dan Baker (Interim)

Board Candidate: Audrey Somerville

Administration/Staff Present: Director Laurajean Downs, Assistant Director Kami Costello, Business Manager Julie Hoge

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The agenda was presented and approved.

“Moved by Carolyn Lenderman, supported by Kalista Wickham, that the agenda be approved as presented.”

PRESENTATION OF BOARD MEMBER CANDIDATE:

Board candidate, Audrey Somerville, was presented at this time. Questions were allowed by both the candidate and the board. The candidate application was fully reviewed by all current board members prior to this board meeting. The candidate was asked to leave the room for the official vote. President Nathan Brantley recommended Audrey Somerville for a seat on the board and the following motion was made:

“Moved by Carolyn Lenderman, supported by Kalista Wickham, that board candidate Audrey Somerville, be asked to join the Board of Directors of Mesa Valley Community School as a parent member.”

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Carolyn Lenderman, Kalista Wickham, Nathan Brantley

Nays: None

At this time, Board President Nathan Brantley, asked candidate Audrey Somerville is she would accept the position. The position was accepted for a three (3) year term of office.

COMMUNICATIONS:

No comments were given.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT ACTION ITEMS:

The following Consent Action Items were approved as recommended:

*Minutes –* the minutes of the Regular Meeting on August 28, 2023, were approved as presented. The Special Meeting Minutes on August 17, 2023, were approved with changes.

*Financials* – the August 2023 financial statements were approved as presented.

“Moved by Kalista Wickham, supported Audrey Somerville, that the consent items be approved as presented.”

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Nathan Brantley, Carolyn Lenderman, Kalista Wickham, Martha Brabaek, Audrey Somerville

Nays: None

DIRECTOR’S REPORT/RECOMMENDATION:

Director Laurajean Downs shared the following report:

An explanation of the services provided by the Colorado League of Charter Schools was given.

This year’s staff meeting schedule, which includes all individual staffing groups, was presented to the board for record.

The curriculum changes in the middle school regarding both social studies and science were reviewed with the board, along with the changes made to the middle school and high school physical education classes.

Staffing changes due to student and budget numbers were explained to the board.

The need for parent meetings due to student incidents were discussed with the board. It is noted that no student names were given within this discussion in compliance with FERPA.

An explanation of the newly formed Events Committee was presented, along with the anticipation of a student council forming in the month of November. Students will follow a traditional election schedule which will include campaigning as well as voting on national election day.

The charter contract is still in negotiations with district 51. At this time, MVCS is still missing key attachments in regard to SPED services and financial matters.

The 504 platform provided by district 51, which includes accommodation services for students with needs under the ADA, is not yet ready for use. The process of handling these 504 plans has begun in written form until the platform is available.

Staff adjustments due to needs in various areas was discussed with the board, along with the need for some classrooms to have an additional aid present.

POLICY & PROCEDURE:

The following policy was brought forward for review at this time:

Attendance Policy (EDU175.0) – 2nd Reading

“Moved by Carolyn Lenderman, supported by Martha Brabaek, that the Attendance Policy (EDU175.0) in regard to Mesa Valley Enrichment Program, be approved as presented.”

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Carolyn Lenderman, Martha Brabaek, Kalista Wickham, Audrey Somerville, Nathan Brantley

Nays: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

THE BOARD MOVED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:19 PM UNDER C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(f) PERSONNEL MATTERS. THE BOARD INVITED THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS TO ATTEND EITHER ALL OR A PORTION OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION: DIRECTOR LAURAJEAN DOWNS, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR KAMI COSTELLO, AND BUSINESS MANAGER JULIE HOGE.

THE BOARD EXITED EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:49 PM. NO VOTE WAS TAKEN AT THIS TIME.

OTHER MATTERS:

Board President Nathan Brantley addressed the following items at this time:

Future consideration of specific goals given to the Director after the completion of the charter.

An explanation of the upcoming Director’s evaluation process and board requirement to complete and submit this review to the district and state.

Future Meetings – The next scheduled board meeting will be held on Monday, October 23, at 5:30 PM. The board was advised that there be a need for a special meeting prior to the next scheduled meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

“Moved by Audrey Somerville, supported by Kalista Wickham, that the meeting be adjourned at 8:03 PM.”