

MINUTES OF MEETING
The MAX ACADEMY School Board of Directors

DATE: December 18, 2024

TIME: 3:34 P.M.

PLACE: MAX ACADEMY

Present: Jake Giardina, Carol “Boo” Broussard, Janice Fabregas, Dr. Albert Davis, Dr. Cleve Hill, Larry Howell, Jason Talbot, and Melissa Eschette

Also present were Angelic Rodrigue & Angie Berthelot. **Teacher Representative:** Jason Hubbell

Absent: Karen Chauvin, JJ Buquet, and Dr. Steve Welsh

AGENDA	RECOMMENDATION	
1. Call to Order	J. Giardina called the meeting to order at 3:34 P.M.	
2. Roll Call	J. Giardina called the roll.	
3. Approval of the Minutes	The Minutes of November 21, 2024, were presented.	The Minutes of November 21, 2024, were accepted as presented.
4. Board Training Special Guest Presentation:	Report from JJ Buquet was sent via email to all MAX Board members. R.E.: BOARD Report on 2024 LAPCS Charter School Conference Morning Session – Charter 3.0 – Presenting Caroline Roemer (Ex Dir) & Lee Reid at Adam’s & Reese General Comments: - Charters generally have lost some of their autonomy over the years to legislative measures - Landry may be better than Edwards toward Charter schools - Republicans are more about have “Choice”...but want rigorous accountability... - Goal – be less dependent on who is Gov – and more engaged with the legislators – it’s more difficult because of numbers and turnover. - Stressed importance of continuing communications and school visits / outreach Reviewed Several Bills / New Laws - Discussion of school “Authorizer” for charter renewals...there is a general problem with non-renewal issues - Need for rubrics to measure against – need to recognize growth (sounded familiar to me) Act 716 – did not pass – will try again – Meant to establish a loan program for facilities - The Special Tax Session – the \$2Billion pay down of retirement debt REQUIRES the locals to take savings from lower TRSL payments and apply to teacher pay raises – UNLESS YOU CAN SHOW NO SAVINGS....THEN NOT REQUIRED! ACT 370 – BECAME LAW - BIG ISSUE – Requires a great deal more financial reporting through the state treasurer’s office...was intended to create more transparency in the system...but now getting lots	

	of push back from schools about the reporting burden. Soft start is Jan 17th – hard start is in March. Will attempt to improve law in next session....stressed the need to respond to their e-mail inquiries when in session as things move quickly. Another Session has to do with office software systems and integration of accounting, HR, and state reporting requirements.	
5. Teacher Representative Report	Jason Hubbell, 6th-8th Grade Math Teacher, reported on the following: <u>Lower School:</u> ELA: • Students are wrapping up their current Reading Mastery and CKLA Unit before Christmas break. • Next week teachers will begin re-administering all students' CKLA Grade Level Placement Tests to determine whether they will continue their current instructional level after break or if they have demonstrated the skills required to move on to more complete instruction. <u>Middle School:</u> Math: • 4th Grade is working on multiplicative comparison, and 5th grade is working on long division. • Tomorrow students are taking their final progress monitoring before break. I am looking forward to seeing the growth and preparing the students for the January middle-of-year benchmarks. ELA: • Students are working hard on figurative language right now in both 4th and 5th grade. <u>GENERAL:</u> • Christmas celebrations will be on Friday for those who earn with points and behavior contingencies. • Teachers are looking forward to having some fun with the students as we head into break. <u>Upper School:</u> ELA: • The students have the chance to earn \$10 to buy something off of Ebay. ○ They can do this by completing <i>RACES</i> on <i>ReadWorks</i> written responses. Each letter is worth \$2. Each <i>ReadWorks</i> is on the students' instructional levels. Classes complete a summary chart of the <i>ReadWorks</i> before students answer questions independently. • During whole class instruction, each grade level is working on Unit 2 in <i>Amplify</i>. ○ The 6th graders are reading about yellow fever. They will be tracking the sickness from start to finish and will analyze possible theories of why the fever started. ○ The 7th graders are reading <i>A Raisin in the Sun</i> and analyzing the characters within the play. They will be learning the differences between the structure of a play and fictional writings. ○ The 8th graders are reading <i>Narrative in the Life of Frederick Douglass</i> and analyzing the text. They will look at claims and evidence made regarding the life of Frederick Douglass. Math: • 6th Grade is currently working on finding the surface area of a three dimensional figure using nets. • 7th Grade is working on finding the unit rates involving ratios of fractions. • 8th Grade is currently working on dilations and similarity for different shapes on a coordinate plane.	
6. Finance Report	A Berthelot presented the November 2024 financial statements. A Berthelot went over the financials.	

**Monthly Recap
December 18, 2024**

November MFP	\$106,920	
Other Sources	<u>39,456</u>	
Total November Revenue	\$146,376	
Wages and Benefits	\$149,151	89.04%
Other Expenses	<u>18,354</u>	
Expenses for November	\$167,505	

November Profit/(Loss) (21,129)

YTD Profit/(Loss) \$ 14,511

CY Reimbursable Expenses (Awaiting Claims)

IDEA (Nov) - Cleared	\$ 4,525
Title I (Nov) - Cleared	\$ 4,402
Title II (Nov) – Cleared	\$ 1,844
Lunch (Nov) - Cleared	<u>\$ 5,045</u>
Total CY Reimbursable Expenses	<u>\$ 15,816</u>

Adjusted YTD Profit/(Loss) \$ 30,327

3- YEAR COMPARISON

CASH ACCOUNTS: **11/30/2024** **11/30/2023** **11/30/2022**

<u>Operating Account</u>	\$746,852	\$747,006	\$450,902
<u>Payroll Account</u>	\$ 1,656	\$ 1,958	\$ 1,960
<u>Special Account –Students</u>	\$ 10,414	\$ 1,710	\$ 5,911
<u>Special Account –School</u>	<u>\$193,965</u>	<u>\$185,146</u>	<u>\$173,905</u>
	<u>\$952,887</u>	<u>\$935,820</u>	<u>\$632,678</u>

UPDATES:

- Processed November Reimbursement Requests in EGMS
- FY 2023-2024 Audit – Complete – 12/09/2024
- Planning is underway for Super App for SY 25/26.
- Working on Act 370 Reporting requirements
- Getting ready for tax season

Grants

--Ms. Rodrigue and A. Berthelot met with Lacey Crochet regarding Lorio Grant. They are working to get grant submitted by January 21, 2025.

Building and Sites

- Awning situation still needs to be completed.
- Work is being done on a partition and new entrance door.

7. Ad Hoc Committee Coordinator Reports Updates	Update on MAX Accountability Framework Committee (K. Chauvin, C. Hill, L. Howell, & J. Talbot) J. Talbot reported as follows: - Committee met last month looking at alternative frameworks to see what performance metric best captured MAX’s student growth. The Committee is still acquiring data and will continue to work on this. Report on the Mandated Principal’s Assessment Committee (A. Davis, K. Chauvin, C. Hill) - The Committee met in person Tuesday, November 26, 2024, in the Principal’s office at the school. Present at the meeting were the following: Dr. Albert Davis, Dr. Cleve Hill and Principal Angelic Rodrigue. (Copy of Report Attached) Purpose - The Committee met to begin the interview process for the performance assessment of Principal Rodrigue. (The assessment is due to be uploaded to State authorities in December 2024.) Discussion and Rationale – Dr. Cleve Hill led the discussion and preliminary interview with the Principal. Dr. Hill reviewed the outline and purpose of the performance rubric. Ms. Rodrigue updated the Committee on performance factors that have been successfully set in place at the school during the calendar year 2024, specifically the Principal’s strategies, goals, and accomplishments during the calendar year. Committee members asked questions related to the Principal’s accomplishments. The focus of most of the discussion once again focused on the Board charge concerning the implementation of the <i>CABAS</i> curriculum initiative, particularly with regard to balancing the <i>CABAS</i> ideals with the state’s <i>in situ</i> assessment focus. The Committee also discussed with the Principal any adjustments that needed to be made to the rubric for future evaluations. Note: As discussed by the Principal, the State of Louisiana has introduced a new leader evaluation rubric for future use. However, it has yet to be determined if all school leaders will have to follow that evaluation rubric. It has been agreed by the Committee members and the Principal that the training for evaluators may not be possible for Board members and that the evaluation tools may not adequately fit all school leaders. Actions Taken – The Committee agreed with the Principal’s self-assessment and came to conclusions regarding the Committee’s own overall assessment score. The Committee also agreed to present a summary of its findings at an Executive Session at the next MAX Board meeting and requested that the Principal enter the final scores of the <i>Ad Hoc Evaluation Committee</i> into the state-approved reporting system according to procedures and timelines established for such reporting. The Committee also suggested that any decision concerning whether the Principal should or should not attend the Executive Session shall be left to a majority vote of the Board members in attendance. Note – The entire meeting was recorded on audio. The audio recording and written transcription of the audio will be used as necessary as evidence of evaluation actions taken by the Committee. A copy of the rubric template that was discussed at the meeting is attached to this report.	
8. Motion to Go Into Executive Session	Executive Session began at 4:30 P.M.	A motion was made by L. Howell, seconded by Dr. C. Hill, to go into Executive Session ... Motion passed unanimously.

11. New Board Business	None	
12. Announcements	• Our next Monthly Board Meeting: Wednesday, January 30, 2025, at 3:30 P.M. • Immediately after this meeting, all voting members should remain for a second meeting of The MAX Charter School Foundation, Inc. • Next PTA Meeting: January 8, 2025, at 6:00 P.M. • Remember to complete the One Hour Training Course: ETHICS TRAINING FOR PUBLIC SERVANTS.	
13. Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 4:40 P.M.	Motion was made by L. Howell, seconded by Dr. C. Hill, to adjourn the meeting ... Motion was passed unanimously.