



Maritime Academy Charter School

2275 Bridge Street, Building 11
Philadelphia, PA 19137

Phone: 215-535-4555 Fax: 215-535-4398

MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
2700 E. HUNTINGDON STREET
WEDNESDAY – SEPTEMBER 21, 2022 - 5:00 pm
IN PERSON or VIA ZOOM LINK

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81603304575?pwd=S2UvNUdjaDIRVGJmU05US0MwbUpMUT09>

Meeting ID: 816 0330 4575 - Passcode: UJ2mZs

Dial In Number: 1 929 205 6099

Meeting ID: 816 0330 4575 - Passcode: 859361

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Scott Cointot, Chairman Michele Krajewski
Mary Anne Celenza Michael LaGrassa
Robert Cook Lew Grill
Louis Cavaliere Robert Vacchiano
Nathan Hauser Richard Venuti

PROXY

Minerva Cruz
Tummona Fisher
Michael Mattioni

ABSENT

Cynthia Hudson
Arthur Sulzer

MACS STAFF

Eugene Mattioni, CEO
Matthew Wilson, HS Principal
Peter Saunders, ES/MS Principal
Stephen Hewitt, HS Asst. Principal
Kimberly Bonanni, SPED Director

GUESTS

Craig Butler, Foundations, Inc.
Gerry Malkowski, Facilities Manager
Tom Bond, **NAI** Geis Realty Group, Inc.
Scott Rolfs, Ziegler

Roll Call / Review of Minutes

Capt. Cointot requested all board members review the minutes from the August 2022 meeting and asked for a MOTION to approve:

FIRST: Richard Venuti

SECOND: Louis Cavaliere

No objections heard; all were in favor (three proxy), there were no nays, and the MOTION was APPROVED unanimously.

Financial Report – Craig Butler

Mr. Butler reviewed the current 2022-2023 actual YTD amounts for August 2022 (amount based on 820 students):

Opening Fund Balance	\$ 5,990,773
Total Revenue	\$ 2,517,454
Total Expenditures	\$ 2,196,065
Ending Fund Balance	\$ 6,312,162

Board Chairman, Capt. Scott Cointot asked for a MOTION to approve the August 2022 financials:

MOTION: Capt. Robert Cook

SECOND: Michele Krajewski

All were in favor (three proxy), there were no nays, and the MOTION was APPROVED unanimously.

Board Chairman's Report – Capt. Scott Cointot

Back to school night will be held on 9/29/2022 at 5:00pm at the elementary, middle and high schools if any board member would like to attend.

CEO Report – Eugene Mattioni

Status of Change in Location

MACS filed a change in location application with the CSO; and after answering some additional questions, the CSO was in favor of supporting the recommendation to the school board to permit us to change our location in the arsenal for buildings 201, 202; it was very positive and we are pleased with the recommendation. The Board of Education meeting will be held on 9/22/2022 with MACS' Change in Location on the agenda. We believe we will get the blessing of the school board; and are certain it's a good move to make to have a K-12 school in one location; with an additional 95,000sqft of space; create a 7-12 grade and also have our K-6 school in buildings 107 and 106. We can move our administration offices to buildings 201 and 202 and then sell building 11. We would be able to get out of building 41 and 42. We have a two year lease addendum and would have to give notice of termination by February 2024. Discussion continued regarding options for building use and timeline. Capt. Cointot recommends we get the drawings started and purchase buildings 201/202. The primary objective is to have grades K-12 on one campus/location within the Arsenal. The MACS Board of Trustees agreed with the planned Change in Location including negotiation of an LOI, engage architect Blackney to prepare architectural drawings for buildings 201 and 202, engage Bond Counsel and move forward as necessary with the planned Change in Location.

Charter Renewal

The Charter Renewal is moving forward. The next significant matters will involve site visits by the Charter School Office. They will visit classrooms, interview teachers, and possibly some students. This will be the subject matter of Professional Development on October 7, 2022. They will look for lesson plans, bulletin boards, mission and vision, maritime content, and environment, among other matters. In addition, Ms. Susan Ostrich, an educational consultant with experience in Charter Renewal, will be coaching our teachers and staff and getting us ready for the interviews with sample questions. Our Principals and Administration are getting everyone prepared in advance of the site visits.

The North Wind

We have scheduled another series of voyages for our students aboard the North Wind through September, October, and November. We also hope to get our teachers on a voyage aboard the North Wind.

Olivia Mattioni

Olivia is my niece and daughter of Board Member Michael Mattioni. What a great letter from Chief Mate Said in recognition of Olivia's service aboard the USNS Guadalupe! Olivia will start her 3rd year at SUNY Maritime College. We are very proud of her and Ahdiyah Robey, MACS graduate – now SUNY graduate, who mentored Olivia through her first year at SUNY. We are very proud of both of them – Bravo - Well Done!

CCP Career & Technology Center

MACS' staff attended the grand opening of Community College of Philadelphia's Career and Advanced Technology Center (CATC) on 8/30/2022. We had the opportunity to look around the state-of-the-art facility and hope our students take advantage of the hands-on learning experiences that will help them enhance their skillsets and earn family-sustaining wages.

Safe to Say Assembly and Minding Your Mind with Kristen and Andrew

MACS held a Safe2Say Something assembly on 9/7/2022. Safe2Say is a youth violence prevention program run by the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General. The program teaches youth and adults how to recognize warning signs and signals, especially within social media, from individuals who may be a threat to themselves or others and to "say something" BEFORE it is too late. With Safe2Say Something, it's easy and confidential to report safety concerns to help prevent violence and tragedies.

Presenters from Minding Your Mind came in and spoke to the entire High School; 9th grade to 12th grade about mental health, resilience, understanding emotions and more. The plan is to reach as many grades as possible based on their age programs.

George Funke Visit to High School - 9/9/2022

Former cadet and now a member of the USCG, George Funke, came in for a visit to the high school where he spoke to the cadets about his experience in the USCG so far.

Email Received from CSO Ms. Rodriguez re: MACS on Board of Education Agenda Meeting on 9/22/2022

We received an email from Ms. Rodriguez informing us that the Board of Education is planning to consider MACS's Location Amendment Request at the next Action Meeting on 9/22/2022 at 4:00 pm. I will sign up to be a speaker at the meeting.

High School Report – Matthew Wilson

- The high school had a smooth, successful launch to our 2022-2023 school year! Expectations were clearly communicated during orientation and the first two weeks of school. Cadets have adjusted well to our strict enforcement of school uniform and the electronic device policy.
- This year, Mr. Hewitt and I are focusing on Presence, Positivity, and Teaching Eligible Content through Standards Driven Instruction.
- Our Safety Committee identified areas of improvement regarding traffic patterns during our first fire drill. The building was evacuated in 2 minutes and 34 seconds. Although we have more cadets this year, we know that we can get the time under 2 minutes. We also had our first lockdown drill of the year.
- Our new Civics & Government instructor, Chief Peitsinovski, was our first presenter in our monthly Speaker Series. The presentation highlights his extensive career with the United States Navy. His presentation will be posted on our website.
- 9th and 10th grade are in the process of completing their Computer Diagnostic Tool (CDT) assessments. Data will be available in our next Board report.
- Dave Dormond from the Independence Seaport Museum and a representative for the female EAGLE program visited Maritime. They are coming back on September 28th to speak with our 9th grade. There is a lot of interest and we are exploring the possibility of having two classes this year if they have room.
- Every teacher is currently displaying a poster that identifies areas within their curriculum that have maritime connections. Our administration continues to emphasize Maritime's vision and mission. It starts with us, but it must also continually happen within the classroom.
- As stated in the previous Board report, we are encouraging teachers to implement more hands-on experiences. Several very exciting trips have already been planned.
 - September 20th – 10th and 12th grade trip to the Coast Guard Station to meet active Coast Guard sailors and see the USCG Cutter William Tate.
 - September 29th- 10th grade will visit Greenwich Marine Terminal to learn about ports, waterways, and the shipping industry.
 - October 6th- 10th grade will visit the Museum of the American Revolution.
 - October 13th starts a series of trips to the Free Library of Philadelphia (all grades will get there within the first semester). Cadets will participate in a comprehensive program that teaches the core process to conducting research.
 - October 17-25th- All 9th and 11th graders will spend a day on the North Wind. North Wind has provided their lesson plan and content. Their materials were distributed to our content teachers within the 9th and 11th grades to align and create lessons pre and post trip.
 - October 19th- The National Honor will visit Eastern State Penitentiary as part of a service project.
 - There will be a National Honor Society Induction ceremony tomorrow night, September 22, at 1800. All are welcome to attend!
 - We are very excited to hold our Back to School Night in-person on September 29th! We have been very successful with parent turnout so far and hope to keep the momentum going with this event. All are welcome to attend!
 - Mr. Wilson thanked CEO, Mr. Mattioni and Board Chairman, Capt. Cointot for their support in his new role as Principal; he's been here for 14 years and plans to continue to work as hard as he can.

Elementary School Report – Peter Saunders

Home and School (H&S): The elementary home and school association held its first parent meeting on the evening of September 14th. There were over 20 families represented, by far the largest number of participants that we have had at a H&S meeting in years. To help encourage parent attendance, we did a raffle, offered homework passes to the children of attendees, and began selling some newly designed spirit wear. We hope that the enthusiasm to participate will carry over for the remainder of the school year as the H&S has several events planned for this year, beginning with the return of our trunk or treat on October 28th.

Classroom Diagnostic Tool Benchmark (CDT): On September 13th, cadets began taking our first CDT benchmarks. We started this process with the Math assessment and are doing Reading this week. In the coming two weeks, we will complete the writing exam and 4th and 8th graders will take the science assessment. Teachers have been discussing cadets' outcomes and letting them know what content they will need to work on this school year.

Study Island Diagnostic Testing: On September 6th, cadets began their Study Island diagnostic testing. Because there were some issues with chromebooks, to start the year, we are still assessing some students now. We hope to have everyone completed this week.

Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA): Cadets in kindergarten through fourth grade are administered the Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA) so that we know their reading level. This allows teachers to identify appropriate resources for reading instruction and growth for individual and group reading. This too began on the week of September 6th and with the support of our reading specialist, Ms. Nicole Wenger, is still being worked on.

Cross County: Our co-ed cross country team is coached by Ms. Jamie Donovan and Ms. Shannon Carroll this season. Our first meet was held yesterday, September 19th, at Pennypack Park. The roster includes fifteen 6th to 8th grade boys and girls. Because there were so many interested cadets in grades four and five, the coaches also added a practice team that is training with the older grades in preparation to move up to a permanent roster in the future.

Issue with Buses:

We continue to have transportation issues with buses; there are two out of three routes with multiple absences by drivers.

Candy Sales: Our first school fundraiser will have cadets sell World Famous Chocolate bars and chocolate covered pretzels. Our candy fundraiser is generally our most lucrative fundraiser and the funds raised generally go to TruMark Financials Kiss the Pig Program.

7th grade on the Northwind: Each of our 7th grade sections is spending part of the day on The Northwind this week. Cadets are getting the experience of sailing on the Delaware and receiving instruction on navigation. Ms. Renee Brazell, our 7th grade science teacher, along with Captains McGee and Sammons, have been chaperoning each class. The cadets report that the trip was both fun and educational, so we hope to expand this program to include more grades in the future.

Book Fair- Our annual fall scholastic book fair is opening for business this week. On Thursday and Friday, the plan is for cadets to preview what is available and they will begin buying next week. Since our Back to School Night on September 29th will be in person, we will also open sales up for families on that night.

CLC and ESSERS Funding Report – Stephen Hewitt/Joyce Fanega

- Fall programming began with the return of cadets. We have provided morning CLC programs since the first day of school. Programming in the afternoon began on Tuesday, September 6, 2022. At the high school, program proposals have been approved and teachers are recruiting cadets to participate. Our traditional tutoring and credit recovery programs are planned and ready to begin. At the elementary school, requests for admission to the PM programs are very high. During the opening days, we served over 180 cadets each day. (Last year a high attendance day was around 140 to 150.) Our traditional programs like League Cadets and Sea Cadets opened with good attendance. Other programs with emphasis on Science are developing.
- We are actively recruiting additional staff members to meet the needs of the program. We began using Cohort 10 funding on September 6, 2022 for Grades 1 and 2. We are currently using ESSERS Funding for all other grades until the Cohort 11 funding becomes available on October 1, 2022.

- As we have done for the past two years, we will follow all updated CDC guidelines for our after-school programs.

Specialized Services Report – Kim Bonanni

Total Number of Special Education Cadets = 163

Total Number of ESL Students = 85 active (increase of 23), 27 monitored (increase of 5)

ESL: Sherri Morgan, the ESL hire from Kaleidoscope, never showed up for our pre-service program. Despite numerous calls from Kaleidoscope, we were unable to reach her. We hired Natali Martinez and she began on 9/6/22.

Special Education Staffing: We were able to fill the openings at the elementary school. We have been trying, since last year, to fill the opening for a special education math and science inclusion teacher. This has been challenging—it is very difficult to find someone who is special education certified for high school and willing to work in the math-science field.

ACCESS: I completed the renewal form for Access. This renewal needs to be completed every six years. The date starts from the time applied not the time issued so it was due to be completed this year. This is beneficial as it helps to pay for our related services and related service materials. We have received \$60,985.62 from September 2020 through May 2022. Stacie Gallagher, the special education administrative assistant, and Roseanne Ahlholm have been instrumental in assisting me with the necessary forms and paperwork.

Special Education: We have received 20 new special education students at the start of this school year. We are continuing to work on CSR to ensure that students who need interventions are receiving them. We carried over 16 cadets from May 2022, one of whom is now in the process of being evaluated.

Transportation: Though all paperwork was submitted early for special education transportation, we have had some slight issues—there are some routes who still do not have drivers assigned to them. We are hopeful that this problem will be resolved soon.

Transition Planning: Stephanie Pellegrino and I attended the Cyclical Monitoring Indicator 13 training. Cyclical Monitoring is scheduled to start for the 2023-24 school year. PaTTAN is working on coaching districts through the process. All high school special education teachers will need to complete the Schoology course to identify strengths and weaknesses. We partnered with Ready-Set-Work, a nonprofit agency located near the high school, to provide instruction twice a week, during the 9th grade transition block, on social skills, job readiness skills, etc. If this is a positive pilot, we will expand to include 10th, 11th and 12th during their transition blocks in the second half of the year. This program is completely free.

ESL: I provided the ESL files for renewal on 9/20/22. These twenty files are due by 9/21/22. There are some issues with files prior to 2020 as Ms. Goldberg handled all of the ESL paperwork and it seems that some files were incomplete when pulled. ESL list was submitted to Mr. Ithier for Data Packet upload and was approved.

State Performance Plan-Postsecondary: I attended the State Performance Plan training on 9/21/22. This state tracker is completed every 5 years and requires us to find out outcomes for every special education student that has graduated in the last 5 years. The state provides us with names and a follow-up interview must be completed by a staff member. I will be completing these calls once names are received.

- Overall-busy month! Large increase in both ESL and special education between both schools (especially special education) which is making this year a bit more challenging than past years. However, it is great to see kindergarten students!
- Discussed transportation issues for SPED students and the extra costs associated with getting them to/from school; will look into it further to obtain additional information.

Federal Programs Report – Dr. Alex Schuh and Zoe Groff

This is a brief overview of federal programs and grant activities in September 2022. Federal Programs Coordinator (Dr. Schuh) and Assistant Coordinator (Zoe Groff from School Frontiers) have continued to focus on a number of projects, on a variety of timelines:

1. The Federal Programs Coordinator and team are continuing to track spending and invoicing for federal funds, including federal Title funds for 2021-22, ESSER II funds, and ARP ESSER funds (including Act 24 funds and ARP Homeless funds). Note that the ARP ESSER grants have been approved by PDE and funds can be disbursed according to the grant model and guidelines.

- The approved ARP ESSER plans have been posted on the school’s website, in accordance with federal and state law.
 - DeLoitte will audit/monitor the ESSER grants beginning in the 2022-23 school year- dates have not been announced. Assume in spring some time.
 - PDE is recommending that schools consider submitting revised ESSER II and ARP ESSER plans if they know that they have changes that they want to make to their original plans.
2. On August 1, 2022, the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) announced a School Mental Health and Safety and Security grant for \$140,000. This grant was submitted on August 30.
 3. On September 15, 2022, we held a required parent meeting to discuss the Title Programs and to get stakeholder input for high-need areas that could be addressed with Title funding. Parents expressed support for both STEM initiatives and mental health offerings. School Administrators weighed in on current year academic and non-academic improvements being made at the school.
 4. We are in the process of completing the Consolidated Title grant applications through the newly integrated myPDEsuite.
 5. MACS was approved for the new Cohort 11 grant from PDE (and the USED), for \$495,000 per year for 5 years (\$2.475 million). Cohort 11 will serve grades 3 to 12. The program is expected to begin in October.
 6. The Comprehensive Plan and its many subcomponents were posted to the school’s website on July 30, 2022, for a 28-day public comment period. The Comprehensive Planning Committee met in July to discuss the plan. The plan, with Board approval, was submitted through eGrants on August 30.
 7. The Charter School Annual Report has been submitted on time in the FRCPP Planning Portal. This report had two minor required updates and has been resubmitted (Aug. 11). Federal Programs Coordinator Report MACS September 2022
 8. The Charter Renewal Application guidelines were posted to Epicenter in May. We are currently submitting additional required documentation through Epicenter.
 9. The Ready to Learn Grant for \$64,875.00 was submitted in egrants for the 2022-23 school year. The grant purchases additional student computers, online learning software and data analysis.
 10. Throughout August and September, the administration team met weekly to discuss the Comprehensive Plan, Charter Renewal, ESSER grants and the Charter School Annual Report.
 11. Dr. Schuh and Zoe Groff have been attending the weekly admin meetings and discussing federal programs-related issues. We are also meeting with administration and reviewing invoiced expenses in an online database.
 12. Dr. Schuh and Zoe Groff will be attending the Pennsylvania Charter Schools Conference in September.

School Counselor’s Report – Ms. Aimee Bogan

Elementary and Middle School

Jaime Donovan and Kelly Brennan

Weekly counseling sessions and introductions to all classrooms

- Individual, small group, lunch bunch and whole class SEL lessons
- Emphasis placed on: goal setting, back to school anxieties, academic motivation, emotional regulation

LeGare/ High School Application Process (8th grade only)

- Assisting students with the high school application process who are ESL, ELL, in special education or who have 504
 - Reaching out to parents and providing application links
 - Creating advocacy folders and sending home non participation letters

High School and Middle School Collaboration (8th grade only)

- Ms. Jackson, Ms. Gyuriska and several students visited each 8th grade advisory
 - Discussed MACHS academics, extracurriculars, community, college preparation and answered questions
- Will schedule an additional time to speak with 7th graders regarding high school

Meetings

- Grade Leader Meetings: weekly to discuss any student concerns
- JJC Services: monthly to discuss students/ collaborate
- Scheduling and facilitating parent meetings to discuss academic, SEL, behavioral or overall student concerns

- CSR: student progress and implementation of action plans

Hispanic Heritage Month

- Providing resources, links & activities for all teachers to utilize during morning meetings
- Implementing facts into morning announcements all month

Academic Support

- Providing strategies for organization and time management
- Working with students during lunch who may need extra time/support

High School

Ms. Gyuriska, Ms. Jackson, Ms. Bogan

- Minding Your Mind assembly well received by students
 - MYM will be presenting to 7th & 8th graders on Oct 11
- Safe2Say tutorial with all students
- College Fair coming up - September 30th 1-3 PM
 - Remaining space is very limited!
- Classroom Lessons
 - College & Career with 12th grade; The Common Application; Transcript & SAT review; Collegeboard; Scholarships; Intro to High School with 9th Graders
- PTO - Proud Teens of Philly, Temple School of Health, currently working with 9th graders every Thursday & Friday through 10/6 in Mr. Schultz's classes
- Scheduling
 - Processing schedule change requests
- Individual Counseling; Peer Mediations; Mandated IEP counseling - developing schedule; Planning for credit recovery to begin 10/4; Revamp volunteer hours graduation requirement

Ms. Gyuriska

- Consulting with Teachers; Parent meetings; Special Ed meeting; GPHA meeting; Counseling team meeting; Grade meetings; Leadership meeting; IEP Meeting; CCP Fall semester assistance; NHS Induction & Installation Ceremony Prep; NHS Bylaws, Facility Council, Meeting; Checking in with cadets re: start of new school year; Individual sessions; Assisted Bogan with schedule changes; Surveyed 11th graders on their post-graduation goals; Promoted ES/MS tutoring jobs for Hewitt; MS trip on 9/9/22; Promoting ISM Boat Building Programs.

Athletic Director's Report – Kevin Schultz

Middle School

- *Cross Country* - starts next week, a “junior” in house program has been added for lower grades, coached by Ms. Donovan and Ms. Carroll.
- *Soccer* – A search is on for a coach.

High School:

- *Girls' Varsity Volleyball* are 3-0!! (first season ever of Varsity).
- *Girls' JV Volleyball* will be starting next week as well! The team is being coached by Mr. Clark.
- *Boys' Varsity Basketball* will be playing in a “showcase” game the weekend of 9/25 at West Chester University.
- Our 3 young men who co-op with Kensington CAPA football are doing fantastic!
- Senior Adam Simmons starts on both sides of the ball playing Defensive end and Offensive tackle.
- Senior Zach Diamond is the starting center and is the ONLY CAPTAIN of the team! Zach is also a straight A student at MACS!

Facilities Report – Gerry Malkowski

- All water filters have been changed in all buildings.
- All HVAC systems in all buildings have had preventive maintenance completed and all filters have been changed.
- Boilers in both buildings have been tested and are ready to go.
- Suppression system in the basement of building 107 has been certified.

- All lights in building 107 have been repaired.
- Work on the roof of building 11 will start next week; there have been no leaks in Mr. Saunders' office; will keep the WIP report updated.

Closing Remarks – Capt. Scott Cointot

Nothing to report at this time.

Adjournment

Board Chairman, Capt. Scott Cointot asked for a MOTION to adjourn:

FIRST: Capt. Robert Cook

SECOND: Nathan Hauser

All were in favor (three proxy), there were no nays, the MOTION was APPROVED unanimously; the meeting was adjourned at 6:17 pm.