



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 1, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

703 Gold Hill Pl., Woodland Park, CO

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. Mrs. Waggoner called the meeting to order at 6:42 p.m.
- b. ROLL CALL. All Board members are present; Dr. Pekron is present as a guest.

II. BOARD APPROVAL OF AGENDA/CALL FOR AMENDED AGENDA. Mrs. Waggoner moved to amend the agenda to discuss a payoff of the loan from the Waggoner family to MA, as well as an action item to approve the loan payoff; the BoD approved the motion 5-0.

III. BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. The Board had discussion about the sound blankets that have been hung between the classrooms. Dr. Pekron reported that the sound blankets are likely reducing noise by 40-50%, based on her discussions with teachers, which is definitely some success for the noise problems. There was discussion that there are a couple of specific areas, between 3 pairs of classrooms, where additional sound blankets should be hung for an additional layer of soundproofing. Dr. Pekron noted that particularly between the music room and third grade classroom is where the noise is likely the most significant.
- b. The Board discussed when the best time would be to open the intent to enroll. Dr. Pekron indicated it should happen sometime soon, but that we may want to wait a week or two in order to see if anything develops with WPSD with respect to a possible charter.
- c. The Board discussed developing some possible marketing materials for the school, including a video, hard copy marketing materials and business cards for the directors.



- d. The Board discussed whether to continue trying to align next year's school calendar with the WPSD or whether to vary the days off. Board members discussed that it is helpful to keep it the same for families with kids in both the WPSD and Merit, but that the multiple days off per month is also very challenging for families. Dr. Pekron is still working on it.
 - e. Dr. Pekron is working on some options for high school, including meeting with the 8th graders and their parents, discussing options with UCCS and also a possible civics curriculum. She is continuing to work on it and will give more detail soon on high school plans.
 - f. The BoD discussed that the MOU has been signed and returned to WPSD but that there has not been any discussion yet of a possible charter contract. Mrs. Waggoner will ask Dr. Neal if the WPSD is working on a draft.
 - g. Mrs. Waggoner discussed that the school will be able to payoff the note from the Waggoner family to MA that was used to assist with purchasing supplies, such as the movable walls for the classrooms. There was a question from Mr. Ledlie on the 4% interest rate and Mrs. Waggoner stated that the 4% represents the interest rate she was able to procure to borrow the money so she could lend it to MA.
- IV. ACTION ITEM** – Mrs. Illingworth moved that the Board approve the payoff of the note from the Waggoner family to MA; the Board voted 4-0 to approve the payoff with, Mrs. Waggoner abstaining from the vote.
- V. ADJOURN** – Mrs. Waggoner moved to adjourn at 8:33 p.m.; the motion carried 5-0.