



## **BOARD RETREAT WORKSESSION MINUTES**

February 28, 2025 9:15 AM  
Park State Bank Conference Room

*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 at 9:16 a.m.
- B. Roll call: Ledlie, Dill, Waggoner, Sekowski, and Illingworth present.

### **II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mr. Dill moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Ms. Sekowski. In favor: Dill, Sekowski, Waggoner, Illingworth, and Ledlie; opposed: none

### **III. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Board Performance Assessment – The Board discussed its performance over the last year and currently, using a Colorado Department of Education (CDE) matrix that looks at Board performance through the lens of multiple criteria, both in terms of “Effort” and “Effectiveness,” including mission, vision, strategic planning, policy development, and board relationship.

Board Training and Roles – The Board discussed the need for a Board training refresher, both in terms of refreshing the CDE modules (Dr. Pekron is working on re-establishing Board member access), and also a discussion for a live training with a Colorado education innovator such as a Dr. Bob Schaeffer or similar trainer. The Board also discussed the need for a review of the bylaws to ensure the Board roles are appropriately demarcated in the bylaws. The Board discussed setting a bylaws discussion for an upcoming meeting, with a focused discussion on school purchases and hiring.

Future Goals and Visions – The Board discussed the importance of security in the school, including the importance of a safe and secure facility as well as a continued existence and healthy growth, regardless of the makeup of the larger Woodland Park School District board of education. The Board also discussed needing to implement an annual written evaluation for the Headmaster, likely to be provided at the end of the school year.

Policies – The Board discussed the importance of regular policy review, but also discussed reviewing the state statutes to ensure the school and board policies comply with the law and are in place. The Board president will discuss a schedule with the Headmaster.

Fundraising – The Board discussed continued development of more fundraising targets, as well as a couple of foundation grants the Headmaster is working on, and the Board President and Ms. Waggoner are working on.

#### **IV. ADJOURN**

Motion by Ms. Illingworth, seconded by Ms. Sekowski, to adjourn at 12:29 p.m.; in favor, Illingworth, Sekowski, Ledlie, Dill, and Waggoner; opposed: none.