



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 5, 2021
9-11:30 PM

Welcome & Introductions	Called the meeting to order at am.
Reading of the Mission Statement	To increase the quality of charter school authorizing in the state of Minnesota by developing and identifying practices and policies that ensure effective oversight and evaluation of Minnesota charter schools.
Establish Quorum	Members Present: Bethel: Heather Johnson Ross FoE: Beth Topoluk, Shannon Hinz NEO: Wendy Swanson Choi, Tu Nguyen, Adam Myhand OW: Nalani McCutcheon, Erin Anderson, Addie Washington Pillsbury: Larry McKenzie, Kristin Robert SAM: Liz Wynne VOA: Rod Haenke Guild: Glory Kibbel St. Thomas: Aaliyah Hodge, Molly McGraw Healy Chisago Lakes: Sarah Schmidt Cindy Murphy, Tu Nguyen, Adam Myhand, David Peterson, Glory Kibble, Matt Hillmann Director: Alul Yesak, Guest: Mike Schultz, Karen Calcaterra, Paula Higgins, Rosie Lais
Agenda	Motioned made to accept the consent agenda by Erin, seconded by Aaliyah. Motion carries.
Meeting Norms	Chair McKenzie shared a reminder to follow the meeting norms.
Guests:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Mike Schultz, MDE: Spring CSP grant is now open, the information is on the website. Deadline for submission is March 19, 2021. The state is looking for peer-reviewers, follow the survey monkey link in the update that gets sent out if you are interested. The work is accompanied by a small stipend.● Fall grant round: negotiations are almost done with the potential grantees, those agreements will be executed in a couple of weeks and the names will be released soon.● The state received 3 Change In Authorizer requests, and 2 new school affidavits that are under review. New School Affidavits are due May 3, 2021.● MN DOH has released a vaccine connector website. School employees and contractors (food service, bus drivers etc) are eligible to receive vaccines at this time. School employees can double check that they are in the pool for the vaccine lottery by signing up for the vaccine connector. Pre-operational school staff are not eligible at this time as the state is prioritizing staff that have direct contact with students throughout the week. The state is creating a FAQ document that authorizers and schools can refer to for more information.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Specific timelines for Fall CSP round of funding is not clear yet, but typically the cycle is opened in late September, early October for new schools. Typically those funds will be executed by the end of December, available to those schools in early January. It will vary depending on the extent of the negotiations.• Rosie Lais, GMS: School performance framework project<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Almost a year ago, there was a school performance framework session in the Machine Shop. GMS has been holding roundtables, listening to community members and families, researching metrics and gathering data. The next phase of the project is putting together a prototype for people to react to. They have a working group with targeted committees with specific focuses. GMS would like to continue to engage MACSA as a voice in the process. GMS will reach out to MACSA soon with an update.○ GMS is looking at both HQCS and North Star as guides to determine how to best align and communicate cultural and equity metrics in addition to the other metrics in the framework/s they are creating. GMS is reaching out to MDE as well to be stakeholders in the process as well. MDE has a draft for the DOE regarding a potential weighting/ranking of various years in the North Star system, working to embed equity.○ Apart from the School Performance Framework, they are pushing forward something called The Readiness Check. It's a gut-check tool to help gauge if students are on grade-level or not. Learning Heroes has created a 5 question gut-check by different subject and grade levels, it gives a parent a better sense of what their student has mastered. They are also working on guides that explain standards in language parents will understand, specifically for Math. GMS is working to create a prototype/guide for parents. GMS will seek to pull authorizer voice in, and seek for this to be something that schools are supportive of and engaged in.
Committee Updates Directors Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Authorizers Accountability Bill: Hearing Wednesday, March 10 at 3pm. Eugene and Alul will testify in support of the bill. Ed Allies has requested a letter of support.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ As an individual authorizer if you would like to write a letter in support you can. Alul will connect you.○ Alul is asking that the board empower the executive committee to write a letter in support of the bill○ Friday March 19, 1-1:30pm a meeting with the Commissioner○ Charter Day at the Capitol: There was a record number of authorizers who participated. Some of the meetings will be rescheduled, Alul will send out invites as they are planned.○ Anti-racism training proposal: With the grant from Graves foundation to support our anti-racist work, Alul recommends we consult with an organization now that we have the funds to do group training. The finance committee will address the funding component of this--as several grants have come in. All of the work that Alul has done to guide the anti-racist training work is beyond the scope of what we contracted with her as the ED to do. It is important to support her in leading this work since it is above and beyond the role that she was contracted



	<p>for. Alul and Erin will hold a discussion in the finance committee report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Fellowship/Partnership with Hamline: PUC extended a relationship with Hamline to MACSA. Alul was able to meet with students via zoom, so they are going to move forward with that project, focusing on charter school narrative and authorizing funding, support for Teachers of Color bill. Alul looks forward to moving this partnership from a classroom presentation into something bigger.
Executive Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Met last month.● Alul reported on the developing relationship with TOCAIT and the Hamline fellowship partnership.● Discussed the commissioner, the social studies standards, and the Due North plan. (Expanded access to AB/IB and PSEO but not for students of color).● Discussed Antonio's gift, Laurie will give an update on that in future.● Beth and Erin will present on MAPES.● Executive committee meetings are open to all MACSA members.
Legislative and Policy Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Encouraging individual authorizers to support the MACS Bill H.F. 4020● TOCIAT bill has been heard, held over for later session.● Charter School Day at the Capitol was surprisingly positive, the more authorizers that attended a meeting, the more positively it was received. Support for mental health for students in Charter Schools, and testing were other issues that were raised--specifically testing students right after return to in-person learning.● Bill for increasing authorizing fee (Rod), Stephanie tried to pick up language around increasing the fee for extra sites that MACSA had tabled it about a year ago. Since MACSA wasn't engaging the issue right now, they weren't going forward with it at this time. MACSA had tabled this issue (which had previously had full board support) because of the timing of Covid-19 and the extra costs and burdens on schools at this time. In the future, MACSA looks forward to focusing on this issue again.● Later, received an update: Stephanie has had some ongoing conversation with Senator Nelson is still interested in moving forward the increased authorizer fee bill. Discussion from Aaliyah, Larry, Erin, Beth was agreed that this should still be tabled given the financial situation schools are still in.● Cindy raised the question about when individual authorizers approach legislators versus when approaching authorizers on behalf of MACSA. Beth reminded us that MACSA has a policy around this issue that allows for individual authorizers to engage with legislators on their own behalf. Larry reminded us that in those instances, it is the responsibility of the authorizer to make it clear whether they are engaging on behalf of MACSA or solely themselves. VOA expressed at the meeting that Stephanie is approaching a legislator about this bill as an individual entity.
Finance Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Last month, a budget revision came up due to unanticipated costs with the Financial Audit.● Received funding from Graves (50k) foundation and GMS (20k)● Received an additional \$5000 for anti-racist specific training and development.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nothing more than 10% on expenditures or income changed• Line 37 funds for lobbying will likely not all get used in the last 4 months of the legislative session. This money might give us some additional funding flexibility for the Line 33 anti-racist training if needed.• In 2 months we will be looking at the FY22 budget, so Erin is proposing to keep this as a working budget and table any formal revisions.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Beth expressed agreement. There was no other discussion.○ Larry entertained motion to receive the financial committee report. Beth made a motion, Aaliyah seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
Grants Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We received funding from GMS.• MACSA will be looking for funding for the Hamline fellowship/educational research.• Erin noted that there was money allocated for strategic plan this year, Alul named that the grant committee
Effective Practices Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Glory: These goals have now been put in SMART form which is helpful (thanks Rod). This work is incomplete, but the goals committee is bringing them to the board to look at the overall categories. If those are aligned, then look at the specific SMART goals for review and alignment.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ MACSA members should consider what is reasonable for MACSA to accomplish when looking at all of these goals.○ Questions that came up: are we measuring MACSA's own work (did we do this or that), or are we measuring the outcome of authorizer/school's work (how many teachers of color are hired in x year). Academic or achievement gap: are we measuring MACSA's work, or schools actual reduction of the gap?○ Breakout groups discussed the 5 overall goals, raising questions, reviewing language. Takeaways: the large group wants to be able to invest more organized time as a group to dive into this process.○ Alul proposed holding an additional outside meeting in order to dedicate the time needed to dig into this. Liz added that we should organize into groups by goal, so that authorizers can focus on specific areas in small groups and then bring the discussion and findings back to the large group.○ Rod wants us to focus on those big questions: whose work are we measuring? What should we measure to determine if we have made progress on that goal?○ Keep the Principles and Standards in front of us. The committee talked about focusing on a standard or principal per month relating to one of them. Ideally MACSA could align the goals with the standards and principles, and we could develop a routine review process for the aligned components. Potentially we start doing this at an April meeting.○ Liz suggested we create a list of the topics, distribute it, and then authorizers are expected to sign up and contribute.○ Beth agreed to lead this conversation off in April pertaining to overall contract (looking at it as a performance based contract,



MACSA MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION OF CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORIZERS

	<p>B.3 as opposed to B.4). Can solicit specific questions for the topics, too.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Erin and Beth presented on best practices related to MAPES<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Any related documents that we want to share
Closing Items	Next meeting is Friday, from 9:00-11:30am
Adjourn	11:26 Motion to adjourn: Erin , seconded by Beth. Motion carries.