



MATER ACADEMY

ALMA MATER STUDIORUM

The Mater Academy vision is to provide students a viable educational choice that offers an innovative, rigorous and seamless college-preparatory curriculum, providing Mater students, at every level (PK-12) with a competitive advantage, thus enabling students to become confident, self-directed, and responsible life-long learners.

**Mater Academy, Inc.
Meeting of the Board of Directors
January 16, 2019**

Directors

Cesar Christian Crousillat, Board Chair (Present)
Shannie Sadesky, Vice-Chair (Present)
Idalia Suarez, Secretary (Present)
Maurene Sotero Balmaseda (Present)
Javier Jerez (Absent)

Roberto Blanch, Esq., President (Present)
Judith Marty, Director of Academics (Present)
Joseph L. Raia, Esq., Counsel for Mater Academy, Inc. (Present)

Minutes

1. OPENING EXERCISES

- a. Called to Order
- b. Established a Quorum

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. There were no additional items at this time.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Minutes from the November 28, 2018 Board of Directors Meeting.
- b. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the individual Revised and/or New Charter School Title I Budget Appropriation Details Forms for the 2018-2019 school year for the Title 1 distinguished schools, as necessary.
 - i. Mater Academy #0100
 - ii. Mater Academy Middle School #6012
 - iii. Mater Academy High School #7160
 - iv. Mater Performing Arts & Entertainment Academy #7014
- c. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the out of field waiver(s) for instructional personnel with out of field assignments.
- d. **APPROVED:** The Board approved all High-Performing (HP) schools to submit allowable HP amendment notifications, at the discretion of the Board Chair and President, by the March 1st deadline.
- e. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to authorize the Chair and President to submit any necessary amendment requests by the March 1st deadline.



MATER ACADEMY

ALMA MATER STUDIORUM

- f. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to add all new schools opening in August 2019 to the ESP agreement with Academica.

Motion to approve the consent agenda by Shannie Sadesky; second by Idalia Suarez; motion passed unanimously

4. ACTION & DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. Finance

- i. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the Revised Annual Budgets for Mater Academy Elementary, Mater Grove, and Mater Brickell Prep.
1. Changes in loans / grants
 2. Discussed the Mater Palms budget (Mater Central, Inc.) – Due to additional employees being hired after the initial budget was complete and approved, Ms. Marty recommends the use of a form for Principals to submit for approval when hiring new staff after the budget has been initially completed.

Motion to approve by SS; second by IS; motion passed unanimously

ii. Voter Approved Teacher Raises & Supplements

1. Review of chart provided which outlines the impact of the initial 1% raise and latter supplements.
2. Cost estimate for this year, for stipends alone is \$1.4M. Next year, it would be approx. \$4.2M
3. President recommending to respond in kind through the end of this school year and to budget these costs for the 2019-2020 school year; adjustments to individual budgets must be made; teachers & parents concerned about charter school teachers being excluded from referendum should be informed that they may write to their school board members to state their feelings as to their right to share in the funds.
4. Alina is advised to prepare 2 budgets for schools – 1 with the estimated referendum funds and 1 without; the slimmer budget (without the referendum funds) should be the one prepared pursuant to which schools should operate, so adjustments, if needed, may have to be made.
5. Discussed possibility of implementing different increase scale, e.g. standard or same increase for all employees regardless of years worked.
6. President Blanch addressed coordinating with Academica to ensure that letter be drafted and sent out to teachers state that the board intends to offer the 18-19 increase and they are still considering options for 19-20.
7. Board member Suarez directs all Principals to create an action plan and timeline and committee to deliver on that action plan.
8. **APPROVED:** The Board approves to implement a “lock step” (stipend and the raises) with what MDCPS is offering for the 2018-19 school year; further approving for 2019-20 some form of increase compensation and/or stipend, leaving the flexibility to take advantage of other sources of income or formulas.

Motion to approve by Shannie Sadesky; second by Idalia Suarez with emphasis on the directed action plan; motion passed unanimously

iii. Update on Title 2 Funds / Possible Need to Amend Charters (*Judith Marty*)

1. Title 2 is a Federal Grant which offers professional development; per the figures Dade gave, Mater would receive approx. \$380k per year; all networks combined estimated to be over \$1M; when reviewing line item by line item it appears that there may be services which have never been received and some that charter schools may have been charged for even though they are collecting the charter school's portion of funds; it has been alleged that nothing that they are funding Title 2 dollars with do charter schools have access to; Board member Suarez polls the Principals and the majority are in favor of this; this does not affect the pacing guides as they are not funder by Title 2 funds; discussed need for points for teacher certification.

b. Personnel



MATER ACADEMY

ALMA MATER STUDIORUM

- i. **TABLED:** The Board tabled action, based upon recent teacher salary increase discussions, to make the 4% retirement contribution automatic for all new hires and allow them the ability to “opt out” if they do not wish to participate (currently employees must “opt in” to contribute to retirement).
- c. Facilities
- i. Mater Middle High Pedestrian Bridge – Bridge is done; crosswalk pending; not operational yet.
 - ii. Mater Middle High STEM Wing – Late March completion
 - iii. Mater Elementary Recreation Building – Essentially complete; waiting for the canopy to connect the 2 buildings which is required by code; TCO was issued.
 - iv. Mater Lakes Gym / Classroom Building – In permitting currently; waiting on additional comments; waiting to be scheduled for public hearing.
 - v. Mater Lakes 5 acre campus
 - vi. iMater Band Room – Complete
 - vii. Mater Bay 87th Avenue – Northside is 90% done; Southside is pending the approval to remove the pavilion; city meeting tonight to obtain approval to allow high school grades without an increase in students.
 - viii. Mater Bay Buildings B1 Retrofit for classroom use – Demo complete; waiting on permit.
 - ix. Brickell Prep
 - x. Mater East K-5 – Submitted plans to convert “990” to K-5 use; goes to public hearing to the City of Miami; 2020 target.
 - xi. Mater Brighton Lakes Expansion
- d. Growth Plan / Update
- i. Mater K-5 at SLAM 3 (new charter to open in August)
 - ii. Update on Key Biscayne – Still negotiating with the Church to see if this is a possibility.
 - iii. Update on Boys and Girls Club / Monterray, California
 - iv. Kiwanis of Little Havana / Future of Mater East Middle & High – Discussed above
- e. School Operations
- i. **APPROVED:** The Board approved the revised Articulation Agreement Schedule of Schools.
Motion to approve by SS; second by IS; motion passed unanimously
 - ii. Mater Gardens Campus - Transformation to a K-5 over a two-year period whether via consolidation or other means / articulation to Mater Lakes
 1. **APPROVED:** The Board approved to authorize the President and Chair to explore the measures to transform the Mater Gardens campus to a K-5 campus.
 - iii. Amendment Requests are due March 1st – Principals are to contact Kelly Mallon asap if they need to amend their charters (name changes, address changes, grade level increases, etc....).
- f. Other Items by the President, Board, Staff, or ESP

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTIFICATIONS

- a. Next Board Meeting is April 17, 2019.
- b. 20th Anniversary Gala on February 1st
 - i. Employees with Mater for 10+ years will be recognized.
- c. National Charter School Conference is June 30 – July 3 in Las Vegas (<https://ncsc.publiccharters.org>)

6. ADJOURNED MEETING



MATER ACADEMY

ALMA MATER STUDIORUM

The minutes were adopted by the Board of Directors at a meeting held on April 25, 2019.