

AGENDA

Method Schools Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

Wednesday, May 26, 2021, 6:00 PM

24620 Jefferson Ave, Murrieta, California

<https://methodschools.zoom.us/j/97336292742?pwd=RmowYUxmZklZMk5GVk5XWkswUTFxZz09>

Meeting ID: 973 3629 2742

Passcode: 691138

Instructions for Presentations to the Board by Parents and Citizens

Method Schools ("School") welcomes your participation at the School's Board meetings. The purpose of a public meeting of the Board of Directors ("Board") is to conduct the affairs of the School in public. Your participation assures us of continuing community interest in our School. To assist you in the ease of speaking/participating in our meetings, the following guidelines are provided:

Agendas and "Submit a Public Comment" forms are available via the link on our website on the Board Page. If you wish to speak, please fill out the form and specify the agenda item on which you wish to speak. When addressing the Board, speakers are requested to state their name and address and adhere to the time limits set forth.

Public Communication on Non-Agenda Issues: This is an opportunity for members of the audience to raise issues that are not specifically on the agenda. You will be given an opportunity to speak for a maximum of three (3) minutes and total time allotted to non-agenda items will not exceed fifteen (15) minutes. Non-English speakers requiring translation are allotted a maximum of six (6) minutes. Due to public meeting laws, the Board can only listen to your issue and not respond or take action. The Board may give direction to staff to respond to your concern or you may be offered the option of returning with a citizen- requested item

Agenda items: To address the Board on agenda items, please specify the item on which you wish to speak on your "Public Comment". You will be given an opportunity to speak for up to three (3) minutes when the Board discusses that item.

3. Public Records: Any public records relating to an agenda item for an open session of the Board that are distributed to the Board members shall be available for public inspection at the School office. Minutes of each Board meeting will also be available at the School office.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): Upon request, the School will furnish reasonable auxiliary aids and services to qualified individuals with disabilities. Individuals who require appropriate assistance in order participate in Board meetings are invited to contact Method Board Secretary Gloria Vargas at gvargas@methodschools.org by noon of the business day preceding the board meeting.

Translation services: Translation services are available by notifying the above school office by noon of the business day preceding the board meeting.

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1.0 Call to Order: Board Member Tyler Roberts called the meeting to order at 6:10 P.M.

2.0 Roll Call

Present: Carolyn Andrews, Tyler Roberts, Steven Dorsey

Absent: Gloria Vargas, Shannon Clark

Method Staff: Jessica Spallino, Mark Holley, Jana Sosnowski, Tracy Robertson, Jade Fernandez, Rebecca Ricci, Cory Cavanah - Method Representative

3.0 Public Communication on Non-Agenda Items

- No Public Comments

4.0 Reports

- **CEO Updates:**
 - **AB1316:** <https://my.visme.co/view/q6xiye4q-ab-1316>
 - Jessica Spallino: AB1316 has passed through a couple channels and continues to move forward. It Targets Charter Schools in general, but specifically Non-Seat Based Schools primarily. This bill is in response to A3, Sean McManus. Patrick O'Donnell - Chair of Assembly created the Bill, and it has passed his committee, and was approved by the Assembly Appropriation on 5/20/2021. It will go to the Assembly Board by June 4th, 2021. We expect it to go into effect by January 2022. This is one of the biggest bills ever written.
 - Primary pieces that would affect Method are: 70% per pupil funding, only serve students in authorized areas such as Los Angeles and San Diego only, enrollment can not exceed authorizer, 180 days tracking system, 3% oversight fee, modified calendar, higher teacher/student ratios. We have a webpage on our site with blogs and information regarding the bill. We are a very agile organization. We are in a good position.
 - Question from Carolyn Andrews: How will this impact summer school?
 - Answer from Jessica Spallino: This is a first action item. Mark will discuss this more.
 - Question from Carolyn Andrews: Will portions of the bill not pass vs. all of the bill?
 - Answer: Jessica Spallino: Opposition has amped up in the coming weeks. it could still be modified, that is still possible. We are planning for the whole bill to pass.
 - Response from Cory Cavanah: I'm not 100% sure on the logistics. There has been some talk about a grant for grandfathering certain older Charter Schools. This bill may not be as strict with the longer standing charter

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schools. Not sure yet.

- o **5 Year Plan**
 - Jessica Spallino: We are pivoting/in the process of developing a five year plan. Working on enhancing SmartFox to a non-profit structure. We will have more information regarding this plan that we will discuss during our June 8th or September Board Meeting.
- **CBO Update:**
 - o **EM Speed:** Jessica Spallino: We wanted to let you know by an informal agreement that we will be disbanding from one of our biggest support providers EM Speed for a variety of reasons. We've had a hard time controlling them, the CIF responses from parents came from this facility, there was a high percentage of student performance decrease. A letter will be going out to them as well as some parent complaints that may pop up.
 - Question from Tyler Roberts: When is that relationship ending?
 - Answer from Jessica Spallino: The end of June, so June 30, 2021.
 - Mark Holley - CBO: This was a great way to students involved in athletics and prepare them for college athletics. With AB 1316, passing we wouldn't be able to serve 95% of these students in the San Bernardino area. We are building our own athletic program in house. EM Speed's messaging has also been problematic.

5.0 **Action: Expanded Learning Opportunity Grant**

Discussion: Mark Holley: This is one of those grants that the state is getting for State Programs. It's intent is for students to catch up for learning loss during the pandemic. This amount is \$900,000 for Method Schools, LA and \$450,000 for Method Schools, SD. This was based on how much ADA you have and it fits certain things. This is perfect for summer school. This year we were pushing away from no summer school. We are transitioning our Academic Calendar to August 16th and will use this money to pay for summer school. Long Term students' academic achievement works best for Method. WE can serve about 800-826 Students in San Diego. Around 2500 students total. We would not collect ADA and would run a traditional school Calendar. This is both for Method Schools (San Diego), and Method Schools, LA.

Motion: Carolyn Andrews

Second: Tyler Roberts

Ayes: Tyler Roberts, Carolyn Andrews, Steve Dorsey

Noes: None

Action: Passed

6.0 **Action: Revised 21-22 Calendar**

Discussion: Mark Holley: Moving away from an extended year to a traditional year.

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Motion: Carolyn Andrews

Second: Tyler Roberts

Ayes: Tyler Roberts, Carolyn Andrews, Steve Dorsey

Noes: None

Action: Passed

7.0 **Action: Expanded Benefits: Life Insurance, Disability**

Discussion: Mark Holley: We wanted to improve take home pay. We have done a lot of surveys and want employee's voices to be heard. Tracy has helped build a benefits package that expands but is also efficient. We are adding Kaiser, HMO, and Disability through MetLife. These are things that would mean a lot to employees. It also helps us be more competitive with a bigger employee base.

Motion: Tyler Roberts

Second: Carolyn Andrews

Ayes: Tyler Roberts, Carolyn Andrews, Steve Dorsey

Noes: None

Action: Passed

8.0 **Action: 2021-22 Employee Compensation**

Discussion: Mark Holley: We are proposing a 6% COLA, we were emailed 5.07% COLA from the Governor. A 6% financial impact would be \$326,000. The COLA could fluctuate, but it would be too late for budget approval. Executive Staff, CEO, CAO base pay is more competitive. Benefits reducing premium for more take home pay. We want more employees to take advantage of benefits. PTO is a great thing, it gets difficult with unlimited when we have some employees taking 10 times the amount as others. It is not something that is sustainable with the equity of the company. There will be no buyout as it would show up as a liability if they have 200 days plus. They could extend their time off before they leave the company. The PTO is very similar to other competing companies' packages. We are still working on the plan to educate employees on 403b plans. It's a lot of work to work at Method.

Motion: Carolyn Andrews

Second: Tyler Roberts

Ayes: Tyler Roberts, Carolyn Andrews, Steve Dorsey

Noes: None

Action: Passed

9.0 Consent Items: All matters listed under the consent agenda are considered by the Board to be routine and will be approved/enacted by the Board in one motion in the form listed below. Unless specifically requested by a Board

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member for further discussion or removed from the agenda, there will be no discussion of these items prior to the Board's votes on them.

- Approval of March 9, 2021 Meeting Minutes
 - **Motion:** Tyler Roberts
 - **Second:** Carolyn Andrews
 - **Ayes:** Tyler Roberts, Carolyn Andrews, Steve Dorsey
 - **Noes:** None
 - **Action:** Passed

10.0 Information/Discussion Items:

- **LCAP Hearing: Public Hearing for the 2021-22 Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) for Method Schools and Method Schools Los Angeles** As part of the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF), school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools are required to hold a public hearing prior to finalizing the LCAP. This plan has been updated for the 2021-22 school year with input from all stakeholder groups.
 - Jessica Spallino: LCAP hearing is a public hearing. Method San Diego, and Method Schools, LA. We have identified three focus goals: Academic Achievement, Wrap around services such as counseling services, and Professional Development for Staff. We will have a discussion on this and a vote on June 8th, 2021 Board Meeting.

11.0 Upcoming Agenda Items

- CTE and VAPA action items for Approval June 8th, 2021
- June: LCAP & Budget approval
- Budget and Policy Adjustments
- Founder Evaluations - Qualtrics online
- Dehesa SDSA Review Report
- 2021-22 Board Meetings- Organizational Discussion, meeting dates, and roles.
- Smaller In Person graduation on June 8th, social distancing. We will have a meal on-site or at a restaurant. You can also attend virtually.

12.0 Board Member Reports: None

13.0 Action: Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

- . Board Member Tyler Roberts motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 P.M.

Board Meeting Recording Link: https://methodschools.zoom.us/rec/play/U2IW1pZQ2ZmKVCRfU-QnAE-fZIFEMicxWpZYCrCGHVKlfhLfeAfpDRbTvvPsp0EpuUf7wctqcfakXI89.i04_BGHZiUOhWoIC?continueMode=true