

John Muir Charter Schools  
117 New Mohawk Rd. Ste. F  
Nevada City, CA 95959  
Phone: 530.272.4008  
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## **John Muir Charter Schools Meeting of the Board of Directors**

Wednesday, January 12, 2022

**10:00 a.m.**

John Muir Charter Schools Office

117 New Mohawk Rd. Suite F

Nevada City, CA 95959

Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86028296135>

Meeting ID:

**860 2829 6135**

Dial-in by location:

+1 669 900 9128

Audio of this meeting will be recorded

### **AGENDA**

ANNOUNCEMENT No. 1: This meeting is being held pursuant to the procedures established in Assembly Bill 361 amending elements of the Brown Act effective October 1, 2021. All Board members may attend the meeting by teleconference. This meeting will be a virtual meeting only. The public may observe and address the meeting via Zoom.

ANNOUNCEMENT No. 2: The public will have access to the John Muir Charter Schools Governing Board meeting through Zoom Teleconferencing. If you are joining the meeting via Zoom and wish to make a comment on an item, press the “raise a hand” button. If you are joining the meeting by phone, press \*9 to indicate a desire to make a comment. A moderator will call you by the last three digits of your phone number when it is your turn to speak. Speakers will be limited to 3 minutes.

ANNOUNCEMENT No. 3: Should this Board meeting encounter any security breach or inappropriate issues, the meeting will be ended immediately and rescheduled as soon as practical.

#### **1. Meeting Call to Order**

#### **2. Introductions**

**3. Oral Communications/Public Comments:** Recognition of individuals wishing to comment on non-agenda items may do so at this time. Individuals who wish to address an agenda item may do so at this time or at the time the agenda item is heard. After being recognized by the board

president, please identify yourself. No individual presentation shall be for more than three (3) minutes and the total time for this purpose shall not exceed fifteen (15) minutes. Ordinarily, board members will not respond to presentations and no action can be taken. However, the board may give direction to staff following a presentation.

**4. Additions to the Agenda**

**5. Adoption of the Agenda**

**6. Informational/Action Items**

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting Wednesday, December 8, 2021 (Attachment 1, Page 5)
- B. Approval of Vendor Payments 11/26/21 - 12/25/21 (Attachment 2, Page 13)
- C. Approval of New and Termed Employees 11/30/21 - 12/31/21 (Attachment 3, Page 19)
- D. Approval of the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year Auditor's Report (Under Separate Cover)
- E. Vote for Virtual or In-Person 2/16/2022 Board Meeting

**7. Discussion Items**

- A. JMCS Foundation Report (Gil Botello)
- B. JMCS Annual Subscriptions (Attachment 4, Page 21)
- C. Potential Staff Reductions
- D. Recruitment Report
- E. TAC Report (Attachment 5, Page 27)
- F. Board Meeting Time Change Discussion
- G. CEO's Report (RJ Guess)

**8. Miscellaneous Information Items**

- A. Correspondence
- B. Schedule of Future Board Meetings
  - i. Wednesday, February 9, 2022, 10 a.m. Sacramento Regional Conservation, Corps 6101 27th Street Sacramento, CA 95822 or virtual pending board approval.
  - ii. Wednesday, March 9, 2022, 10 a.m. Sacramento Regional Conservation, Corps 6101 27th Street Sacramento, CA 95822 or virtual pending board approval.

**Board Attendance at Upcoming Meetings:**

**Wednesday, February 9, 2022, 10 a.m.**  
**(pending approval),**

**Wednesday, March 9, 2022, 10 a.m.**  
**(pending approval)**

A. Stan Miller: Yes  
B. Michael Corbett: Yes  
C. Len Eckhardt: Yes  
D. Sallie Wilson: No  
E. Gil Botello: Yes

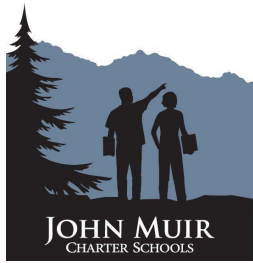
A. Stan Miller: Yes or No  
B. Michael Corbett: Yes or No  
C. Len Eckhardt: Yes or No  
D. Sallie Wilson: Yes or No  
E. Gil Botello: Yes or No

**9. Request for Agenda Items**

**10. Adjournment**

This agenda was posted at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting at:

- John Muir Charter Schools Office, 117 New Mohawk Rd. Suite F, Nevada City, Ca 95959
- [www.johnmuircs.com](http://www.johnmuircs.com)



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## **John Muir Charter Schools Meeting of the Board of Directors**

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

**10:00 a.m.**

John Muir Charter Schools Office  
117 New Mohawk Rd. Suite F  
Nevada City, CA 95959

Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83549557340>

Meeting ID:

**835 4955 7340**

Dial-in by location:

+1 669 900 9128

Audio of this meeting will be recorded

### **Minutes**

#### **1. Meeting Call to Order**

Stan Miller called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

#### **2. Introductions**

JMCS Board Members in attendance: Stan Miller, Sallie Wilson, Michael Corbett, Len Eckhardt, and Gil Botello. JMCS Staff Members in attendance: CEO RJ Guess, COO Dawn McConnell, Fiscal Analyst Rachael Navarette, and Administrative Coordinator Luz Delgado.

**3. Oral Communications/Public Comments:** Recognition of individuals wishing to comment on non-agenda items may do so at this time. Individuals who wish to address an agenda item may do so at this time or at the time the agenda item is heard. After being recognized by the board president, please identify yourself. No individual presentation shall be for more than three (3) minutes and the total time for this purpose shall not exceed fifteen (15) minutes. Ordinarily, board members will not respond to presentations and no action can be taken. However, the board may give direction to staff following a presentation.

None.

#### **4. Additions to the Agenda**

None.

#### **5. Adoption of the Agenda**

On a motion made by Gil Botello and seconded by Michael Corbett, the Agenda was adopted on a 5-0-0 vote.

(Ayes: Miller, Corbett, Wilson, Botello, Eckhardt Noes: None. Absent: None.)

#### **6. Informational/Action Items**

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting Wednesday, November 10, 2021 (Attachment 1, Page 5)

On a motion made by Len Eckhardt and seconded by Gil Botello, the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting Wednesday, November 10, 2021, was approved on a 5-0-0 vote.

(Ayes: Miller, Corbett, Wilson, Botello, Eckhardt Noes: None. Absent: None.)

- B. Approval of Vendor Payments 10/26/21 - 11/25/21 (Attachment 2, Page 11)

Gil Botello requested a list of monthly subscriptions. Rachael Navarette will resend the monthly subscriptions list to all board members, including new charges. RJ Guess would like to discuss the subscriptions in the January board meeting. Rachael clarified that the attorneys are paid on a month-to-month charge. They do not have a retainer so they will not be appearing in the subscription list. Stan Miller asked about the “employee recruitment advertisement” cost to Bank of America. RJ clarified that this is for Edjoin and Indeed job postings. Both Edjoin and Indeed have been successful in finding JMCS staff.

On a motion made by Sallie Wilson and seconded by Gil Botello, the Approval of Vendor Payments 10/26/21 - 11/25/21, was approved on a 5-0-0 vote.

(Ayes: Miller, Corbett, Wilson, Botello, Eckhardt Noes: None. Absent: None.)

- C. Approval of New and Termed Employees 10/30/21 - 11/30/21 (Attachment 3, Page 19)

RJ Guess gave the board an overview of what job search website each employee was sourced from.

On a motion made by Michael Corbett and seconded by Gil Botello, the Approval of New and Termed Employees 10/30/21 - 11/30/21, was approved on a 5-0-0 vote.

(Ayes: Miller, Corbett, Wilson, Botello, Eckhardt Noes: None. Absent: None.)

- D. Vote for Virtual or In-Person 1/12/2022 Board Meeting

RJ Guess proposed planning for an in-person meeting in March. The board will consider an in-person meeting in March.

On a motion made by Gil Botello and seconded by Michael Corbett, the Vote for Virtual or In-Person 1/12/2022 Board Meeting was approved on a 5-0-0 vote.

(Ayes: Miller, Corbett, Wilson, Botello, Eckhardt Noes: None. Absent: None.)

E. 2021-2022 First Interim Budget

i. Review 2021-2022 1st Interim Budget (Attachment 4, Page 21)

Rachael Navarette gave an overview of the first interim budget. There have been changes made since the last adopted budget. She mentions there is a 31% reduction in ADA, it went from 470 ADA to 322 ADA. The report also reflects a decrease in the LCFF budget, which is tied to ADA. Rachael reminds the board that we are still at a healthy 2.7 million in our balance, 10% of which is reserved for economic uncertainties.

On a motion made by Gil Botello and seconded by Sallie Wilson, the Review 2021-2022 1st Interim Budget, was approved on a 5-0-0 vote.

(Ayes: Miller, Corbett, Wilson, Botello, Eckhardt Noes: None. Absent: None.)

ii. Approval of Resolution 21-05, First Interim Budget Revision - ROLL CALL VOTE (Attachment 4, Page 25)

ROLL CALL VOTE- Aye- Miller, Aye-Corbett, Aye-Wilson, Aye-Botello, Aye-Eckhardt Noes- None. Absent- None.

F. Approval of the 2021 Educator Effectiveness Block Grant (Attachment 5, Page 29)

RJ Guess announced that the budget money has been received, however, the money cannot be spent without board approval. RJ clarified that all the suggested revisions from the previous meeting were made.

On a motion made by Gil Botello and seconded by Michael Corbett, the Approval of the 2021 Educator Effectiveness Block Grant, was approved on a 5-0-0 vote.

(Ayes: Miller, Corbett, Wilson, Botello, Eckhardt Noes: None. Absent: None.)

## 7. Discussion Items

A. JMCS Foundation Report (Gil Botello)

Gil Botello gave a shout-out to Aaron Scholl and Andy Delgado, they have secured a \$5,000 grant for the JMCS Foundation. Andy also coordinated the Foundation's Giving Tuesday Fundraiser, an estimated \$1,100 was raised. Christina Dickason and Gil are putting together Ask Letter packets to be sent to companies and organizations. The packets will be going out next week. Gil announced five JMCS students have received \$500 scholarships from the foundation. Dawn McConnell has highlighted the students in the school-wide bulletin board.

B. Population of Disengaged Youth (Dawn McConnell)

Dawn McConnell gave a presentation on engaging disconnected youth using the Social Science Resource Council disconnected youth website. The council website gives a breakdown of who disconnected youth are and what factors cause the disconnect. The prediction in data reports is that there will be a spike in this population in the following years. Using an interactive map, Dawn showed the board where the most affected students were residing; this information can be used to advise JMCS recruitment plans. The JMCS

recruitment coordinator will be using this information to look for students and potential partnerships with local organizations. Stan Miller requests a regular standing item to report what recruitment measures are being taken. RJ Guess agrees and will have it as a Recruitment and Program Outreach Update.

C. Drone Pilot Certification (Gil Botello)

Gil Botello reminds the board that San Bernardino has an airport that is offering a Drone Certification Program certified by the Federal Aviation Administration. There is a nonprofit organization through Goodwill industries that offers training to students. Gil believes that our students can benefit from this program. With the permission of the board, Gil has been talking to the program coordinator. Gil would like RJ Guess to meet with the Coordinator as well. Michael Corbett agrees, this can put students in a position to discover an exciting career. The rest of the board agrees. Stan Miller would like JMCS to pursue this route. Gil will reach out to the coordinator to set a meeting up.

D. Vision Statement RFP Update (R.J. Guess)

RJ Guess informed the board that he has sent the RFP out. The deadline is Friday. He has gotten confirmation from 4 vendors. Gil Botello has also sent them out but has heard nothing back. RJ expects there to be more proposals as we get closer to the deadline. The board has agreed on the location for the vision statement retreat. The retreat will be in Riverside at the Mission Inn. The dates have not been agreed on yet. Luz Delgado will send a Doodle out to the board to coordinate the time and date.

E. Potential Staff Reductions 2022-2023 School Year (R.J. Guess) (Attachment 6, Page 35)

RJ Guess explained that in the 2021-2022 fiscal year JMCS is deficit spending approximately \$1.1 million, and absent significant changes there will be significant FTE cuts in the 2022-2023 school year. Site and administrative staffing will be included in the reductions, and RJ explained that reductions were made on the board-approved staffing formula. The formula provides equity and transparency for staff, partners, and students. This is all done in an effort to reduce or eliminate deficit spending in 2022-2023. RJ requested this also be in the January agenda for further discussion.

F. CEO's Report

RJ Guess updated the board on school and legislative occurrences.

**COVID and Vaccines**

- JMCS Continues to have strong staff vaccination rates and compliance with testing requirements. I additional staff member has pledged to become vaccinated
- Student-level data is encouraged but not yet required to be collected- but will in January. A cursory review of data that has been entered have our student vaccination rate below 50%.
- State implementation schedule is still murky and CDPHs mandate authority includes both religious and personal belief exemptions, though those are not at all defined.

- An expanded mandate is possible through the use of the governor's emergency powers or through legislative action that would bring covid vaccines requirements into line with the other 14 currently required vaccines. There are rumors that one pro-vaccine state senator who is terming out my sponsor legislation doing just that.
- 4 of the 5 largest districts in the state are already requiring vaccinations.
- In Sac City unified only 25% of students met the deadline.

### **Fiscal Updates**

- Revenues continue to climb even as statewide enrollment continues to fall
- LAO predicts sustainable growth through 2026 but not at the extreme rates of the last 2 years.
- Prop 98 minimum funding guarantee is showing strong growth parallel to the state revenue growth. The projected funding guarantee growth relative to the 2021 adopted state budget is:
  - 2020-2021: + 1.8 Billion
  - 2021-2022: + 8.9 Billion
  - 2022-2023: + 2.6 Billion
- LAO is predicting significant new money for K-14 for 2022-2023
  - 10.2 Billion in one-time funding
  - 9.8 Billion in ongoing funding
- LAO Projected COLAs
  - 2022-2023: 5.35%
  - 2023-2024: 3.5%
  - 2024-2025: 3%
  - These are obviously very helpful but are not enough to resolve current low enrollment numbers
- STRS and PERS: Projected 3%-5.5% growth in employer costs per year for an additional 5 years.

### **State Programs Expansion**

- Expanded Learning Opportunities-
  - 1.7 billion for 21-22 but ramping up to a projected 4 billion
  - Expand school year to 205 days, dovetails into universal meals and community schools growth
- Universal Free Meals- contingent to being funded. At the start of the new school year
- Community schools funding- we are still looking to see if this is a growth area for JMCS through contract possibilities

### **Fiscal Cliff**

- Statewide 2.6% drop in 2021-2022, 160,000 students
- Finance projects an 11.4% by 2031
- Current protections given to districts not expanded to charters



- An additional year of hold harmless or additional 1-time funds to delay the pain are being discussed to support schools in 21-22 and 22-23. This will be the hot-button topic for the legislature in January and could go a long way in helping schools (JMCS included) facing significant enrollment drops in the wake of returning from COVID distance learning programs and facing enrollment loss due to vaccine mandates.

### **Legislation**

- AB 101, Ethnic Studies: Graduation requirement in 2029-2030. JMCS will be ready.
- AB 224, Mental Health: Instruction. Requires specific mental health content in health courses beginning 1/1/22. JMCS is ready.
- AB 367, Free Menstrual Products. Schools must stock bathrooms and identify who is responsible for ordering. JMCS is ready and will utilize Amazon business accounts for ordering.
- AB 1316, Anti-Charter Omnibus
  - Primarily attacks non-classroom based schools
  - Allows significant increases to authorizer oversight costs
  - Calendar provisions- only 1 allowed
  - Tightened MOU requirements and possible age cap for JMCS style programs

### **Brown Act**

- AB 361, Open Meetings Flexibility. We can continue to meet via zoom if the board votes to do so every 30 days.
- Sierra Watch vs Placer County: Handouts to public board must be made available to the public at the same time as the public board. So if documents and attachments are sent out to the board after hours they must be made available to the public at the same time.

Stan Miller requests a partial CEO Report before the meeting.

## **8. Miscellaneous Information Items**

### A. Correspondence

None.

### B. Schedule of Future Board Meetings

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C. Len Eckhardt: Yes  
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E. Gil Botello: Yes

**9. Request for Agenda Items**

- Recruitment Report
- JMCS Yearly Subscriptions
- Audit Report 2021
- Revisit: Potential Staff Reductions 2022-2023 School Year
- Board Meeting Time Change Discussion

**10. Adjournment**

Stan Miller adjourned the meeting at 12:19 p.m.