

MA (Cont. from 1)

Highway 105. The county suggested posting a crossing guard at the turn. On June 22, MA's lawyer will continue negotiating a Memorandum of Un-

derstanding between the school and the county and then will bring that to the board for a vote. St. Aubyn said she would post the letter with the county's responses to the school web page.



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Welcoming new board members

At the June 2 special meeting, new board members heard from past and continuing board members. Past board President Mark McWilliams discussed problems with the previous administration, the history of charter schools, and the need to defend charter schools. He noted board member Ryan Graham's role in representing MA in the recent legislative session. McWilliams learned that MA was not just a great option for kids to learn conservative values but emphasized a classical education, so kids understand knowledge, logic, and rhetoric. He spoke of the positive changes at MA, starting with his time on the board, and said the board should focus on policy making.

Current board President Melanie Strop talked about long-term goals and her focus solely on protecting MA. Herrera spoke of re-establishing lost trust with leadership. Strop discussed the format of regular meetings, special meetings, and executive sessions along with the open meeting requirements of the Colorado Sunshine Law. She noted that as board president she controls the


agenda and can prevent items that MA doesn't want the public to know that can be handled via a letter from the COO to MA parents. Strop also cautioned that board members need to be aware of what they are wearing when speaking with other parents and staff members.

St. Aubyn said that board members need to represent all students and do what is best for the school. Board member Chris Dole cautioned that board members need to hold some things close since they are dealing with human resources and other privacy issues that need to be referred to the right person. He said the board has no obligation to respond to every communication. Board member Misty McCuen said the board members may not agree completely but that it is important to value each voice. She said it takes courage and trust to be a board member. Graham said new members should know the board policies, the by-laws, the charter contract, and the job description for the chief operating officer and chief financial officer.


At the June 2 meeting, the board discussed the duties of roles such as president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and member-at-large. In the regular meeting, the board unanimously voted for Graham as president; St. Aubyn as vice president; Dole as treasurer; Lindsay Clinton as secretary, and Joe Buczkowski as member at large.

Strop described the various committees board members could join: accountability, curriculum, communication, facility, finance, governance, and resource development according to bylaws. Resource development is the fundraising committee. The board decided to table this discussion to the next meeting in July.

The board discussed adding a new member to the board. Dole said the bylaws allow from five to nine seats. In recent times, the MA board has had six seats, but this spreads the board



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