
COLORADO MILITARY ACADEMY
SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order

The CMA SAC meeting was called to order on March 19, 2025 at 4:50pm by Col. Nicole Roberts

Roll Call

Present:
Nicole Roberts (Head of School)
Kristen Ward (SAC Secretary)
Kevin Gehret (Secondary Teacher)
Lori Gardner (Elementary Teacher)
Kimberly Barnett (Parent Advisor)

Public Comment

Approval of Minutes

No recent minutes to approve.

Approval of Agenda

Meeting agenda was verbally reviewed.

Old Business

- 1) Mr. Gehret reported that the Student Council is up and running for both Elementary and Secondary. He expects to have a Student Representative at the next meeting.
- 2) Col. Roberts reported that the Library is functioning and that the card catalogues and electronic systems are operational. She said that teachers can take students to check out books, but there is no plan to have a librarian or staff member assigned there at this time. Mr. Gehret shared that a lot of schools are removing their libraries and they are becoming obsolete. Col. Roberts stated that the current library space will become a STEM Lab for Elementary next year. She reported that CMA does want to keep their library, but it will be moved to another room in the building.

New Business

Topic: Col. Roberts' Briefing of the Board Meeting

- She explained the expectations for the Charter School Institute Renewal that will take place in May. She also explained about a potential change to be in partnership with D11 instead of CSI. She is currently preparing a possible contract with D11 that would allow the school to retain all autonomy. The school administration expects to have a decision about D11 in April. Col. Roberts believes it will protect the school the most since charter schools are vulnerable to funding cuts. When asked if the change would affect anything with the UIP, Col. Roberts said that it would only affect the length of

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time between renewals. It would allow five years instead of two. She reports that the accountability factor remains the same. Col. Roberts said they are working through several options regarding bussing and she explained that the development of the athletic program is directly influenced by having access to a bus.

- Enrollment is the highest returning rate in the history of CMA. The school is completing the process to add another Pre-K room if needed for next year.
- The school will start offering different Pathways for students next year. CAP will continue. Space Core will likely be offered and will have a cybersecurity & space focus. The curriculum, rank, and uniforms are currently available, but there is still work needing to be done to figure out how to execute the program in a school setting. CTE is another pathway that would allow young adults to have certificates of completion before graduation in a variety of areas. CMA intends to begin with a Business focus and eventually expand to more.
- Several additional colleges are requesting Memorandum of Understandings with CMA.
- CMA is in the process of getting an estimate to create three additional classrooms upstairs in an area being used for storage.
- CMA is currently doing a facilities grant and had to add a lottery to their enrollment in order to qualify for the grant. It is something charter schools have the option of having, at their own discretion. They are working towards getting a large grant to build a new high school.
- The Purple Star School Program is targeted toward military kids, but will have a positive effect on the entire school. In order to qualify, there is a needed update to the school website. The website is currently being updated, but it is not finished, yet. It is expected to be ready by the end of April.
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Topic: SPECIAL EDUCATION

During the discussion there was a suggestion to conduct a survey among the parents of Special Education students to gather information that could lead to changes that would strengthen the program. There was some concern about the legality of that due to privacy laws. It was acknowledged that CMA has not done Special Education well in the past, but there has been a noticeable improvement this school year. Ms. Kierce will be moving into the Special Education department next year and is expected to bring a lot of insight and experience. The school representatives expressed some of their frustrations regarding the lack of participation and unrealistic expectations from the parents of kids with IEP's and 504 plans.

Action: Col. Roberts agreed to gather information from teachers and administrators within CMA about their frustrations regarding Special Education and any ideas they might have about what they would like to see improve. She will share the information at the next meeting and there will be a discussion about things that may improve communication and connection for next year.

Topic: SUMMER SCHOOL

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Action: Col. Roberts reported that it is being planned currently.

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Topic: SAC Meeting Schedule

Notes: Next meeting will be April 16, 2025 at 4:30pm

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned on March 19, 2025 at 6:15pm