

**MAGNET SCHOOLS OF AMERICA, INC.**  
**BUSINESS MEETING**  
**April 28, 2017**

**Call to Order-President Sara Wheeler**

The President called the meeting to order, welcomed the members, and thanked the student performers

**Secretary's Report-Susan King**

The secretary referenced the minutes and asked for clarifications, corrections or additions. There were none.

*Motion to accept was moved by Theresa Porter and the second was provided by Art Arpin.*

**Treasurer's Report- William Magnotta**

Treasurer Magnotta reported that the organization's total revenue is \$1,917,860.02 and total expenses are \$1,901,710.59 resulting in a net income of \$16, 149.43. He reported that we received a very positive audit.

*Motion to accept was moved by Caroline Massengill and the second was provided by Maree Sneed.*

**Installation of Officers.** All Board Members were sworn in including the new officers or re-elected below. All terms are two years

Secretary: Cari Kupek

Treasurer: Scott Thomas

Regional Directors: Region 1 Art Arpin; Region 3 Evonne S. Alvarez; Region 5 Theresa Porter; and Region 7 Kim Burkhalter

President Wheeler stated that her goal is to maintain the current momentum and continue to build on our success by bringing and keeping magnets at the forefront of the conversation on public school choice by promoting and providing equitable opportunities for all students. She reiterated that belief in the importance of building relationship and in the five pillars. She went on to say that MSA continue to be a driving force of the magnet community and this begins with building relationships and reminded the members that, "There is nothing meaningful possible without that." Wheeler talked about the five-year strategic plan and encouraged members to review the plan on the website listed under the Five Pillars. The plan outlines targeted objectives that will allow the organization to achieve in the different facets of our operations.

The President stated that is confident that MSA will continue to focus on meeting the needs of members by providing outstanding services and new opportunities. She informed them that in the year ahead they can expect to see the launch of a new website, a new online member portal, and additional professional development opportunities She thanked them for all that they do on behalf of students and communities

The President reflected on the past year and reviewed the activities:

- We were encouraged that the new U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos chose MSA as the first national education group to address and that her remarks at the national policy conference in February were reassuring. As a nonpartisan organization, it is important for us to dialogue with the new administration about the benefits of magnet schools and our stature as the largest and original form of public school choice.
- MSA has ushered in a new era by launching the first national magnet school certification program based on the Five Pillars and the National Magnet School Standards of Excellence. These standards define the essential elements of high quality magnet programs and provide benchmarks to develop or improve schools and programs. There are 110 schools in the first cohort and that the second cohort has begun. Cohort III will begin in May. Members can expect to receive registration information by email
- As an association, we are continuing to nurture our relationships with key partners that share our commitment to equitable theme based education. We have provided Sanford Harmony, a free social, emotional program, developed a new relationship with Cambridge, and other companies such as Incubator EDU, AASA, the NEA, AFT, and National Choice Week among others.
- Involvement and interest in MSA continues to grow. We have increased applications for principal of the year, teacher of the year, and superintendent of the year as well as merit awards, and an overwhelming interest by members to serve on the board.

**Adjourn**

*The meeting was adjourned.*