

Colorado Military Academy



Update on Topics Discussed at April Meeting



Overview

Giving our students a competitive edge to the future

- Special Education (SPED)
- Teacher pay
- Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math (STEM), and Project Based Learning (PBL) Curriculum



SPED

Giving our students a competitive edge to the future

- Internal investigation completed April 9
 - Significant shortfalls Fall Semester 2017
 - Major improvements began in Feb 2018
 - Continued improvements planned for AY18-19
- External investigation ECD May 7
- Mr. Stannard is working directly with the families regarding student issues raised by parents



Factors Effecting Teacher Pay

Giving our students a competitive edge to the future

- Average charter teacher earns \$15K less than traditional public school teachers per a 2013 report to Colorado General Assembly
- Compared to traditional public schools which use bonds, CMA starts at a 16% financial disadvantage due to facility costs not covered by state financing
- CMA also does not receive Mill Levy Override revenue:
 - D11: \$1K per student
 - CMA: AY17-18: \$0; AY18-19 ~\$330 per student
- Local charters with large enrollment:
 - Starting salaries \$28K, \$30K, \$34K



CMA Teacher Pay

Giving our students a competitive edge to the future

- No teachers are paid enough. This is a justification that CMA pays teachers competitively compared to similarly sized local charter schools.
- AY17-18 CMA base salary: \$32K
 - Stipends available: \$100-\$500/month for lead teacher, no planning period, multiple grades/subjects, sports coach, AD
- AY18-19 CMA base salary :
 - 1st year with CMA: \$32K
 - Returning teachers (5% increase): \$33,600
 - Higher base salary in shortage fields, e.g. SPED
 - Stipends: details TBD for both summer planning and AY18-19



STEM/PBL Curriculum

Giving our students a competitive edge to the future

- Current Academic Year
 - Curriculum over-promised/under-performed
 - STEM Lab: still developing most efficient use
 - CCSP grant improved STEM resources beginning in Jan
- Next Academic Year
 - CCSP grant includes more STEM funding
 - Computer Coding (grades 2-9)
 - Physics (grades 6-8)
 - Math improvements: away from Common Core, w/in state standards
 - Improved STEM Lab
 - CAP STEM kits
- Additional curriculum improvements
 - Latin (grades 6-7)