

Mountain Island Charter School Soar Foundation Meeting
9.8.2025 Agenda

Call to Order: 9:30PM, Admin Conf Room. Jenny C, Eric L, Mike S, Della, Laura V, John R, Glenn B, Ally R, Jenny E, Rod H, Brett R

Called to order at 9:33AM.

Approve Minutes from last meeting - We will do 9am going forward.
Move November meeting to the 17th since the 11th we are off.

From Last Meeting

- MICS Fundraisers approved by Soar (see attachment)
 - Fundraising for field trips and Band event at Kannapolis Cannon Ballers? The board discussed several fundraising topics. A recent event sold \$10 tickets that may not have gone through SOAR. Glenn will follow up to confirm and make sure all fundraising aligns with approved processes. The Cross Country team also initiated a fundraiser and will send details to Glenn for review.

The group discussed whether SOAR could help support field trip fundraising, similar to the 5th grade Butterbraids fundraiser from last year. While supporting travel costs is valuable, it may not have a large individual impact given the number of students per grade.

There was also discussion about how fundraisers are approved and how to make the process clearer for clubs and new groups. The goal is to support and coordinate efforts, not restrict them. Some fundraisers, like concessions or car washes, are typically approved automatically, while others may need review based on

purpose and potential conflicts. Glenn will recirculate the school's fundraising policy, and the group will explore ways to better communicate the process at the start of each school year.

- Can we get a record of what fundraisers have actually been done?

Financial Report:

- General Financial Report, CDs – No big shifts. 200k in checking, 750k in CDs (1million typical)
- Classroom support used – The last numbers we got from Jackie, 18 element and 32 MS/HS have used the additional \$100. 5k of the 10k. We have gotten the shoutouts. **This worked out really well.**
- Cooperate matching update
 - Funds earmarked through cooperate matching to the school not Soar – Pam told us this has been a conversation that has happened multiple times. Right now on corporate matching sites (we have 3 that are used). On each one there is a Micharter school and there is a Micharter SOAR.

Discussed need to update fundraising policy and make a decision on do we want to support earmarked funds. Earmarked funds could be tough to manage. The school board has a fundraising policy that we should review and update any SOAR documents with our final decision.

- New asks - lantern parade, DECA tshirts –
There have been new asks for fundraisers. There has been a lack of understanding and consistency in the process. The clubs should start with their sponsor, then Glenn, then SOAR.
 - Grants for clubs? Would we want to consider grants for clubs similar to our previous discussion on grants for

teachers. School leadership agreed that this could be a good path for clubs. Rubric / qualifications perhaps we could find.

Fundraising/Committee Reports:

- PTO- Fall events, Elementary movie night, Spirit nights, Book Fair Fall festival, Staff appreciation – Movie night we had 600 people. It was the most busy we ever had. There was a lot older kids there (siblings). There were a lot of 6th graders and will meet with school leadership to confirm their feedback and that the school was good with things.
Book fair September 15th – 19th – Book Character parade on the Monday. Coordinated with Jeremy.
Spirit nights – There was Gastonia Ghostpeppers and it was a smaller crowd (maybe due to the rain). Might revisit with Robyn but they don't make a big deal you are there. In November it will be CLT hornets game and info in couple weeks.
Fall Festival Oct 17th – one prize from Raptor run will be discounted tickets.
- Raptor Run Raptor Run is Oct 10th and planning is full speed ahead. Working with DECA club. Discussing promotion and DECA building their own promotions and get approved by PTO. Tshirt design – we're going to see how that goes. DECA going to give input on high school prizes. We are doing ninja course for MS/HS and add some races. Will bring back bracelets. We are raising prices for sponsors. Back of the shirt sponsor price raised from \$100 to \$200.
- SOAR Sponsorships - Laura Vaughn
 - Standardizing invoicing, renters payments – invoices have gone out but have not received any negative feedback and several increased their \$\$ and saw benefits of their additional packages. We had two sponsors drop because kids graduated.

- New sponsors - We have gotten five new sponsors. Yay! We are already over last years levels. We could have close to record numbers this year. Getting everyone on the same schedule and follow up helped a lot. The wish list with Chick fill a need to follow up.
- Marketing - talk about this next meeting. If we hit more orders we will get a bigger cut of the money
 - Car magnets with thank yous going to PTO committee heads, sponsors, monthly donors
 - Yearly - Tshirts for kindergartners (done), Folders (done)
 - Yearly - Letters sent - multiple returned
 - Soar merch website up and running, hats for sale at events
 - Royal Bliss night - Tuesday Aug 19th
 - School board retreat, kindergarten, 6th grade, and staff orientations, Back to School Night
 - Website tracking, what is hitting?
- Collaborations
 - Soar track meet
 - DECA collab for sponsorship/Raptor Run

Board Items:

- Property update - 323 Johnson St purchase complete – This was completed on Friday September 5th. We are going to partner with the FD and do a controlled training board.
- Bi-laws - review now, adopt changes at subsequent meeting This is notice we are looking at changing the by-laws. Will look to approve next meeting.
 - Article III, section 6 - Adding PTO chair given automatic seat on Soar Board, what number restrictions do we want? We will add the PTO automatic bid. How many seats do we want to give? No more than 9 and no less than 5. 20% of the SOAR Board has to be MICS School Board. We can define non-voting ex-officio, etc. In the absence of a quorum then do X, Y, Z.
 - Article III, section 5 - remove requirement for Co-chair since this has not been done in past - Says we should no less

than four chairs. Remove it the necessity “if the board desires”. Could be any officer to run the meeting. Would want a process for transition chairs.

- Article IV Section 2 - Change terms for officers to 2-year terms. Clarify third sentence Yes. Should update 3rd sentence to just be Chair and Treasurer.
- Article VI, Section 6 - Are we covered by School Board insurance? We think we are covered, but should verify. Post meeting: this was verified and confirmed the SOAR Foundation is covered.
- Vote via email or zoom (pull from School Board Bylaws) need to update.

Adjourned at 11:32am.

Open discussion

MICS Update

Next Meeting

- Next year meetings, Mondays at 9:30am
- 9/8, 11/10, 1/12, 3/9, 5/11, 7/13