

Mountain West Montessori Academy

Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 25, 2019

Location: MWMA Library, 4125 W. Foxview Drive, South Jordan, UT 84009



NOTE: It is possible that the MWMA Board of Directors may be utilizing an electronic meeting component with one or more of their members.

In Attendance: Steve Barnes, Lois Bobo, Nelson Altamirano, Andrew Marx

Excused: Corbin White

Others in Attendance: Brandon Fairbanks, Angie Johnson, Dawn Kawaguchi, Rebecca Akester, Becca Bumgarner, Royce Van Tassell

*Founded upon Montessori philosophy, the mission of **Mountain West Montessori Academy** is to facilitate student-centered learning and intellectual curiosity through an individualized and interdisciplinary curriculum, hands-on experience, and community involvement.*

MINUTES

2018-2019 BOARD PRIORITIES

Non-Cognitive Assessment
Implementing Professional Development
Safety in School

6:07 PM – INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

- Call to Order – Steve Barnes
- School Mission – Steve
- *Montessori Minutes* – Ms. Rebecca & Ms. Becca run the Shakespeare Club, an after-school club. Students from 6th through 9th grade can participate in this club. It starts September and runs through April. It's a pretty intense club. They start off understanding who Shakespeare is. They also read and study his plays. There's actually a list of items that they have to do. In April, they perform a Shakespeare play. Some of the older students help direct as well. They have done Twelfth Night set in the 50's and Much Ado About Nothing set in a modern Hollywood. This year they are doing Midsummer Night's Dream set in the 20's in New Orleans. They are partnering this year with Riverton Arts Council so that they use their costumes and theatre. By doing this, students are also being mentored by the folks who run the arts council on how run the lighting, sound, projection, etc. Ms. Rebecca and Ms. Becca are being mentored by directors and producers from the arts council that will help them become more professional. Our community comes together because the parents get involve and we have alumni coming back to help with directing and stage crew. The culmination of this whole project is that in July this group goes to the

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Shakespeare Festival. Students have to earn this trip by checking off their list of items. Some of those items are memorizing a monologue, performing in a play, host a parent night, etc. They invited the board to come out and join them (April 12-13). This year they have also partnered with Paradigm High and their (13) member Jazz Band will be a part of the play. There are (24) students in the club but there are some students who were going to be out of town. They are still participating but will not be in the play.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Royce Van Tassell, UAPCS Executive Director, informed the board about the annual conference that will be held June 12-13. He invited the board, administration and teachers. They are offering scholarships for schools this year. State Night will be on Tuesday, July 2nd during the National Conference. They have rented out one of the raceways and will do go-cart races and have dinner.

REPORTS

➤ **Director**

- State of the School – Angie Johnson reviewed the board priorities and updated the board on what she has done in those areas since last month.
 - ✓ Non-Cognitive Assessment
 - ★ MEFS (Minnesota Executive Function Scale): We will begin re-assessing first graders the end of April, first of May. We will be looking at the progress of their executive functioning skills.
 - ✓ Schoolwide Safety
 - ★ Drop off and Pick up is going well with an occasional bump
 - ★ Building is very safe with new security features in place
 - ★ Aggressive Intruder Drill: teachers running individual classroom practice, moving to school-wide in April/May
 - ★ Schoolwide Safety survey will be going out this week
 - ★ Mental health
 - ★ Trauma informed care
 - ◆ ACES study [Adverse Childhood Experiences]
 - ◆ Teacher professional development to raise awareness and focus on de-escalation skills, relationship building; positive childhood experiences and unconditional positive regard
 - ✓ Instructional Coaching
 - ★ Mentoring & coaching of teachers: preliminary plan for next year
 - ★ Formal teacher observations
 - ✓ Highlighting a Current Strength
 - ★ Staff Retention
 - ✓ Highlighting a Recent Challenge
 - ★ SpEd Placement Continuum – Angie is looking into adding some extra space for classrooms.

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Brandon asked Royce to review HB120 regarding student safety. He stated that this bill started at school safety that was focused on hardening school safety. Royce also mentioned that HB373 would apply to the school for counselors designed to make sure that schools have resources for mental health needs. He believes that the funds will be distributed on a grant basis that has a criterion attached to it but should be available to all LEA's. Nelson stated that in the past the parents received an email regarding child abuse training that he took that was really good. He recommended that Angie send out something on ACEs.

➤ **Board of Directors**

- Financial Review – Andrew Marx reviewed the financials as of February 28th. Not much has changed since last month. We are in a good position. He did state that there are a few areas that are higher than originally anticipated. However, the board has been notified of the reasons that they are higher than budgeted. He also stated that these are areas that they will be looking at when they are building next year's budget.

BOARD TRAINING

- Annual LAND Trust Training – Brandon Fairbanks stated that all charter board chairs received an email from the state regarding SLT training. It is required annually to have training on LAND Trust. Brandon outlined the LAND trust program history and background, charter SLT council requirements, board responsibilities, and deadlines. He also gave the board members a link to watch the 20-minute YouTube video.

Steve Barnes made a motion to approve the CONSENT ITEMS. Lois Bobo seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

- Approve February 25, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes
- Approve Amended 2018-2019 School Calendar – Snow Day

BUSINESS ITEMS (To Be Discuss and/or Voted On)

- Discuss and Vote on 2019-2020 School LAND Trust Plan – Angie Johnson reviewed the 2019-20 SLT plan in which they are receiving \$59,701. The plan is very similar to the current year with some additional items with the increase in funds. We have two goals. The first goal to increase our reading proficiency in grades K-6 by 2% as measured by DIBELS. Funds will be used on staff salaries for pull-outs with students and additional materials as well as professional development for teachers. The second goal is to increase math proficiency by 2% in grades 3-9 as measured by RISE scores. Funds will be used on staff salaries for intervention and enrichment instruction. This will increase intervention staffing hours from the current year. **Lois Bobo made a motion to approve the School LAND Trust Plan as presented. Nelson Altamirano seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**
- Discuss and Vote on the SLT Committee Membership – Full disclosure, Angie stated that the parent chair just moved to Hawaii but we have already had the meeting and the plan has already been voted on. **Lois Bobo made a motion to approve the School LAND**

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Trust committee membership as presented. Andrew Marx seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

- ***Discuss and Vote on 2019-2020 School Fee Schedule*** – Angie Johnson reviewed the 2019-20 school fee schedule. The fees are going well so there aren't many changes. She would like to have either a computer science or robotics class but currently Angie is still looking to hire a teacher for this elective – possibly a parent. There was a discussion on other alternatives of teaching this type of class. Lois asked about the percentage of fee waivers for the school. Royce added some information on qualifications for fee waivers that is currently on hold with the legislature awaiting more information. There was a discussion on how an afterschool program fee would affect the school's budget if they were eligible for a waiver. There will most likely be an amendment to the fee schedule once Angie knows what the cost for the club travel. **Andrew Marx made a motion to approve the 2019-2020 school fee schedule as proposed. Lois Bobo seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

OTHER BUSINESS ITEMS

- **Calendaring – ALL**
- April Pre-Board Meeting – April 10th
 - Next Board Meeting – April 22nd
 - May 20th regular Board Meeting or possible electronic meeting
 - Annual Board Meeting – June 24th (Strategic Planning) – Lois is teaching a class until 5 at Westminster.

7:26 PM – Lois Bobo made a motion to enter into a CLOSED SESSION to discuss an individual's character, professional competence, or physical or mental health pursuant to Utah Code 52-4-205(1) (a) located in the MWMA library. Steve Barnes seconded the motion.

The votes were as follows:

Steve Barnes – Aye

Nelson Altamirano – Aye

Lois Bobo – Aye

Andrew Marx – Aye

Motion passed unanimously.

7:35 PM – Steve Barnes made a motion to exit the CLOSED SESSION and ADJOURN. Lois Bobo seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

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