

# Mountain West Montessori Academy

## Board Meeting Minutes

### Monday, August 24, 2020

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



**In Attendance:** Steve Barnes, Corbin White, Lois Bobo (via Zoom), Nelson Altamirano (6:35 p.m.)

**Excused:** Andrew Marx

**Others in Attendance:** Angie Johnson, Cathie Hurst (via Zoom), Dawn Kawaguchi, Brandon Fairbanks

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

*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

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### 2020-2021 BOARD PRIORITIES

High Standard Cleanliness  
Improve Mental Health & Safety of Student & Staff  
Improve Literacy Instruction & Outcomes

### 6:19 PM – INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

- Call to Order – Steve Barnes
- School Mission – Corbin

**There was no PUBLIC COMMENT.**

### REPORTS

#### ➤ Director

- State of the School – Angie Johnson reviewed the board priorities.
  - ✓ High Standard of Cleanliness & Compliance with Pandemic Guidelines
    - ★ In-House custodial – our school has never been cleaner
    - ★ New cleaning equipment
    - ★ Sanitizing – especially high contact areas
    - ★ The Trifecta: Physical Distancing, Masks, Handwashing
    - ★ Maximum students in a classroom at any given time is 12
  - ✓ Maintain and Improve Mental Health and Safety of Students and Staff

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- ★ MS Houses – Building Community (Greek Mythology Gods & Goddesses Houses – i.e. House Athena)
- ★ Social Emotional Check-ins
- ★ Terrace Metrics: Tier 1 Behavior Health Tool
- ✓ Continue Improvement of Literacy Instruction and Outcomes
  - ★ Soft start and DIBELS data
  - ★ Reading Endorsement:
    - ⌘ Third course starts September 11<sup>th</sup> (moving online due to COVID): Reading Assessments and Instructional Interventions
    - ⌘ Retaining teachers despite COVID
    - ⌘ Upcoming winter course: K-12 Literacy Practices and Processes
- ✓ Highlighting a Current Strength
  - ★ Staffing: New faculty members & para-educators (review of new staff members)
- ✓ Highlighting a Current Challenge
  - ★ Enrollment, the pandemic and exit survey. Angie reviewed the exit survey results for students who have withdrawn.
- ✓ We have 90 students who are doing online only. Angie reviewed their online plan.
- ✓ Review and discussion of a positive case of COVID plan
- ✓ Discussion on the how the teachers and staff are feeling with the current reopening plan.
- ✓ Review of Technology purchases. Angie has ordered more Chromebook with CARES funding, but they are on backorder
- ✓ Review of Food Services routine
- ✓ Expanding of Social & Emotional check ins

➤ **Board of Directors**

- Financial Review – Cathie Hurst stated that the financials are what was sent out the board on the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month. This statement isn’t indicative of the actual due to salaries for last year. Cathie reviewed the “hold harmless” for the October 1 count if the numbers are down but the local replacement is not a part of the “hold harmless”.

**BOARD TRAINING**

- Annual Policies, Procedures, & Plans Training/Review – Brandon Fairbanks reviewed the policies, procedures and plans that are required to review annually. We will not be doing the Open and Public Meetings Act training since we knew Andrew wasn’t going to be here. We will do that once he’s back. He reviewed the Attendance Policy (& Procedures), Sex Education Instruction Policy (& Procedures), and Arrest Reporting Policy (& Procedures).

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**Nelson Altamirano made motion to approve the CONSENT ITEMS. Corbin White seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

- July 23, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes

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

- *Discuss & Vote on Amended Civil Rights Policy* – Brandon Fairbanks reviewed the amended Civil Rights Policy. New federal regulations for Title IX require amendments to the Civil Rights Policy. Title IX of the federal Civil Rights Act prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs that receive federal funding. **Corbin White made a motion to approve the amended Civil Rights Policy. Steve Barnes seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**
- *Discuss & Vote on Amended Fee Waiver Policy* – Brandon Fairbanks reviewed the amended Fee Waiver Policy. The changes to the policy mostly involve revising and adding definitions of different kinds of items and activities that will help in administering the policy and determining what fees can and cannot be charged. **Steve Barnes made a motion to approve the amended Fee Waiver Policy. Corbin White seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**
- *Discuss & Vote on Amended Student Conduct & Discipline Policy* – Brandon Fairbanks reviewed the amended Student Conduct & Discipline Policy. State law has changed to require new provisions to the Student Conduct & Discipline Policy concerning discipline for student use or possession of electronic cigarette products. **Nelson Altamirano made a motion to approve the amended Student Conduct & Discipline Policy. Corbin White seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**
- *Discuss & Vote to Re-Approve Wellness Policy* – Brandon Fairbanks stated that this is one of the policies that needs to be reviewed annually and re-approved every three years even if it doesn't get changed. Angie stated that the Wellness committee hasn't reviewed this for the current year. She said that it's a really good policy that we pretty much stick to it. Angie is recommending that the board re-approve it and when the committee meets if they have any changes she'll bring it back to the board. **Steve Barnes made a motion to re-approve the Wellness Policy should there be any amendments that the wellness committee wants to make they can bring it back to board for consideration. Corbin White seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**
- *Discuss & Vote on MWMA-Specific Licenses for Sara Miller, Hilary Williams, Kimberleigh Collins-Peynaud* – Angie Johnson stated that the state licensing has changed a lot. She reviewed previous educator licenses. They now only have three licenses available for educators. This new LEA-Specific educator license puts the responsibility on the school and is specific to our school. The people who Angie is recommending for these licenses are for teachers who are only teaching one class a day in their content area (background) but do not have the education background. There was a discussion on hiring teachers without a bachelor's degree in their subject and how many courses that Hilary has in art. **Steve Barnes made a motion to approve the request for 3 years an MWMA-specific educator license for Sarah Miller, Hilary Williams, and Kimberleigh Collins-Peynaud. Corbin White seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

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## **OTHER BUSINESS ITEMS**

- Calendaring – ALL
  - October Pre-Board Meeting – October 14<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30 p.m.
  - Next Board Meeting – October 26<sup>th</sup>
- REMINDER: Online Introductory Training for School Board Members

**7:37 PM – Corbin White made a motion to ADJOURN. Nelson Altamirano seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

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