

Mountain West Montessori Academy Annual Board Meeting Agenda Monday, June 22, 2020

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, Corbin White

Excused: Andrew Marx

Others in Attendance: Dawn Kawaguchi, Brandon Fairbanks, Angie Johnson, Cathie Hurst

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

2019-2020 BOARD PRIORITIES

Professional Development for Trauma Informed School
Improve Student Physical Health
Expand Literacy Pedagogy

6:14 PM – Call to Order – *Steve Barnes stated that the anchor location is the school library, but the majority of the attendees are joining this meeting via Zoom.*

- School Mission – Steve

There was no PUBLIC COMMENT.

REPORTS

- **Director's Report** – Angie Johnson reviewed the board priorities.
 - Professional Development of Trauma Informed Practice
 - ✓ All training is complete
 - ✓ This has helped with the current tragedy the school has faced
 - ✓ Will be doing a training at the Utah Montessori Conference
 - Improve Student Physical Health
 - ✓ Four Square, “9 Square in the Air” game, nutrition lesson pilot, MS Kiva Talks & Electives
 - ✓ Resilience: a key topic
 - Expand Literacy Pedagogy

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- ✓ Two courses completed
- ✓ Five teachers from nearby schools have joined
- ✓ Upcoming fall course: Reading Assessments & Instructional Interventions
- ✓ Upcoming winter course: K-12 Literacy Practices & Processes
- Review of Parent Survey
 - ✓ Comparison from 2016-2017 through 2019-2020
- Overview of Enrollment/Lottery
 - ✓ Current enrollment today is 486
- 9th Grade “Drive By” video
- Review of County Data Regarding Teen Pregnancy, Child Sexual Abuse, Sexually Transmitted Disease & Infections, and Number of Pornography Complaints
- Celebrating the Lives of Ezra and Seth
- Recommended Board Priorities
 - ✓ Achieve a high standard of school cleanliness and compliance with state pandemic guidelines
 - ★ Hire in-house custodians
 - ★ Purchase needed cleaning supplies
 - ★ Follow phased plan for cleaning
 - ✓ Focus on maintaining and improving mental health and safety of students and staff
 - ★ Structured
 - ★ Assessing needs
 - ★ Re-Establish an MWMA community
 - ✓ Improve literacy instruction & outcomes
 - ★ Continue to increase
- *Review TSI Plan for School Improvement* – Due to the fact that we have no data for RISE the plan will stay the same. Angie reviewed the TSI Plan for school improvement. Our targeted student population in the areas of Hispanic students, economically disadvantaged students, and students with disabilities who were underperforming. Angie reported that the students with disabilities have received the highest scores from the state on how the SpEd program is doing so she hopes that the data will follow academically. Through the distance learning we paid close attention to our economically disadvantaged students to make sure that they had Chromebooks, access, were being reached out to and even provided hot spots. Marianne has been reaching out to all students but especially checking in with the Hispanic students talking with them on their educational plan on the career and counseling side as well as their grades. It was going very well but we won’t see how that worked out this year. There were no questions from the board.

CONSENT ITEMS

- April 27, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes
- April 27, 2019 Closed Session Affidavit

Lois Bobo made a motion to approve the CONSENT ITEMS. Corbin White seconded the motion. The votes were as follows:

Steve Barnes – Aye

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Lois Bobo – Aye
Nelson Altamirano – Aye
Corbin White – Aye

Motion passed unanimously.

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

- *Discuss and Vote on 2019-2020 Final Amended Budget* – Cathie Hurst reviewed final amended budget. We build this budget on 489 students but for the final budget Cathie took what the actual monthly allotment was based on (503 students) and based the budget on those numbers. The preliminary budget was created on the legislative estimates which was 504 students. The stated recommended that we stay with flat revenues when we created the budget. They did cut some programs but there was a small WPU increase. We will just see how everything lands. Cathie pointed out that by bonding the school has received a huge savings due to this compared to next years “debt services & misc.” category. Because of the bonds, the school is required to have restricted cash and that needed to be funded this year (currently \$538k) but it shows up in your net cash. Angie does an amazing job by providing for the students and teachers but yet being very careful with resources. And because of the bonding, Angie was able to give substantial raises to her teachers up to more competitive salaries with surrounding schools/districts. Next year, we are projecting a surplus of over a \$400k but we don’t know how that will work out. Angie thanked the board for deciding to bond and the perfect timing that it happened. **Lois Bobo made a motion to approve the amended final budget for the 2019-2020 school year. Nelson Altamirano seconded the motion. The votes were as follows:**

Steve Barnes – Aye
Lois Bobo – Aye
Nelson Altamirano – Aye
Corbin White – Aye

Motion passed unanimously.

- *Discuss and Vote on 2020-2021 Annual Budget* – Cathie stated that she doesn’t have anything more to add but we budgeted on flat revenues. We will have to just see how things shake out in November once we get counts. Lois asked how moving the janitorial in house will affect the budget due to the extra COVID cleaning. Angie will need to buy the equipment which may take a little more money from the budget but otherwise it shouldn’t affect the budget too much. We will be able to use some of the food service budget because one employee will be cleaning in the lunchroom. **Steve Barnes made a motion to approve the proposed annual operating budget for the 2020-2021 school year. Lois Bobo seconded the motion. The votes were as follows:**

Steve Barnes – Aye
Corbin White – Aye
Nelson Altamirano – Aye
Lois Bobo – Aye

Motion passed unanimously.

- *Discuss and Vote on 2020-2021 TSSA Plan* – Angie Johnson stated that without RISE assessment we didn’t have any data. There isn’t a lot that we can show progress on. We will be keeping the same goals from last year. Angie reviewed the goals which are to

increase LA scores by 2% points and math scores by 1% point compared to the prior year's proficiency scores according to Acadeince reading and RISE test data. **Lois Bobo made a motion to approve the proposed 2020-2021 TSSA Plan. Nelson Altamirano seconded the motion. The votes were as follows:**

Lois Bobo – Aye

Nelson Altamirano – Aye

Steve Barnes – Aye

Corbin White – Did not cast a vote

Motion passed with a majority vote.

- *Discuss and Vote on Sex Ed Instruction Committee* – Angie Johnson stated that the board is supposed to review and approve the membership of the Sex Ed Instruction Committee. There are seven parents, Ms. Angie, the PE teacher and Ms. Marianne. There was a discussion on the make-up of the committee. Angie stated that there is diversity and different opinions from liberal to conservative. Because you can opt out of any topic, the committee has chosen to have all sections of the sex ed chapter be taught because they believe that it's the parent's choice on whether or not the student should be able to participate. **Lois Bobo made a motion to approve the 2020-2021 Sex Ed Curriculum Committee Membership as presented. Nelson Altamirano seconded the motion. The votes were as follows:**

Lois Bobo – Aye

Nelson Altamirano – Aye

Corbin White – Aye

Steve Barnes – Aye

Motion passed unanimously.

- *Discuss and Vote on SCSB Distance Program Form* – Angie Johnson reviewed the State Charter School Board Distance Program form. Originally the school did not elect online learning. With COVID-19 the SCSB has waived that to allow all charter schools for the next couple of years as long as we submit the Distance Program form. The key elements are as follow:

1. Implementation of the Montessori educational model;
2. Facilitation of individualized, student-centered learning, intellectual curiosity, and student independence;
3. Implementation of remote learning platforms, such as Google Classroom, Imagine Learning Language and Math, ALEKS, etc., to ensure access to and usage of standards-based curricula and submission of assignments

Angie also reviewed her re-entry rubric on how MWMA will handle each color (i.e. red, orange, yellow and green). Angie Johnson stated that the accompanying administrative procedures will state how you will be taking roll for those students who are on distance learning. There was a discussion on what needed to be approved on the re-entry plan. **Lois Bobo made a motion to approve the State Charter School Board Distance Program Form and the accompany plan for student reentry in the fall. Corbin White seconded the motion. The votes were as follows:**

Lois Bobo – Aye

Corbin White – Aye

Nelson Altamirano – Aye

Steve Barnes – Aye

Motion passed unanimously.

- *Discuss and Vote on Continuing Enrollment Policy* – There was no further discussion. See above for the discussion. **Lois Bobo made a motion to approve the Continuing Enrollment Policy. Steve Barnes seconded the motion. The votes were as follows:**

Lois Bobo – Aye

Steve Barnes – Aye

Corbin White – Aye

Nelson Altamirano – Aye

Motion passed unanimously.

- *Discuss and Vote on Budgeting Policy* – Angie Johnson reviewed the Budgeting Policy. This is something that Angie has been doing since the school started. This policy is required for the annual assurances. It is submitted though Utah Grants and the link to the policy just needs to be included. There was a discussion on the different assurances that are required by the school. **Steve Barnes made a motion to approve the Budgeting Policy. Lois Bobo seconded the motion. The votes were as follows:**

Steve Barnes – Aye

Lois Bobo – Aye

Corbin White – Aye

Nelson Altamirano – Aye

Motion passed unanimously.

- *Discuss and Vote on LEA-Specific Educator License Policy* – Angie Johnson reviewed the LEA-Specific Educator License Policy. This policy will allow the MWMA board to grant a license to a person in their content area of expertise for three years that Angie recommends. This helps teachers to get a professional license. Angie has also joined a consortium with four other charter schools to offer the alternate licensure program where we review transcripts and recommend coursework etc. They have formulated an associate program and submitted an application to be able to do this and they are just waiting for it to be approved. Angie stated that Ms. Sara has been on eminence through USBE because she has the drama background but does not have a teaching degree. Angie may be recommending her to the board for a LEA specific educator license. There was a discussion on APPEL (alternate pathway to professional educator's license). **Steve Barnes made a motion to approve the LEA-Specific Educator License Policy. Nelson Altamirano seconded the motion. The votes were as follows:**

Steve Barnes – Aye

Nelson Altamirano – Aye

Corbin White – Aye

Lois Bobo – Aye

Motion passed unanimously.

- *Discuss and Vote on Student Education Plan Policy* – Angie Johnson reviewed the Student Education Plan Policy. This policy is in conjunction with the comprehensive guidance program. It outlines what we have been doing for the last two year. **Nelson Altamirano made a motion to approve the Student Education Plan Policy. Lois Bobo seconded the motion. The votes were as follows:**

Nelson Altamirano – Aye

**Lois Bobo – Aye
Corbin White – Aye
Steve Barnes – Aye**

Motion passed unanimously.

8:13 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) via Zoom. Corbin White seconded the motion. The votes were as follows:

**Lois Bobo – Aye
Corbin White – Aye
Nelson Altamirano – Aye
Steve Barnes – Aye**

Motion passed unanimously.

8:37 PM – Lois Bobo made a motion to exit the CLOSED SESSION. Corbin White seconded the motion. The votes were as follows:

**Lois Bobo – Aye
Corbin White – Aye
Nelson Altamirano – Aye
Steve Barnes – Aye**

Motion passed unanimously.

BUSINESS ITEMS (Continued)

- *Ratify Board Members and Their Terms*– There was no further discussion. **Steve Barnes made a motion to Andrew Marx for a new 3-year term to expire June 2023 and the board officers currently serving in their positions to continue on for the next year. Lois Bobo seconded the motion. The votes were as follows:**

**Steve Barnes – Aye
Lois Bobo – Aye
Nelson Altamirano – Aye
Corbin White – Aye**

Motion passed unanimously.

- *Nominate and Elect Board Officers* – There was no further discussion. See above for motion.
- *Overview of Costa Rica scholarship funds and discussion of these monies in light of the trip cancellation* – Angie Johnson stated that since they canceled the Costa Rica trip, there are students that were awarded scholarships attached to money for the trip. She would like those students to be able to keep their scholarships. Lois would like there to be a stipulation that they continue to keep their GPA up. There was a discussion on if there would be more money for scholarships. This is all contingent on COVID.

BOARD TRAINING & PLANNING

- *Annual Fraud Risk Assessment & Statement of Ethical Behavior* – Cathie Hurst reviewed the Fraud Risk Assessment. This is new from the Office of the State Auditor. The board

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scored 355 which is low risk. Dawn will send out the statement of ethical behavior through DocuSign and an email with the online training information. Dawn will also send out the link to the online training that each board member will be required to take every four years. When you are done taking the test, you will receive a certificate. Please send a copy of this certificate into Cathie or Dawn. The ethical behavior form will need to be signed annually.

- *Recommended Goals* – Angie Johnson already reviewed her recommended goals in her Director’s Report earlier in the meeting. She asked for feedback from the board. There were some suggestions on what other addition to add under the cleanliness goal. There was also discussion on training and maybe adding child pornography for families, domestic violence with the kids being home, and physical fitness at home. Angie will be purchasing “Go Guardian” for the school computers to help with overwatch of students traffic.
- *Goals & Priorities* – Angie will add something about online safety

OTHER BUSINESS ITEMS

- *Set 2020-2021 Annual Board Meeting Schedule* – Dawn reviewed the board meeting schedule for next year. It’s the same dates except for the November electronic meeting and the holiday social will be in December without a meeting.
- *Calendar*ing – ALL
 - August Pre-Board Meeting – August 12th @ 5:00 p.m.
 - Next Board Meeting – August 24th

9:19 PM – Nelson Altamirano made a motion to ADJOURN. Corbin White seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.