

Mountain West Montessori Academy

Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 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: Corbin White, Steve Barnes (via phone), Nelson Altamirano, Andrew Marx

Excused: Lois Bobo

Others in Attendance: Angie Johnson, Sheri Ebert, Brandon Fairbanks, Cathie Hurst, Dawn Kawaguchi, Chris Bleak (6:31 p.m. via phone)

*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

6:11 PM – INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

- Call to Order – Corbin White
- School Mission – Corbin
- Montessori Minutes – Angie wanted to recap the binary tower that was presented last month since the board members that are here today weren't here last month. The binary tower is used to teach numbers to preschoolers. The towers start with one ball fitting in it then each tower doubles its capacity for each ascending tower thereafter. After choosing the number 17, Angie filled (16) tower and the (1) tower with balls. If the tower is filled then the binary number is one. If the tower is empty, the binary number is zero. The binary number for 17 is 10001. Angie has seven tower sets. They have one for each lower el class. The second concept that Angie demonstrated was taking fractions and changing them to improper fractions using manipulatives.

There was no PUBLIC COMMENT.

REPORTS

- **Board of Directors**
 - Financial Review – Andrew Marx reviewed the financials as of January 31st.

NOTE: Times on this agenda are estimated as a courtesy only. Actual times may vary.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing accommodations for this meeting should call Dawn Kawaguchi at (801) 444-9378 to make appropriate arrangements.

- Finalize Building Finance Committee – Steve Barnes stated that last month we didn't have all board members to make the full committee and we didn't want to volunteer anyone who wasn't present. Brandon added that we already have Nelson and Angie on the building finance committee and Angie and Lois on the ESP procurement committee. Andrew is not allowed to be on the building finance committee so Corbin volunteered to be on the building finance committee. Andrew will be on the ESP procurement committee. There was a brief discussion on how many proposals are typically submitted.
- Finalize ESP Procurement Committee – See above for discussion and decision on this item.

➤ **Academica West**

- Legislative Update – Chris Bleak called in to give a legislative update. He highlighted the legislature as of the end of last week. The revenue estimate is \$1.1 billion for the fiscal year. The majority of the surplus money is coming in from the income tax fund. Some of the hot issues that would impact charter schools that Chris discussed were sales tax modernization which would change the way they tax services; increase of local replacement funds that comes in lieu of property tax; school districts are pushing for increased money for building safety (harden your school building) which charter schools should get some funding; modifying USBE's stance on one end to end business system; and school fees (appropriate guard rails to assess fees and fee waivers). Angie asked about the changes with the gas tax. Chris gave a brief summary on the gas tax issue but he doesn't feel like this will impact charters too much. Steve asked about how the legislature feels about charter schools because of the recent exposure on Channel 2. Chris replied that it really hasn't been much of an impact with the legislatures. He credits this to the work that Royce has been doing for charters in the past two years. However, we should still stay vigilant on this type of exposure. There was a discussion on the success of the Charter Day on the Hill. *Chris Bleak was excused at 6:51 p.m.* There was a brief discussion on the impact that the sales tax modernization has affected schools in Arizona with Corbin's work since Arizona has adopted this. Schools are not exempt from service tax.

➤ **Director**

- State of the School – Angie Johnson and Sheri Ebert reviewed the board priorities and updated the board on what they have been doing in these areas since last month.
 - ✓ Non-Cognitive Assessment
 - ★ Executive function: Mental flexibility/cognitive flexibility
 - ★ Higher Order Executive Function Skills: Reasoning, Problem-Solving, Planning
 - ★ Body Control
 - ⌘ Review of Capstone Guide
 - ✓ Schoolwide Safety
 - ★ Aggressive Intruder Drill
 - ⌘ Review of Procedures

NOTE: Times on this agenda are estimated as a courtesy only. Actual times may vary.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing accommodations for this meeting should call Dawn Kawaguchi at (801) 444-9378 to make appropriate arrangements.

- ✓ Instructional Coaching
 - ★ Mentoring & coaching of teachers: collaborating with a master teacher, goal-setting, consultation, modeling, feedback, evaluation
 - ★ Review of how the coaching has thrived to what it is today. This has been an amazing process.
- ✓ Highlighting a Current Strength
 - ★ Student Data Security
 - ⌘ Taking steps to encrypt emails with student data
- ✓ Highlighting a Recent Challenge
 - ★ DIBELS progress monitoring
- Discuss Possible Club Travel Board Scholarship Fund – Angie Johnson wanted to bring this to the board to see if they would want to sponsor a board scholarship for Club Travel. It would be specifically for students who have a financial need. These students would have to apply for a scholarship. Angie would like a committee to have a process in place with parameters. There was discussion on the pros of doing this. Since school fees are still being worked out in the legislature, they won't be able to move forward on this until that has been decided but Angie will start the process on this and bring ideas to the next meeting.

Steve Barnes made a motion to approve the CONSENT ITEMS with the correction of the year 2019. Andrew Marx seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

- Approve January 28, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes

OTHER BUSINESS ITEMS

- Calendaring – ALL
 - March Pre-Board Meeting – March 13th
 - Next Board Meeting – March 25th
 - Reschedule May 20th Board Meeting (Strategic Planning) – if possible

7:46 PM – Andrew Marx made a motion to ADJOURN. Nelson Altamirano and Steve Barnes seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. (Duration 1:36:01)

NOTE: Times on this agenda are estimated as a courtesy only. Actual times may vary.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing accommodations for this meeting should call Dawn Kawaguchi at (801) 444-9378 to make appropriate arrangements.