

MCPM Board of Directors Agenda

Mission: Mountain City Public Montessori provides equitable access to a high-quality, relevant Montessori education to meet the needs of all students and to strengthen our community.

Vision: At Mountain City Public Montessori, we believe all students deserve access to a quality education that affirms each individual and enhances the collective by giving them an opportunity to practice living in and contributing to a more just society.

DATE	MEETING NAME
8/16/2023 - 2nd August Board Meeting	
ATTENDEES—MCPM Board of Directors	
Present: Wren Cook Dawn Meskil Lara Lustig Sasha Skau Aaron Brumo Stella Plato Maegan Brown Jaclyn Farley	Absent: Jerick Wilson
ATTENDEES—Others	
Brittany Wager - Operations Director Rachael Shaw Marshall - Curriculum Director	

TIME	CALL TO ORDER
5:33 pm	Called to order by: Wren Roll Call Quorum (need 5/9): We have 8 out of 9 board members, and thus a quorum Reading of Mission Statement - Jaclyn Reading of Ethics Statement - Dawn Reading of the Pledge to the Earth - Aaron

	APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES
5:38 pm	<p>Wren moves to adopt the agenda for tonight's (8/16) meeting. With no amendments, the agenda will run as stated.</p> <p>Wren moves to approve the 8/2/23 meeting minutes. Sasha seconds. With no corrections, the minutes stand approved.</p>
	PUBLIC COMMENT
5:39 pm	<p style="text-align: center;">If you would like to submit public comments please email info@mountaincitypublic.org by noon on the day of the meeting with a request to speak in person or with text of comments to be submitted to the public record. In accordance with open meeting laws, a meeting schedule with a link to live stream is on our website at: https://mountaincitypublic.org/our-school/board/board-meetings/</p> <p style="text-align: center;">No public comment for tonight's meeting.</p>
	DIRECTORS SHARE
5:40 pm	<p>Curriculum Director:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Good News/Highlights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We have a great staff! ● Staff/Human Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We lost our nurse/custodian we are also looking for a PE teacher. ● Professional Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Elizabeth Slade is with the teachers in person this week. ● Preparation of the Environment progress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The classrooms are coming together. On Friday morning, Little Grove Students will come to see the school, the MCPM families will come that evening. ○ Thank you to everyone who helped with the playground. ● Shared Leadership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Leadership Delineation of Roles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Created this document to share with staff so that they can know who to go to when they have questions. ○ Organizational Chart <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Provides clarity on how reporting works within the staff ○ Conversations around shared leadership went over well. Teachers felt energized and excited for what is ahead. <p>Operations and Finance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Good News/Highlights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ After receiving ECO we have received a portion of our state funding to tide us over until the state approves the budget: \$136,000

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Enrollment Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Currently at 105, one 1st grade spot pending ● Budget Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Acadia is entering our initial expenses and I should have balance sheets to share in future board meetings. ○ Still lots of unknowns until the state approves budget ● Facility/Transportation Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Have a bus driver, narrowing down on the bus, have carpools arranged for students.
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SHARE	
5:53 pm	<p>Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Thank you for the staff lunch, snacks, and beautiful staff room. ● Meet the Teacher Open House: Friday 4:00 to 6:00 pm (drop in), please join us! ● First Day of School Celebration and Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Board members arrive at 7:30-7:40 am with welcome signs and shirts ● Park at Trinity ● Hand out MCPM magnets
OLD BUSINESS	
6:01 pm	<p>ACTION: Revised Vision Statement</p> <p style="color: blue;"><i>At Mountain City Public Montessori, we believe all students deserve access to a quality education that affirms each individual and enhances the collective by giving them an opportunity to practice living in and contributing to a more just society.</i></p> <p>Lara moves to adopt the revised vision statement (written above), Dawn seconds. The board votes to unanimously approve the revised vision statement.</p>
6:03 pm	<p>ACTION: 2023-24 Board Meeting Schedule Proposal</p> <p>Proposal: 1st Wednesday work session at 7:00pm (virtual) and 3rd Wednesday regular meeting at 5:30 pm (in-person with a virtual option).</p> <p>Aaron moves to adopt the revised meeting schedule, Lara seconds.</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lara wants to clarify that public comment will be open for both meetings. <p>Wren moves to amend the original motion to include that both meetings each month will continue to have the option for public comment. Lara seconds.</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● With no further discussion, we move to vote.

<p>6:11 pm</p>	<p>VOTE: We are voting to change the board schedule for this academic year to be 1st Wednesday work session at 7:00pm (virtual) and 3rd Wednesday regular meeting at 5:30 pm (in-person with a virtual option). Both meetings will include the option for public comment.</p> <p>With unanimous approval, the motion passes.</p> <p>The executive committee will be working to make the agendas different for these meetings and will share as we finalize the meeting templates and reporting best practices.</p> <p>ACTION: Committee Restructuring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Proposal to add Communications and Marketing Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Board Committee Assignments <p>Wren moves to add a communication and marketing committee to our list of Board committees with the description to match the proposal above. Lara seconds.</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We have a volunteer who would like to chair this committee. There may be some shuffling of board members over to this committee. We do not need to have a board member chair, but do need to have a member on the committee so they can report. ● Sasha asks: how will this committee work with the staff and responsibilities divided? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Eventually, this will move to a staff position. ○ We will find out what the school can take on and then support as needed until it can fully move to staff. ● This committee will be creating a lot of materials that will be used by the board and school. ● There will be a lot of collaboration with other committees to be sure that our branding is consistent. <p>VOTE: We are voting to add a communication and marketing committee to our list of Board committees with the description to match the proposal above.</p> <p>With unanimous approval, the motion passes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Google calendar for committee and board meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Secretary will set up ○ Committee chairs to share their meeting times with Secretary
	<p>NEW BUSINESS</p>

6:20 pm

We have 30 minutes to discuss. Afterwards, further discussion and problem solving will go to the Executive Committee.

Transitioning to a Teacher-Led School (part 1)

- Visioning exercise:
 - Imagine it's the end of the first year, and it was INCREDIBLY successful! What did this success look like? What does it feel like? How did we as the board contribute to the amazing experience and outcomes for students, staff, families, volunteers, the board, and the wider community?
 - Lara sets up the visioning exercise and board members take 5-7 minutes to write down their thoughts before coming back together.
 - What are the things we feel, feel proud of:
 - Exhale, shoulders drop, we did it!, sense of community
 - Everyone feels safe and secure, families feel like they have a place in the school
 - Relief, pride, joy, and exhaustion
 - Families miss the school over the summer and want to come back
 - Strong positive connection to the larger community, in Asheville and the region, portrayed positively in the media as a great school that people want to come to
 - Children are happy and thriving, everyone is challenged but not overwhelmed and committed and proud
 - Staff and families that want to return, students feel that they have learned and grown Reflective practice
 - Want to see what was created shared in other communities, a foundation for something special
 - Overall feeling of kindness and warmth
 - Strong school community identity, sense of belonging
 - Strong independent learners
 - Lots of press coverage
 - What role did we play
 - We made intentional change and shifting, growing, moving to match and reflect to match the school community
 - We got lots of money throughout the year, so we have financial security
 - Cultivated strong intentional ties to the community
 - Clear plan for growth and how we will get there and finding funding sources for that growth
 - We (board) participated in school events and know the staff and families
 - Our committees are stacked with great people (families and community)
 - Throughout the year we constantly assessed and reassessed our privilege and made sure everyone felt heard and supported

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Responded to peoples concerns, questions, suggestions and comments quickly even if just to connect them to someone else. ■ Built relationships with other charters to share resources ● What do we need to think about as we make this transition to a teacher-led school? ● To what degree does the board have power? ● What's going to be hard about this? ● Where will there be friction or conflict?
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COMMITTEE REPORTS	
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6:52 pm	<p>Community Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The new Community Engagement committee has not met yet. <p>Development and Grants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Met with a parent advisor to organize some information and input regarding grants and development. She knows some of the places we've applied to for grants and will follow up to get feedback. ● Figuring out the schedule to determine how the two committees work together and divide up duties. <p>Facility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ECO obtained ● Workday went well, was great to see the kids working together to build and improve the playground and outdoor space ● Keying, cleaning, hooks <p>Finance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● \$136,000 has been received from the state ● We are looking for additional lines of credit and funding options so that we feel stable. <p>Policy and Board Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Board Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ One person with priority experience expressed interest and has been given application ○ Continuing to work on further development of the board member term and recruitment procedures; hope to have an update at next board meeting ● Policy Manual organization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All approved policies and plans are organized in this folder as PDF documents; A Table of Contents is available in the folder for posting/navigation ○ Let us know if you notice any missing policies or have suggestions to
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	further streamline organization
	ANNOUNCEMENTS
6:59 pm	<p>Chipotle Fundraiser is a month away, please join us on September 13th from 4 - 8 pm at the Chipotle on Patton and mention MCPM.</p> <p>Online auction is coming up in October, it's never too early to start getting items!</p> <p>We need to clean the building, if you have time tomorrow, please stop by the school.</p> <p>Open house is Friday, August 18 from 4 - 6 pm.</p> <p>The first day of school is Tuesday, August 22nd, show up with a welcome sign and your shirt!</p> <p>Building Bridges is happening again in September, highly recommended!</p>
	ADJOURNMENT
7:03 pm	Wren adjourns the meeting.

Approved by the MCPM Board of Directors on 9/6/2023.