

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
10/18/2023 - Virtual Board Meeting	
ATTENDEES—MCPM Board of Directors	
Present: Wren Cook Dawn Meskil Lara Lustig 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
7:03 pm	Called to order by: Wren Roll Call Quorum (need 5/8): we have a quorum with 7 out of 8 board members Reading of Mission Statement ready by Dawn Meskil Reading of Ethics Statement read by Aaron Brumo Pledge to the Earth read by Maegan Brown
APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES	

- We will have a guest speaker in all rooms next week to offer child abuse prevention and personal safety with Mountain Child Advocacy Center
- Nautilus is being used in the classrooms with less calls to the Nautilus lead.
- Outcomes (observations and assessments)
 - Students are using conflict resolutions more with their peers
 - Students are feeling safe and comfortable enough to ask for help when needed
- Response to student needs
 - SEL lessons are being planned in response to the needs of students and observations of the staff

Budget/Financial Reports

- Have created a schedule with Acadia to have consolidated budgets ready for BoD review at the second meeting each month. Have reconciled July and August.
- Adjusting budget to remove purchases made prior to July (bulk of instructional materials for example). Currently have \$25k contingency. Should have new budget ready for review next month once we receive allotment guidance from DPI.

Human Resources

- Staff turnover/needs
 - New hire starts October 25
- Professional development
 - Purchased an assistant's training course for an assistant in Primary
 - Have a staff member who is interested in training to be a lead.

Good News Highlights

- We have completed our first three day weekend
- We have completed our first 8th week of school
- We passed our surprise fire inspection
- Elizabeth Slade observed engagement! She congratulated us on a job well done. We had a follow up meeting with her where she shared her observations and the team established year long goals. We set our goals in coaching, leading, and system of Justness.

Campus Grounds & Facilities

- Needs Attention - need to take down shades on playground, AC units need to be installed. We have one volunteer to help with this.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● General observations <p>Needed Policy & Procedure Changes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Need to add language to Winter clubs - if students are absent for the school day, please do not drop them off for clubs. <p>The Executive Committee is now meeting every other week and includes the chair, vice-chair, treasurer, secretary, and both directors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● This group is meeting every other Thursday for 2 hours to work collaboratively and direct questions. <p>Staff Retirement Plan (Lara/Brittany) - looking at Vanguard Simple IRA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Proposal: Retirement Account Options <p>Parental Leave (Brittany) - Information re: new legislation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Legislative update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Employees are entitled to up to eight weeks of paid parental leave after a baby is born and up to four weeks after adopting a child or becoming a foster parent. Part-time workers will also be eligible for parental leave. The amount they get will be based on a prorated share of the hours they work compared to full-time employees. Charter schools are not required to offer parental leave. But unless they opt in, charter schools won't be eligible for any of the \$10 million the state is providing to schools to hire substitute teachers to cover when educators are on parental leave. ● We have until Dec. 1st to opt in. ● This covers both the person having the baby and the other parent. There is also coverage relating to adoption. <p>Board Meeting Schedule/Calendar (Wren/Stella)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Apologies for the schedule confusion ● Executive Committee is still working towards a proposal for board meetings formats and times ● Agendas need to be posted 7 days prior to the board meeting according to our Reporting Policy and NC Open Meetings Law
	<p>OLD BUSINESS</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2023 SB49 Compliance Policies ● Notes from SB49 webinar with Lisa Gordon-Stella <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Are we ready to draft a statement to the community from the board of directors? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ DRAFT: MCPM Response to SB 49 ■ Policy committee will take this back and draft a short public statement to the community and a second more in-depth version for the parents that includes an invitation to join the

	<p>policy committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Information and responses from other schools: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Charlotte-Mecklenburg: Parents Bill of Rights / PARENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS OVERVIEW (cmsk12.org) ■ How do we feel about making this a resolution? ■ Here is an example of FDNSC response in May to proposed HB 187: FDNSC's Response to House Bill 187 - Francine Delany New School for Children ○ How do we involve and engage parents in this policy development? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Proposal to include our statement
	<p>NEW BUSINESS</p>
<p>8:55 pm</p>	<p>ACTION: Staff Retirement (Lara)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Proposal: Retirement account options ● Wren moves that we accept and approve the recommended Vanguard retirement plan for our staff until we are in a position to revisit it and figure out other options. Lara seconds. ● VOTE: The motion passed with unanimous approval from all present board members. <p>ACTION: Parental Leave</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Proposal: Information re: paid Parental Leave ● Maegan moves to opt into the paid parental leave plan with funding offered by the state. Aaron seconds. ● VOTE: The motion passed with unanimous approval from all present board members. ● Dawn recommends that the Policy and Board Development Committee draft a school policy that reflects the state policy and includes that the policy may be revisited if the state policy is no longer in effect or the funding is no longer available. <p>ACTION: Response to SB 49</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Proposal: Include this statement in the next community newsletter ● DRAFT: MCPM Response to SB 49 ● Wren made a motion that we will table this action item so that the suggestions from the board may be taken back to the committee. Stella seconds. ● VOTE: The motion passed with unanimous approval from all present board members.
	<p>COMMITTEE REPORTS</p>
	<p>Communications and Marketing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Communications and Marketing Committee Reports

	<p>Community Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee Report Template - Community Engagement • Committee has been meeting regularly now and also doing work asynchronously • We had two staff members attending the Rooted Gala in support of Christine W. Avery Learning Center and board members will be tabling the Fall Festival event on Saturday. • Land of Sky Foster Grandparent Program MOU has been signed and sent to LOS, will learn more once they process the MOU. <p>Development and Grants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Auction has about \$6,000 worth of in-kind donations, we are still accepting items. Please share the link and register to bid! <p>Facility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use Asheville App: https://iframe.publicstuff.com/#?client_id=819 to report the problem on Church Street that cars are going the wrong direction during car line. Request better road signs at the intersection of Aston Street. • Formulated a list of questions about middle school for the directors to answer. <p>Finance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please email Lara with questions about the budget so that she can think about how to make sure we are all up to date on the budget. • Send Lara a list of what each committee needs and how much it would cost. What budget do you need for your committee needs? <p>Policy and Board Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy and Board Development Committee Report
	ANNOUNCEMENTS
9:40 pm	The Christine W Avery events were great for community building, please continue to send out opportunities for events that we can attend.
	ADJOURNMENT
9:44 pm	Wren adjourned the meeting.