

# MCPM Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

*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.*

[\\*MCPM Policy Manual Table of Contents - Google Docs](#)

📄 Inclusive Decision Making.pdf

DATE	MEETING NAME
1/03/2024 - January Work Session	
<b>ATTENDEES–MCPM Board of Directors</b>	
<b>Present:</b> Wren Cook Dawn Meskil Lara Lustig Aaron Brumo Stella Plato Jerick Wilson Maegan Brown Jaclyn Farley	<b>Absent:</b>
<b>ATTENDEES–Others</b>	
Brittany Wager - Operations Director Rachael Shaw Marshall - Curriculum Director	

TIME	CALL TO ORDER
5:51 PM	Called to order by: Wren  Roll Call  Quorum (need 5/8): we have quorum with 8 out of 8 BOD members present  Reading of Mission Statement read by Wren  Reading of Ethics Statement read by Dawn

	Pledge to the Earth read by Brittany
	<b>APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES</b>
5:55 pm	<p>Wren moves to adopt tonight’s agenda. With no corrections, the agenda will run as stated.</p> <p>Wren moves to approve the minutes from the December 17th meeting, Stella seconds. With no corrections, the minutes are approved.</p>
	<b>PUBLIC COMMENT</b>
	<p><b>If you would like to submit public comments please email <a href="mailto:info@mountaincitypublic.org">info@mountaincitypublic.org</a> 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: <a href="https://mountaincitypublic.org/our-school/board/board-meetings/">https://mountaincitypublic.org/our-school/board/board-meetings/</a></b></p>
	<b>DIRECTORS SHARE</b>
5:57 pm	<p>Enrollment update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● There are currently 71 applications for the 2024-25 school year. The majority of applications are for Kindergarten.</li> <li>● There are 39 spots currently open at MCPM for next year across all grade levels.</li> <li>● Every grade level has applications.</li> <li>● Tours start next week at 9 and 9:30 am every other Tuesday morning. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There will be a tour of the classrooms and then questions will be taken in the office to allow for the least number of interruptions.</li> <li>○ Rachael will lead the 9 am tour and Brittany will lead the 9:30 am tour, both directors will be available for questions following the tour in the office.</li> <li>○ Each tour has 5 family spots available so there will be a variance in the number of participants depending on how many each family brings.</li> <li>○ Board members are welcome to join a tour.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Student Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The second round of assessments for K-6 students (MAPS and MEFS) happening this month and a third round in April.</li> <li>● Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled in March to share formative assessment feedback thus far.</li> </ul> <p>Staff updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The new Exceptional Children’s specialist begins January 8!</li> </ul> <p>Staff survey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Directors’ work with Sarah Brown of Into Right Relationship culminated in setting goals for themselves based on feedback from a staff survey</li> </ul>

	<p>(conducted and synthesized by Sarah Brown). Their intensive five months with Sarah was challenging and fruitful.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Executive Committee will continue the work of Leadership Feedback Circles and Inclusive Decision Making, and the school (staff and board) will continue to develop the shared leadership model that best serves our staff and students.</li> <li>● The board wants to recognize the time commitment and emotional commitment of the Directors in this work, and we thank Lara Lustig for introducing us to Sarah Brown and making it all possible.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>TIMELINE</b></p>
<p>6:15 pm</p>	<p>As part of our working agenda for tonight’s meeting, we will create a timeline of the past two years to take stock of how far we have come and write out individual events on large rolls of paper.</p> <p>After taking the time to reflect on what has been accomplished and how far we’ve come in a short period of time, we began to look ahead to prioritize our work for the remainder of the school year. Here are the highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● culture building: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ continue developing the practice of inclusive decision making and shared leadership</li> </ul> </li> <li>● strategic plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ tying up the loose ends of the strategic plan we started in July so that we may be ready to share it with the school community.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● budget primer/refresher: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ as the budget for next year is coming together, assuring that board members understand the complexities of the budget before approval in May</li> </ul> </li> <li>● connecting with staff to bring their voices to our work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ How do we make multiple points of entry for staff to engage and share their input/vision/ideas?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<p><b>BOARD BIO</b></p>
<p>7:02 pm</p>	<p>Board Bios Update:</p> <p>The board is updating their website bios to be more human-centered and less achievement-oriented. We recognize that the biographies we were required to submit for our charter approval do not reflect the humanity and passion we bring to the board. We want to balance expertise and experience with our <i>why</i>. The story of MCPM is incredible and inspiring, and we want to invite others to the table who connect with the mission and vision of this organization. Board members are sharing their biographies with one another for feedback before publishing them to the school website.</p>

<b>COMMITTEE REQUESTS</b>	
	<p>Executive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Board retreat conversation: when, how do we want to plan it?</li> <li>● What do we want to focus on: culture building, strategic plan, budget primer/refreshers, connecting with staff to bring their voices to our work (how do we bring them into the planning to move them towards leadership and decision making?)</li> <li>● How do we make multiple points of entry for staff to engage and share their input/vision/ideas?</li> </ul> <p>Community Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Buncombe Co Partnership for Children events coming up, details and calendar invites to come soon: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Saturday, January 20th at East Asheville library, 10:30am-12:30pm</li> <li>○ Tuesday, January 23rd at West Asheville library, 4:30pm-6:30pm</li> <li>○ Saturday, January 27th at South Buncombe library, 10:30am-12:30pm</li> <li>○ Thursday, February 1st at North Asheville library, 4:30pm-6:30pm</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Development and Grants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Development has GoLocal cards for sale now! Pick up cards from Stella or Brittany to sell.</li> <li>● We are also working on thank you cards for auction donations.</li> </ul> <p>Policy and Board Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Policy and Board Development will tie up loose ends regarding SB 49 requirements and has received two new board member applications for review.</li> </ul>
<b>ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	
7:30 pm	<p>Enrollment events:  Open House February 24, 10:00am-noon (Need 8 board members)  Tours every other Tuesdays at 9:00 and 9:30 beginning January 9 (Board members are welcome to join. Let Brittany and Rachael know if you plan to attend.)</p> <p>The next board meeting will be held virtually on January 17, 2024.</p>
<b>ADJOURNMENT</b>	
7:35 pm	Wren adjourns the meeting.

*These meeting minutes were approved on January 17th, 2024  
by the MCPM Board of Directors.*