



Williamson County Montessori Partners
Board Meeting Minutes
November 27, 2018

Mission: To provide an exceptional Montessori Education to all children and their families, encouraging a lifelong love of learning and active participation in their communities.

Vision: To develop conscientious citizens who approach their world with confidence, creativity and collaboration.

1. In Attendance, Establishment of Quorum, Call to order: (5 minutes) In attendance: Kate McSpadden, Mary Evelyn Bowling, Mickell Moss, Carl Illig. Staff in attendance: Nancy Gribble –Tay, Marcy Steward, Christi Cowden, and Alessandra Abel. Meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m.

2. Public Comments: (10 minutes) Speakers may have up to 3 minutes each and shall sign in 5 minutes prior to the commencement of the meeting.

Heather Pencil suggests that families be incentivised to volunteer. She also suggests that we clarify what a conflict of interest is for board candidates.

Nisha Coffee wants to talk about magnetic strips again. She sent a short video to admin.

3. Review and approve minutes of previous meeting (s): (5 minutes)

Kate changed “Emergency Board Meeting” to “Additional Board Meeting.”

Kate added 96.24% to registrar report.

Carl moved to accept minutes as modified. Mickell seconded. All approved. Motion passed 4/0.

4. Reports: (10 minutes)

A. Review Treasurer’s report: Marcy Steward

We are on target for accelerated payments. Based on the current conservative spending, we may not have to access the line of credit until late spring or early summer.

Orchard fundraiser raised more than \$14,000. Our goal was \$10,000. We submitted and were approved for Strategic improvement grant for \$125,000.

B. Review Business Operations report: Marcy Steward

Earth Repair Corp wants to lease space for a summer class. We will receive 30% of the fee that they charge the attendees.

The WilCo Montessori Partners Board of Directors adheres to Open Meetings statutes as dictated by Texas Government Code Title S, Subtitle A, Chapter 551.

Marcy is looking into vehicle purchase for adolescent community primarily. Currently we have volunteers that drive. But the liability is high. Her suggestion is that we purchase vehicles with the CSP grant funds. We would then train a staff member to drive the vehicle.

Fencing was completed over the break.

Roof drains are still an issue.

Exterior doors are being closed more. Reports are less than before. Other schools in the area also have an issue with doors being propped open.

C. Review Head of School report: Nancy Gribble-Tay

Nancy shared that the MOY benchmark will be in December instead of January. The STAAR release test will take place in January.

D. Review Admission and Communications Report: Christi Cowden

Christi said that our ADA is a little lower than we desired. We are at 95% and would like to be at 96%. This is higher than budgeted.

We now have a text messaging system that can be used to communicate with the entire school body. There is a small cost that will be paid for with the school safety grant.

E. Review Community Engagement report: Montique Chance

5. Discussion and Action Items: (30 minutes)

A. Discussion: Pre-K admission policy

Our charter applications includes siblings having priority. TEA changed ?

B. Discussion: Board Member Candidates

Kate presented a Matrix that compares skill sets to GMS needs. There was discussion regarding the 4 candidates. Kate will bring a motion to December board meeting.

C. Discussion: School Safety Committee

Reports are not coming in about the doors.

The cost to permanently fix the doors is between \$6000 and \$ 36,000.

There are 2 school resource officers very near us. They are City and GISD employees and are able and willing to help us.

D. Discussion: Fundraising update

Raise Craze is starting. Annual fund will turn into capital campaign and begin at the end of school year.

E. Discussion: Facilities

Kate shared about the discussions with ACD about adding 2 classrooms on the west side of the building. The estimate is \$850,000. It is a one year solution. We need to look at other options for

accommodating our growth. Suggestions are to lease about 2000 sf., which should be much more cost effective.

ACD contacted us regarding a bond package they intend to create. They intend to sell bonds on a package of multiple charter schools. We could possibly lock in interest rates. We would not be able to purchase the building for 5 years after we were part of the bond package.

F. Discussion: Governance Reporting

G. Agenda items for next month: Motion to approve Mark Cortinas as a Board Member, Resolution to give GPD access to the building and access to our security system.

6. Adjourn:

Mickell moved to adjourn. Carl seconded. All approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:56.