

**ISLAND MONTESSORI CHARTER SCHOOL
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING MINUTES
02.19.14**

In attendance: Christina, Jennifer, Melinda, Steve, Brian, Stephanie, Jill, and Jeremy.

Absent: Kemmy, Michael

Visitors in attendance: Vicky Messer, Michael Messer, Samara Kuhn, Renae Harris, and Katie Scott

Jeremy motioned to open the meeting, seconded by Stephanie. The Island Montessori Charter School Meeting was called to order at 7:25pm by Melinda.

2 Minute Visitor Comments:

None.

FSA Liason:

None.

Previous Minutes:

A motion to approve the previous minutes as amended was given by Steve, seconded by Jill, and were approved unanimously by the board.

Academic Committee:

Samara updated the board about their most recent meeting, which was held to discuss some issues in the upper elementary classroom (math seems to be one of the main subjects that needs supplemented). They discussed possibly getting albinese for the entire school for next year. Tina is checking with the company to see if they can send anyone to help with teacher training. Another recent concern is that some of students who have not been previously exposed to the Montessori curriculum are having some difficulty adjusting to new curriculum.

Jennifer also updated the board that she and Brian are working on additional workshops for parents and families so they can continue to learn more about Montessori. The Academic Committee is also discussing using consistent teacher methods for communication between parents, families and students.

Head of School Report (Brian):

Enrollment update

- 137 students
- 133 New Hanover, 4 Brunswick

Re-enrollment

- At this midway point in enrollment for the 2014-2015 school year, we only have one student opting out of their seat for next year due to transportation issues

UNCW Partnership

- The UNCW partnership school selection committee has recommended Island Montessori for admission to our university-school partnership network. More information will be coming soon!

Financial update

- Current cash in bank: \$80,539 + \$29,000 check from the county received this week.
- Cash able to draw: \$188,004
- Fundraising account balance: \$10,247
- Please see budget sheets attached
- We received our final allotment drop from the state. At this point, what we have is what we have to survive on for the rest of the year. We will be spending out the rest of our state money pretty quick over the next two months with the goal of not giving them a dime back come June 31st. The amount to draw will be decreasing rapidly, but our cash in the bank will be increasing since we will not be using local moneys to pay the next couple months of bills.

Building

- A new backpack vacuum cleaner was purchased. We hope this one lasts.
- We entered a contract with the engineer not to exceed \$2500 for site plans to be drawn for the classroom building.
- Lock Down drill took place. The NH Sheriff department gave us positive feedback and recommendations.
- Tornado drill took place the week March 5th, which is National Tornado Week.
- The upper elementary HVAC died. It was just under \$5,000 to replace it. Brian has put it on our line of credit until he gets a better understanding of our current budget lines to find the money to pay for it. He hopes to pay for it with this year's budget money if possible.

Summer Reading Program for 3rd Graders

- Now they've changed it again! They will be adding in a new scoring system 5,4,3,2,1 instead of the 4,3,2,1 for the EOGs. Students who score a 2 or 1 will need the summer program if they did not meet the portfolio requirements set forth by the state. The portfolio requirement was released in January, but has been altered several times (wrong material given out and wrong correct answers, etc). Our students are participating but because the program has so many flaws in it, we'll just have to wait and see what the state decides to do with it.

Make Up Days for Weather Cancellations (6 OF THEM!)

- Saturday March 15 ½ day, Saturday March 29 ½ day (international day for Children's School), Saturday April 26th ½ day, Saturday May 10th ½ day (international day for Charter School), Friday June 13 whole day, Monday June 16 ½ day

International Days

- Children's School will hold theirs on March 29th and the Charter School's will be on May 10th.
- PLEASE COME BY AND CELEBRATE WITH US!

Law Conference

- I attended a Charter School Law conference in Durham this month. I have attached the abstract describing what was covered. We need to start organizing our policies in one book.

“Night with Patty” is scheduled for Tuesday, April 22nd. If we are going to have more than 30 people we will need a larger venue.

FSA Balance Sheet shows a current balance of \$1,772 after about \$1,000 in outgoing expenses.

We are no longer paying for a contracted school nurse.

Executive Committee:

The EC has had 3 meetings since last board meeting. The committee will have a presentation ready by the April board meeting.

Academic Committee:

None.

Facilities Committee:

Given in conjunction with the HOS Report

Marketing/ HR Committee:

None.

Finance Committee:

Financial report was given in conjunction with the HOS Report.

Development/Fundraising Committee:

Stephanie says the committee still needs another committee member. Stephanie was working on another grant to send out this week but it got pushed back a week. Something else she is working on is that instead of offering the discounts through Schoola this time, Stephanie is working with some local businesses to do a similar project minus the Schoola part.

Melinda thanked Jill and the FSA for their hard work and help with the gala event. We had approximately 85 attendees at the Gala Event. There weren't a lot of parents/families from either school; a vast majority were community members. Board discussions ensued regarding the event and it's presence next year.

[Michael joined the meeting at 8:27pm]

IT:

No update since last meeting.

OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS:

Jeremy reported that we are officially a go with Tidal Creek. Jeremy will have to pick up the food every day and parents will have the opportunity to preview menu selection and order a week in advance. Cost will be around \$4.25.

April 3rd will be the next "Brown Bagging It" event.

Christina motioned to close the meeting. Second given by Stephanie, Meeting adjourned at 8:44pm.

The next meeting will be Wednesday April 23rd, 2014, at 7:00pm, at the Children's School.

REMINDER: All minutes/committee reports/HOS report/financial reports are due to Melinda by Friday, April 18th.