

Draft until approved by the board

SILVER SANDS MONTESSORI CHARTER SCHOOL MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees of Silver Sands Montessori Charter School held a public meeting on Thursday, July 9th, 2009 at the office of Christopher Steele, 2831 St. Rose Parkway, Suite 200, Henderson, NV 89052.

CALL TO ORDER:

President Marlo Tsuchiyama called the meeting to order at 5:07 pm

A. ORGANIZATION

1. Roll Call: A quorum was established with the following members present: Joan Sando, Christopher Steele, Danette Green, Constance Ewing, Miah Daughtery, and Marlo Tsuchiyama. Absent: Judd Balmer.

Members of the public were asked to sign in, and the sign-in sheet is attached to the agenda in the official board binder.

2. Adoption of Agenda: Miah made a motion to accept the agenda, Chris seconded, Vote: all ayes, none opposed, motion carried.

3. Approval of Minutes:

June 23: Marlo requested that we move this item to the next agenda, as we would like to have input from Judd, who is not here. She asked Joan to email the draft to other members.

B. Reports

1. Enrollment: Danette reported that there are only 2 openings left in 3rd grade and she has waiting lists for all other grades, with a total of approximately 40 students. Emails have been sent to all students who have been accepted and parent meetings/interviews need to be scheduled.

2. Committee Timelines:

Personnel: Danette reported that all teachers have been hired, plus five of the six assistants. She, Marlo, and Joan had met with most of them at the building yesterday and there was much enthusiasm and excitement. All have received their LOIs and will be starting their Montessori training on Friday. New positions for other jobs have been advertised on the web site.

Building: Chris reported that construction has started, permits and timelines are progressing well with constant communications by Marlo with City of Henderson personnel. Jason reported that some electrical work still needs to be scheduled for data ports, in addition to the work that the contractor already has planned.

Technology: Kris has ordered the equipment from Dell for Powerschool and paid with his own money, so will need to be reimbursed. Staff training needs to be scheduled.

Preschool: Constance and Joan are working on the license application and parent handbook. Joan is submitting Articles of Incorporation to the Nevada Secretary of State, has developed by-laws for the PreSchool Board, and is applying for a 501(3)c.

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Fund-Raising: The last committee meeting was not productive. They suggested sending an email to ALL parents to reorganize a fund-raising committee. The teachers liked the idea of a “Meet-and-Greet” fundraiser to introduce the families to the building, have some entertainment and activities, and meet the teachers. Constance has developed a preliminary schedule that includes an Open House on the Friday before school starts for the families to meet their assigned teachers and see their classrooms. Another event is being considered that would be more of a fund-raiser.

Finance Committee: They have been working on the salary schedule and budgets.

C. and D. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

A parent who said she is Montessori trained has information on Montessori Conferences in Utah and CA which she will share with Marlo. She also suggested we combine the mandatory parent meeting with an orientation and fund-raiser with booths, etc.

Another parent asked about tuition for preschool and kindergarten. Marlo said it would be included in the budget report, which is on the agenda.

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. Adoption of Personnel Policies: Danette presented policy drafts on nepotism, conflict of interest, grievance procedures, personnel records, and minimal employment criteria for certified and classified staff. After discussion, Miah made a motion to approve the policies as presented. Joan seconded the motion. Vote: all ayes, none opposed, motion carried.

2. Review and approve budget and other docs for the state: Marlo presented the budgets as created by the Finance Committee. After much discussion, Miah made a motion to approve the two-year budgets for the charter school as presented. Joan seconded the motion. Vote: all ayes, none opposed, motion carried.

Miah made a motion to approve the two-year budgets for the private school. Danette seconded the motion. Vote: all ayes, none opposed, motion carried.

3. Review and approve bell schedule: Constance had developed a daily schedule that goes from 8am to 3pm for a total instructional time of 390 minutes/day or 1950 minutes/week. After a discussion about the time of lunch and the amount of instructional time, Miah made a motion, seconded by Chris to adopt the schedule as presented, for auditory purposes. Vote: all ayes, none opposed, motion carried.

F. New Business (Possible Action Items)

1. Appoint Hiring Committee to Screen and Interview Applicants for Admin Positions: Joan and Miah volunteered, plus Marlo is a member as President.

2. Liability Insurance: Danette reported that our broker was not able to get us a quote, so she is contacting another broker who works with other charter schools. The deadline is next Friday.

3. State Board of Education August Meeting: Marlo said she anticipates we will be on the agenda for August 14th for approval for a full charter. If anyone wants to go, book your plane tickets to Reno soon.

G. PUBLIC COMMENT on Non-Agenda Items:

There was a question about the future fence or wall around play area.

There was a question about uniforms.

H. RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENTS: We want the wall but need to find funds.

So far, we have a dress code but not uniforms, but it is open to change.

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I. Agenda planning:

Special meeting on Wednesday, July 15th at 8:30 to include insurance, state documents, charter updates to be presented to the State Department of Education on July 17th.

1. Announcements:

- a. Terry Cooper (from Paltronics) has made a private donation of \$250 to the school.
- b. Next regular meeting is scheduled for July 21st at 5pm.
- c. Tom McCormack, NDE Charter School Consultant, will be visiting SSMCS on July 14th in early afternoon. Also, we have a meeting scheduled with Councilwoman Kathleen Boutin on that day at 4pm to introduce our school.

Adjournment: 8:00pm

Signatures verify approval:

_____ Date _____
Marlo Tsuchiyama, President

_____ Date _____
Joan Sando, Secretary