

Approved by Board on May 26, 2009

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 Tuesday, May 12, 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 4:47 pm

A. ORGANIZATION

1. Roll Call: A quorum was established with the following members present: Danette Green, Joan Sando, Christopher Steele, Miah Daughtery, and Marlo Tsuchiyama. Judd Balmer arrived at 5 pm. Absent: Constance Ewing
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: Danette asked to remove the calendar item from this agenda, but to keep it as a standing item until approved. Marlo asked for item #4 under Old Business be moved to the next meeting, since Constance is absent and she drafted the policies on hiring and evaluations. Miah made a motion to accept the agenda with those two changes. Christopher seconded the motion. Vote: all ayes, none opposed, motion carried.

3. Approval of Minutes:

April 28, 2009: Danette made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Miah seconded the motion. Vote: all ayes, none opposed, motion carried.

March 31st, 2009: Minutes not available, add to agenda for next meeting.

B. REPORTS

1. Enrollment: Danette presented an updated chart (attached) showing the number of students registered for each class compared to our goals. She recommends adding another lower elementary and one less pre-K class, based on the numbers. This is on the agenda under New Business and she presented a chart with this scenario, as well.

2. Financial Report (none)

3. Committees: Curriculum, Facility, Finance, Fundraising, Marketing, Private School, Hiring, Technology, and Training

Marketing: Board members who went to the Charter Summit learned many good ideas for ongoing marketing and will share at the board retreat.

Fund-raising: Marlo thanked the parent who organized the event at Cici's Pizza on May 6th. Between receipts and raffle tickets, the profits were \$220. The fund-raising committee is meeting today at 5:45 pm to coordinate ideas.

Private School: Marlo has been working on the budget and asked the committee to start on the handbook, the website, and non-profit corporation.

4. Board Member Reports:

Joan reported on the Second Annual School Choice Fair, sponsored by NASA, will be held at the Orleans on Saturday.

Marlo reported on her visit to High Desert Montessori in Reno and her conversations with Carol Andrew, Executive Director. She also said the Charter School Summit was excellent,

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both in providing a voice for charter schools in the legislature and with the workshops. Members who attended will be asked to share the information at a retreat.

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS on Agenda Items

Questions were asked on the following topics:

- Tuition amounts for K and Preschool
- Calendar: 9 month or year round
- Class sizes and combinations of grade levels
- Teacher/Student Ratio
- Teachers with Montessori training
- Requirements of parents
- Teacher applications
- Montessori training for teachers
- How do we know if application is received?
- Locations being considered

Since these questions were similar to the ones from the last meeting, Joan suggested preparing a list of FAQ's and posting it on the website or on an info sheet.

D. RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENTS

Marlo answered the questions, according to our charter agreement and Nevada laws.

E. OLD BUSINESS (Possible Action Items)

- 1. Facilities:** Christopher reported that the committee had made an offer on another building of 9500 sf in Henderson and it is being considered.
- 2. Board Insurance:** Marlo reported that most of the board members have paid for their portion and the check will be mailed as soon as the other members pay.
- 3. Review and Approve School Calendar:** (moved to next meeting)
- 4. Adoption of Policies and Procedures:**
 - a. Hiring:** (moved to next agenda)
 - b. Evaluations:** (moved to next agenda)

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Third Lower Elementary

Based on numbers of students enrolled, it seems the demand is for lower elementary more than preschool. After much discussion, mostly on future implications and plans, Danette made a motion to increase the number of lower elementary classes by one and decrease the preschool-Kdg classes by one. Christopher seconded the motion. Vote: all ayes, none opposed, motion carried.

G. AGENDA PLANNING:

Topics to include: Facilities, Minutes of March 31st, Job Descriptions, Policies, Calendar

H. Announcement of next meeting:

Marlo may call special Meeting for approval of lease on facilities.

Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting: May 26th, 2009 at 5:00 pm, same location

Parent Information Meeting scheduled for May 26th, 6:30, after the board meeting.

Adjournment: 6:43 pm

Signatures verifying approval:

Secretary _____ Date _____

President _____ Date _____