

Coastal Montessori Charter School

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 14th, 2014 ~ 6:00 PM

BOARD MEMBER ROLL CALL

The following members of the Board were present:

Kristin Bohan, Lynne Ford, Jason Hendrix, Rob Horvath, Gene Mannella, Martha Propps, and Rachel Tomovski

The following members of the Board were absent:

Kristin Alford, Bo Bryan, Mary Bryan, Pamela Grant, Laura Lee, Pamela Martin, Stella Mercado, and Scott Steffen

Other Attendees:

Charles Swensen, Coastal Observer

CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Rob Horvath, called the meeting to order at 6:10 PM.

COMPLIANCE WITH FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA)

Mr. Horvath read aloud the FOIA statement.

READING OF THE MISSION STATEMENT

Board Secretary, Ms. Tomovski, read aloud the CMCS mission statement.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Due to the fact that a quorum was not present, the action items originally on the agenda could not be addressed. The agenda was amended to reflect this change.

APPROVAL OF MARCH'S MINUTES

Due to the fact that a quorum was not present, the approval of the minutes from the March 2014 meeting will be added to the May agenda.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Nathalie Hunt reported on the Orientation for rising first years that took place last week over four days. There were two new students assigned to each Lower Elementary class each day, while Dr. Hunt gave their parents a tour and shared some logistics and answered questions. She invited the new families to join CMCS at the end of the year activities.

Dr. Hunt told the Board that the new class for next year will include both fourth and fifth years. She will post the new lead and teaching assistant positions on both GCSD and AMS sites.

With regards to the Planning and Implementation Grant, Dr. Hunt assured the Board that the final purchasing order will include expenditures for all remaining funds, and will include items such as cameras; Macbook Pro for the new lead teacher; professional development before school begins; and training for the new Upper Elementary teacher at Seacoast. Other plans for the school include the Seven Survival Skills Test Trials; Powerschools Training for Kristy; Safe Schools Training with Tia and Kristy; AMS school membership, which entitles CMCS to academic journal subscriptions; MEPI accreditation, which lasts for four years; and Dr. Hunt expressed her desire to get her Montessori Administrator Credential through the summer training offered by Houston Center for Montessori Education. The tuition cost for two consecutive Julys is approximately \$5,000.

Finally, Dr. Hunt informed the Board about the upcoming SCDE visit on May 21st. This will be an audit of how CMCS used the Planning and Implementation Grant funds. They will be looking at the board application and election process.

BOARD ELECTIONS

Chair Horvath announced that in the absence of a quorum, the Board would form a Board Election Nomination Committee via an email vote. Three members, whose terms are up, will be coming off the Board this year. Ideally the Board membership should be decreasing now, however it is likely preferable to maintain an odd number. Any new members would ideally be non-parents to help balance the current membership.

DISCIPLINE POLICY

In a form previously circulated, Dr. Hunt had presented an addendum to the CMCS Discipline Policy. Chair Horvath requested the Board look it over and be prepared to vote on it at the May board meeting. Dr. Kristin Bohan suggested that role playing be incorporated in the education piece for the children, so that they might become familiar with the policy in an impactful way.

FY-15 BUDGET

Mr. Jason Hendrix presented a Second Reading of the FY-15 Budget. He reported that there had been no changes from the First Reading. CMCS is on target for 2014. Mr. Hendrix, Mr. Mannella and Chair Horvath plan to meet prior to April 24th, in order to go over the budget carefully, one last time.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Chair Horvath suggested the Board revisit the idea of standing committees and consider adding a monthly “working meeting,” which is something GCSD does.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Chair Horvath and Dr. Hunt shared that the Board has the privilege of participating in a Strategic Planning Session with Dr. Coleman, and they are currently looking at possible dates. It was suggested that the session be scheduled for the summer, so that any new board members might attend. Dr. Hunt said she will be working with Mary Carmichael to determine the agenda. Dr. Bohan offered to host the session at her home in July as a Board Retreat.

CONTRACTS

Dr. Hunt asked the board to consider a three year contract for her position as CMCS Director, and she reported that the average salary for GCSD principals is \$82K.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Hunt announced that the CMCS Spring Performance would be held on Friday, May 30th from 6 – 7:30 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no additional comments.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business to be transacted, Mr. Mannella made the motion to adjourn. Ms. Propps seconded the motion. The Board VOTED and the meeting was adjourned at 6:58 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rachel Tomovski
CMCS Board Secretary