

# Coastal Montessori Charter School

## Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, August 1st, 2016 ~ 5:30 PM

### **BOARD MEMBER ROLL CALL**

The following members of the Board were present:

Jason Hendrix, Rob Horvath, Gene Mannella, Cathy Scott, Scott Steffen, and Rachel Tomovski

The following Board members were absent:

Kristin Bohan and Stella Mercado

### **OTHER ATTENDEES**

Nathalie Hunt, CMCS Principal  
Charles Swensen, Coastal Observer

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair, Mr. Rob Horvath, called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM.

### **COMPLIANCE WITH FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA)**

Chair, Mr. Horvath read aloud the FOIA statement.

### **READING OF THE MISSION STATEMENT**

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

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chair Horvath asked for a motion to move immediately into Executive Session to discuss a Personnel Issue. Mr. Gene Manella so moved. Mr. Scott Steffen seconded, and the Board VOTED unanimously to move into closed session at 5:38 PM.

### **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

Chair Horvath asked for a motion to move back into Open Session. Mr. Jason Hendrix so moved. Dr. Cathy Scott seconded and the Board VOTED unanimously to return to open session at 6:00 PM.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no comments.

### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND THE JUNE MINUTES**

Mr. Mannella made a motion to accept both August's agenda, and the June Minutes (previously circulated.) Mr. Steffen seconded the motion. The Board VOTED unanimously to approve both agenda and minutes, and the motion passed.

### **DIRECTOR REPORT**

Dr. Nathalie Hunt reported that the CMCS Code of Conduct and revised Parent Handbook (previously circulated) have been approved at the District level by the GCSD attorney.

The waiting list for the upcoming year is currently at eighty-two applicants. Fifty-three are for Lower Elementary and twenty-nine are for Upper Elementary.

There are five available spots in Middle School. Ms. Tomovski inquired about plans to share information about the Middle School teaching staff and innovative environment with the community, via the media, to possibly recruit more students. Dr. Hunt told the Board that she has a meeting scheduled with Mr. Swensen for that purpose. She went on to say that a letter went home to all Middle School families recently, and that individual conferences will be scheduled for them to meet with the staff prior to school beginning. There is a “Back to School Night” scheduled for Tuesday, August 16<sup>th</sup> from 5 – 7 PM. The Middle School Curriculum will be available then. Furniture for the Middle School room will arrive Friday, August 12<sup>th</sup>. The room will need to be painted prior to that date. The District has bought the paint, but CMCS will be required to do the labor. Next steps include: ordering text books from a SCDE approved list, which will be used as resources in the Middle School environment; developing the six week study guides; planning an overnight stay for Middle School team building; and contacting local businesses for Internship Week.

With regards to Strategic Planning, Dr. Hunt told the Board that she has the following goals: the Charter will need to be updated to reflect the new legislation- replacing No Child Left Behind language with that of the new Every Student Succeeds Act; increase diversity from where it currently hovers at ten percent to a more desirable twenty percent; and finally, to continue to keep Charter Goals at the forefront of all CMCS does, as well as to more specifically define measures and timing for the proposed fourth goal, pertaining to the newly added Middle School. Dr. Hunt plans to address strategies to be used for achieving her professional goals, set by the Board and herself, at the September Board Meeting, as well as share the SC PASS and SC READY scores at that time. She also feels that it would be beneficial to have Mary Carmichael return for a follow up session regarding Strategic Planning.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **APPROVAL OF THE CMCS HANDBOOK**

The Administration recommends Approval of the CMCS Handbook as presented. Mr. Mannella so moved. Mr. Steffen seconded the motion. The Board VOTED unanimously and the motion to approve the CMCS Handbook passed.

### **APPROVAL OF THE CMCS CODE OF CONDUCT**

Mr. Mannella made a motion to accept the CMCS Code of Conduct as presented. Mr. Hendrix seconded the motion. The Board VOTED unanimously and the CMCS Code of Conduct was approved.

### **FACILITY UPDATE**

Chair Horvath reported that major completion is set for the first week of October. The final inspection involving the Office of School Facilities and the Fire Marshall has been scheduled for October 18<sup>th</sup>, and the Certificate of Occupancy should hopefully be obtained at that time.

With regards to the loan, CMCS locked in at a rate of 3.6 and current rates are 2.75. The facility committee is hoping to close out by the end of September. They are waiting to hear back from Nikki Toomes on this. The committee also suggests paying interest only the first year.

The committee is investigating the landscaping options. They are looking into whether or not the CMCS insurance covers anyone working on the property, and what connections Dave Harbaugh may have through his golf company that could be useful.

The Administration is looking at the calendar and will determine a move date, possibly the November long weekend. The District has one box truck that can be used. It will be a community event with all hands on deck. Movers will need to be hired for some items requiring liability insurance.

### **MEETING ADJOURNED**

There being no further business to be transacted, Mr. Mannella moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Steffen seconded. The Board VOTED unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rachel Tomovski  
CMCS Board Secretary