

Coastal Montessori Charter School

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 9th, 2014 ~ 6:00 PM

BOARD MEMBER ROLL CALL

The following members of the Board were present:

Kristin Bohan, Mary Bryan, Lynne Ford, Jason Hendrix, Rob Horvath, Gene Mannella, Pamela Martin, Scott Steffen, and Rachel Tomovski

The following members of the Board were absent:

Kristin Alford, Bo Bryan, Pamela Grant, Laura Lee, Stella Mercado, and Martha Propps

Other Attendees:

Nathalie Hunt, CMCS Director

Bill Moser, Kelley-Moser Consulting

CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Rob Horvath, called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair, Rob Horvath, asked for a motion to move immediately into Executive Session in order to discuss a personnel issue. Dr. Kristin Bohan so moved. Ms. Lynne Ford seconded the motion. The Board VOTED to enter into Executive Session at 6:06 PM.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Upon the completion of the discussion, Mr. Jason Hendrix made a motion to move back into Open Session. Ms. Mary Bryan seconded the motion. The Board VOTED to return to Open Session at 6:30 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

Mr. Gene Mannella made a motion to approve the agenda. Dr. Pamela Martin seconded the motion, and the Board VOTED approved the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MAY

Dr. Martin made a motion to approve minutes from the May meeting. Ms. Ford seconded the motion and the Board VOTED to approve the minutes.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Nathalie Hunt reported that the visit from the Department of Justice went well and that the Coastal Observer had run a story on it that was very positive. She stated that during their visit, she had the opportunity to share an overview of CMCS programs, along with impressive data charts. She was able to point out that the key lessons in Montessori are delivered in a story format and that research has shown this to be an especially effective vehicle for African American students.

With regards to MAP testing, Dr. Hunt has been tracking the trends and it seems that there has been improvement by the end of the year, as stated in the Charter, there will be, among the scores of the fourteen percent of students who qualify for free and reduced lunches.

Finally, Dr. Hunt requested Board support in the following areas: grant writing; in-school events and experiences, such as the school store; middle school curriculum and her goal of submitting the Charter Amendment document by February 2015; marketing and recruitment, including meeting with preschool directors and community members to share CMCS' mission and vision, and recruiting employees from college career fairs.

Dr. Martin volunteered her and two others, to help with the grant writing.

Ms. Rachel Tomovski volunteered to help with the middle school curriculum.

Dr. Bohan asked about improving the CMCS website. Dr. Hunt responded that a new site is in the works and should be ready to launch before the end of the summer. She is currently working on the content for it. Dr. Bohan suggested that it needs to include real time updates with pictures and blogs.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

FY-15 BUDGET

Mr. Bill Moser presented the FY-15 Budget for its final reading.

ACTION ITEMS

Dr. Martin made a motion to approve the FY-15 Budget. Mr. Mannella seconded the motion and the Board VOTED to approve the budget, as presented by Mr. Moser.

FACILITY UPDATE

Mr. Scott Steffen reported that the Department of Justice approved the new property. The Facility Committee met with Steve Goggans to discuss how the school design might be altered to fit on the new lot. All the environmental studies revealed there to be no issues. The Committee is awaiting the formal reports for the loan application. Mr. Mannella continues meeting with banks about interim financing. The Committee is meeting with

General Contractors to hear their proposals. The property will need to be re-zoned. The Committee will meet with the H.O.A. leaders for Allston Plantation and Hagley.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Board members are invited to attend the Human Resources Law Training in Columbia with Mary Carmichael on June 18th. Dr. Hunt will be going, with other members of the administration.

The Strategic Planning Session with Dr. Coleman and Mary Carmichael has been scheduled for July 28th from 6 – 9 PM. Dr. Hunt reported that she and Ms. Carmichael have been planning how best to spend this time and one goal will be to define what is board appropriate and to determine specific tasks requiring committees be formed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no additional comments.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business to be transacted, Ms. Bryan made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Steffen seconded the motion. The Board VOTED and the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rachel Tomovski
CMCS Board Secretary