

Coastal Montessori Charter School

Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, October 16th, 2017 ~ 6:00 PM

BOARD MEMBER ROLL CALL

The following members of the Board were present:

Ryan Fabbri, Patricia Gadek, Jason Hendrix, Gene Mannella, Cathy Scott, Lesley Steedly, and Rachel Tomovski

The following Board members were absent:

Stella Mercado and Scott Steffen

Also in attendance:

Dr. Nathalie Hunt, CMCS Director

CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Dr. Cathy Scott called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

COMPLIANCE WITH FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA)

Chair, Dr. Scott read aloud the FOIA statement.

READING OF THE MISSION STATEMENT

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments.

APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER MINUTES AND THE AGENDA

Ms. Lesley Steedly made a motion to accept both September's Minutes, and the October Agenda (previously circulated.) Mr. Ryan Fabbri seconded the motion. The Board VOTED unanimously to approve both the Minutes and the Agenda, and the motion passed.

DIRECTOR REPORT

Testing:

Dr. Nathalie Hunt showed the board a comparison table of State and CMCS test scores. In SC Ready, administered to grades 3 – 8, CMCS had 0% “not met” in ELA, compared to 23.7% “not met” in the State. Math scores, while moving in the right direction, will continue to be a focus for SLO goals. Dr. Hunt reminded the Board that there is an alignment issue (how and when concepts are taught) and it is expected that by later grades, students will be caught up. Similarly, the SC PASS Science and Social Studies assessment are cumulative tests, and because CMCS chooses to follow the Montessori pacing guide, the lower grades may be at risk for not having been presented all of the materials that are being tested, but scores in the higher grades were strong.

Building Punch List:

Dr. Hunt reported that there are still a number of issues which have not yet been resolved. It is the Board's feeling that these should be addressed by SGA, and that the school administrators should not have to be dealing with the subcontractors on their own. In a letter to the board, previously circulated, Dr. Hunt advises of the issues, and requests immediate action, given that it is coming up on a year in November since CMCS moved into the building, and warranties may be expiring. She told the board that she also sent this letter certified mail to SGA. Representatives from SGA and FBI have agreed to do a walk-through of the school and the issues on November 1st. Mr. Fabbri and Dr. Scott offered to be present. Mr. Gene Mannella suggested that Mr. Dan Stacy, outside legal counsel for the school during the purchase of the land and building, should be involved. Dr. Hunt will ensure he receives a copy of the letter.

Mr. Fabbri asked if "reduced speed" signs for the school zone are desired on Old Plantation. He offered to pursue the issue with the D.O.T. Dr. Hunt agreed signs would be beneficial for the safety of students walking and biking to and from school. It was agreed that Mr. Fabbri would follow up on this matter and report back to the Board.

Enrollment:

Dr. Hunt reported that twenty-one first grade applications have been received since the start of Open Enrollment this year.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Mr. Mannella asked the Board to table the September 2017 Budget Report until updated information is provided by KM Consulting. Mr. Mannella agreed to contact KM Consulting directly in order to expedite this process..

Dr. Hunt told the Board that CMCS needs to hire a part time media clerk, as the job has become too much to be covered by the same person teaching visual arts.

Dr. Hunt also requested that the incremental pay increases begin in January 2018 for the following positions: office manager, operations manager, and building manager.

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

Chair, Dr. Scott, told the Board that to the school needs to renegotiate the M.O.A with the GCSD. Items to be discussed are: CMCS paying \$1/year to the District for the adjacent property; a list of all the services the District provides, and which CMCS pays monthly fees for; and District funds for special services need to follow the child (according to federal law.) Dr. Hunt reported that while CMCS has been receiving the federal funding for Special Education students, no money has come from the District, and that the current Special Ed population at CMCS is ten to twelve percent above the District's average.

MEETING DATE CHANGES

Due to the holidays, the Board meeting for the next two months will be held on the following dates: Thursday, November 16th and Thursday, December 14th.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business to be transacted, Mr. Jason Hendrix moved that the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Patricia Gadek seconded. The Board VOTED unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:27 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rachel Tomovski
CMCS Board Secretary