

Coastal Montessori Charter School

Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, February 9, 2015 ~ 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, Stella Mercado, Martha Propps, Scott Steffen, and Rachel Tomovski

The following members of the Board were absent:

Kristin Alford

Other Attendees:

Dr. Nathalie Hunt, CMCS Director

CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Mr. Rob Horvath, called the meeting to order at 6:04 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.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair, Mr. Rob Horvath asked that the January budget report be added to the agenda.

Mr. Scott Steffen made a motion to accept the agenda with the addition, and Ms. Stella Mercado seconded it. The Board VOTED unanimously and the agenda was approved.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY MINUTES

Mr. Gene Mannella advised the board of an error in the recorded note regarding Conway National Bank. Ms. Mary Bryan made a motion to approve the corrected minutes from the January meeting. Mr. Jason Hendrix seconded the motion and the Board VOTED unanimously to approve the January minutes.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Nathalie Hunt reported that the current enrollment is 184 students with 29 on the wait list. Projected enrollment for 2015 – 2016 is 204 students with 35 on the wait list. She also noted that the percentage of students eligible for free or reduced lunch has increased

from 12.35% last year to 25% this year, putting CMCS more in alignment with WIS and WES.

Dr. Hunt explained that the standardized testing this year will take place April 28-30 and May 7-8, and will be a combination of PASS and ACT/Aspire models. She, and CMCS Office Manager, Kristy Harborough, are the test coordinators, and will be ordering the tests and inputting all the data. Dr. Hunt was able to get the Social Studies and Science PASS testing for 4th through 6th grades changed from the online version the rest of the district will be using, to a paper and pencil version. The ACT/Aspire tests will all be paper and pencil, but will be timed, for 3rd through 8th grades. In order for students with IEPs to be given additional time for the tests, it needs to be an accommodation specified in their IEP prior to testing, and the deadline for uploading these to the portal is March 5th. Dr. Hunt has been conducting IEP meetings to make the necessary adjustments for those students.

There are 19 students who have been identified to take the STAR Performance Task Test. Two CMCS gifted and talented teachers will attend the training on February 12th.

Dr. Hunt proposed salary increases for Teaching Assistants who possess a Bachelor's Degree, and for Specialty Teachers. To fund these increases, she proposed reducing the amount budgeted for travel, library and instructional resources.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Mr. Jason Hendrix, Treasurer, shared the first reading of the FY-16 Draft Budget. He noted that the EFA will be adjusted and that there will be more changes on the revenue side as it gets closer to the end of the school year. With regards to the Capital Campaign funds, some who pledged are paying in installments, and so more of that money will show up after June.

Mr. Hendrix shared the **January 2015 Budget Report** and reviewed it with the board.

Dr. Pam Martin, Director Evaluation Committee Chair, proposed that CMCS adopt the District's annual evaluation practice which would allow Dr. Hunt to train with her peers. Dr. Martin suggested a three pronged approach to the Director Evaluation: 1) Director's voice through a narrative - one that is outcome based; 2) the District process – Director will be observed by someone from the District; and 3) Board Chair and one other Board Member will observe Director and then conduct a debriefing session with her, in which all three pieces above are discussed.

Regarding the HR Manual that CMCS purchased, Chair Horvath reported that it is still being reviewed and edited. He has contacted an attorney, who has a great deal of experience with school documentation, about the possibility of reviewing the HR Manual, as well as the CMCS Community Handbook.

Dr. Kristin Bohan explained that the Valentine's Day Event for CMCS on Friday, February 13th would be a fundraiser for the playground on the new property. There is no

line item in the budget for a playground, and yet it is an important aspect of the students' experience. Office staff, Ms. Kristy and Ms. Tia, raised the issue and requested permission to organize a fundraiser specifically for the cause. Dr. Bohan had been considering an event for the unveiling of the architectural plans for the new building and an opportunity to honor those who have contributed to the Capital Campaign. They merged the two agendas, and the "Eat, Play, Love" event was created. To date, 228 people plan to attend, half of which are not CMCS families, but friends of CMCS.

Dr. Bohan shared that in conjunction with the week of February 22nd being named Montessori Education Week, the SCMA will be airing a public service announcement about Montessori education, and Governor Haley will be appearing in it, endorsing Montessori education.

ACTION ITEM

Ms. Martha Propps moved that the Board accept the committee's recommendation for the Director Evaluation process. Ms. Stella Mercado seconded the motion. The Board VOTED unanimously and the motion passed.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business to be transacted, Mr. Scott Steffen made the motion to adjourn. Ms. Lynne Ford seconded the motion. The Board VOTED unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:51 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rachel Tomovski
CMCS Board Secretary