

Coastal Montessori Charter School

Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, September 13th, 2015 ~ 6:00 PM

BOARD MEMBER ROLL CALL

The following members of the Board were present:

Kristin Bohan, Rob Horvath, Gene Mannella, Stella Mercado, Cathy Scott, Scott Steffen, and Rachel Tomovski

The following members of the Board were absent:

Lynne Ford and Jason Hendrix

OTHER ATTENDEES

Chad Thompson, Artist

CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Mr. Rob Horvath, called the meeting to order at 6:03 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 AND THE AUGUST MINUTES

Dr. Cathy Scott made a motion to accept both this month's agenda as well as last month's minutes (as previously circulated.) Mr. Gene Mannella seconded it. The Board VOTED unanimously and the agenda and minutes were approved.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Mr. Chad Thompson wowed the board with the presentation of his collage piece of Dr. Maria Montessori, which will hang in the new facility. Her face is made up of black and white photos illustrating the history of Montessori education; her gown and cap is comprised of color photos of CMCS memories and moments; and the background is covered in bright and colorful flowers, all of which are native to South Carolina. Mr. Thompson intended the vibrant, energetic background to represent all of the energy that goes into a school, particularly – a Montessori school.

Dr. Kristin Bohan shared with the board that she has been appointed to the Board of Directors for the South Carolina Montessori Alliance (SCMA.) This organization represents all Montessori schools in the state, both public and private. Dr. Bohan attended

her first meeting last week, and she believes there could and should be more communication among all the Montessori schools in the state. While they do come together annually for a teacher training conference, there does not seem to be any networking beyond that, and what an asset that would be. Dr. Bohan intends to address this issue during her term. This year's conference will be held in Swansea October 23rd and 24th and the theme is STEM.

Dr. Bohan also reported on the Public Montessori Summit that she and Dr. Hunt attended recently. It was the first one ever to be held. Molly Spearman, the superintendent of state education spoke. The preliminary results of the Furman Study regarding public Montessori were shared with the attendees and appear to be very promising. They discussed soft skills and life skills, those pieces that Montessori cultivates and that Fortune 500 companies say they are seeking.

FACILITY UPDATE

Chair Horvath reported that all the permits are in place; the appraisal should be received tomorrow; and a date for the loan closing with Conway National should be determined shortly thereafter. CMCS has issued a contract to FBI Construction and it should be back from them tomorrow. The South Atlantic loan for the property matures in October, but the Facility Committee is hopeful that it will be paid in time to not require a renewal.

DIRECTOR REPORT

In Dr. Hunt's absence, Chair Horvath reviewed the Director's Report, which had been previously circulated to the Board.

BUDGET REPORT

Mr. Mannella reviewed the budget report with the Board. The 60K for the "hold harmless" has not yet come in, but everything else has. He will review the budget with Bill Moser.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Horvath asked for a motion to move to Executive Session to discuss a contract issue. Dr. Scott so moved. Mr. Steffen seconded the motion, and the Board VOTED unanimously to move to Executive Session at 6:35 PM.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business to be transacted, Ms. Mercado made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Mannella seconded the motion. The Board VOTED unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rachel Tomovski
CMCS Board Secretary