

Coulee Montessori Governance Board Minutes

November 20, 2014; Lincoln Middle School; 5:35 – 7:17

Call to order at 5:35

Attendance: Ann Epstein, Erin Hoy, Becky Misch (via web), Michelle Sulentic, Kim Shively, Danielle Sprain, Laura Huber, Melissa Murray
(teacher reps) Josh Shively, Rene Jacobs-Guenter

Guests in attendance/Public Comment: Rebecca Duncanson

Josh Shively shared current work from his upper elementary students, and how they are researching origins of the universe in particular atomic elements, molecules, DNA, botany (monocots, dicots); passed around examples of student work

Secretary's Report:

1. Minutes from October, M/S/P

Treasurer's report: (Danielle)

Beginning balance:	\$ 5,484.16
Paid out	\$ 698.04
Deposits	\$ 1436.63
End balance:	\$ 6,222.75

Egg role fund raiser monies still coming in, expecting deposits from box tops.

Last year's balance at this time was \$4, 144.09 (current balance is ahead by around \$2,000.00).

Fruit fund raiser is also finished.

Report: M/S/P

Principal Murray's Report

- charter renewal updates given to board
- CMAP students enjoyed trip to Eagle Bluff with SOTA II
- WKCE taken by 6th and 7th graders
 - o in spring, all middle school students will take state required Math, English-Language Arts, writing through the Smarter Balanced Assessment
- Choice and Charter window: will open next week, families will get acknowledgement when they apply, can also apply by phone
- Farm partnership is going well (Thursdays)

Principal Huber's Report

- PALS testing complete for grades preK and K
- Faculty working on statements of beliefs (about ready to share)
- Website is about ready to go live
- Newsletter types correspondences will be on the school website, but families can get hard copies by contacting the main office
- Drop-off/pick-up traffic is twice as heavy as before construction so upgrades to this process are needed

- Lunch with Laura – Laura is having lunch with small groups of students
- muffins with Laura – parents are participating
- “pear off” – collecting cans for Salvation Army
- school facebook: Northside Coulee Montessori – please like us! Note: some parents do not want

their children's photos posted

District-Wide Parent Committee

1. no report

Fund Raising Committee: Danielle

1. egg roll – over \$1100.00 profit (similar to last year)
2. fruit: anticipating \$400.00
3. soup – likely changing date to Thursday, February 12 4:00 to 8:00
4. meeting tonight at Java Vino at 7:15
5. box tops: in lunch room, beautiful container collection set up by Kelly Mayer/NS PTO

Outreach Committee: Michelle

1. Anika suggested that Laura approve website information
2. School store: talking with parents, working with Donna at Advertising Concepts, to sell zip up jacket with Montessori monogram; minimum order of 12; \$200.00 toward supplies for store: M/S/P
3. Rotary Lights Parade: Rebecca is leading this project, putting them up Saturday at 1:00, parade will be next Friday (Nov 27), will hand out post cards re: enrollment during parade; January 4, 10:00 – 3:00, take down; requesting \$150.00 for float materials: M/S/P
4. Brochures: for adolescent and elementary in process of being updated; would like to get them out during “open enrollment window” in early February.

Education Committee: Kim

1. Kim met with Chris Mueller (La Crosse School District) regarding testing; district tries to minimize testing, state legislature decides on testing, if family opts out no longer counts as 0 if certain percentage of families participate district-wide; no cost for ACTs but there are administrative costs to the district
2. Meeting with Ann and Bennett re: Montessori Conference; passed out post cards; trying \$200.00 for one full and two $\frac{3}{4}$ scholarships (valued at \$60.00 each): M/S/P. Drawing will be advertised through fliers distributed by teachers; tear-off sheet
3. \$70.00 for vendor table: M/S/P Talk to Nine about CMAP students working the CM booth.
4. Michelle Cook provided information on testing – send questions to Kim for Jan. meeting; question from Becky if students are learning keyboarding

Old/Unfinished Business

1. Charter Highlights:
 1. Parent involvement – is wording clear?
 2. Process for filling open seats (section 10): 3 lotteries levels: 1st - siblings, 2nd - Montessori experience, 3rd - all others who have applied; discussion regarding opportunities for students from La Crosse Montessori.
 3. Health and safety section (regarding animals)
2. Staff is writing sections 3, 4, and 5 regarding their programs and assessments
3. Melissa reviewed process: goes to La Crosse District Board of Ed in April, then to Madison for approval

New Business

1. Kim shared board procedures from governance board powerpoint presentation (from Charter School Association)

1. Emphasis on board speaking as one voice and following procedures in a professional manner
2. Postponed discussion: placement of 6th graders until January
3. Farm to School program: Anna Skemp, has curriculum, would like to set up seasonal visits (4 times per year) for K, E1, E2; needs teacher's name to put on grant; \$60.00 per bus per trip; answer needed by December; Renee will check with teachers next week; \$4.00/child (with grant maybe \$2.00/child); about \$180.00 per trip
4. Treasurer job: let Danielle know if you would like to be treasurer next year, be involved with Soup Supper this year, change over names at Bank in May
5. Board Communications: should past board members continue to receive communications; information can be posted on website; maybe post draft/unofficial minutes? Board members who spoke on this topic feel board communications are intended for the board membership.
6. Art supplies: \$600.00 requested w/ itemized list; other teachers receive \$350.00; M/S/P for \$350.00 for art supplies/
7. Postponed discussion: PAWS program

Announcements

1. none

Meeting adjourned at 7:17.