

Coulee Montessori SET meeting minutes Thursday October 17, 2013

Call to order: 5:40 pm.

Attendance: Kim Shively, Danielle Sprain, Ann Epstein, Mary Temp, Erin Hoy, Rebecca Duncanson, Laura Huber, Melissa Murray, Becky Misch, Michele Cook and Rene' Jacobs-Guentner (teacher reps)

Guests in attendance: Annette O'Hern, Steve Salerno

Secretary's Report:

1. September minutes approved with one name change for attendance.
2. Melissa away, Tina Thomas home with sick children

Treasurer's report: Beginning balance: \$5268.11
Bank balance: \$5957.44
Ending Balance: \$2713.60

PAID OUT: \$2554.51

8 checks @ \$300.00 each for school materials = \$2400.00

La Crosse School Open House ice cream = \$65.00

6 Amazon Peaceful Classroom Books = \$89.51

Principal Huber's report:

1. School Report cards came out
 1. Meets expectations
 2. Exceeds expectations
2. Closing the Gap award to Northside, Montessori does the same thing (not shown through statistics)
3. Request to consider help with healthy snacks (costly to use vendor): 3rd, 4th, 5th grade during testing time; parents said they would help, 3 days
 1. Motion for \$50.00 for snacks, approved
4. Construction continues: technology in new building, each Montessori classroom will have data projection cart; no funds for iPad purchases
5. Think about materials that are aging out and need to be replaced, maybe form committee to prepare for this
6. Punctuality improving, down to 8% habitual tardiness
7. Direct Mail Marketing: Kim will mail out, Laura suggests putting some money into marketing

Principal Murray's Report: See attached

Fund Raising Committee:

1. 1500 egg rolls being made! 11 volunteers, will send out additional order forms
2. Considering options for art work, also considering Compassion Project
3. Motion: up to \$500.00 to purchase ingredients for Egg Roll Fund Raiser, passed

Outreach Committee:

1. Monday, October 28th – sign up for soup and sandwiches (passed around)
2. Advertising: Parenting Connection, banner add: \$200.00 (on their website), emails “button” \$50.00 to \$125.00, email needed before visitation day
 1. Even if there are no openings, good to advertise to get name out in community
 2. Early open enrollment: mid-December
 3. \$100.00 for rotating button add
 4. Probably 250 people will see it,
 5. Also need to send post cards, fliers; discussion of where to distribute: Co-op, Rene sends out post cards
 6. Maybe contact Mark White’s preschool office for mailing labels, then we pay postage, note that openings are limited
 7. Motion: \$250.00 for post cards for preschool mailing – passed
 8. Motion: \$150.00 for block email advertising with Coulee Parenting Connection, 2nd, passed.
 9. Motion: \$50.00 visitation fliers, passed
 10. Motion: \$30.00, posters, passed
 11. Kim will talk with Bruce at Hogan about flier Motion: \$30.00 for flier printing, 2nd, passed
 12. Meetings: week before SET meetings, St. John’s United Church of Christ, 6:30, upstairs in friendship room

Education Committee:

1. Ann Epstein will serve on this committee with Kim Shively
2. We will meet on Nov 14, 6:30 at Java Vino for book study, bring a friend
3. Book Club book is *Montessori Today* by Paula Polk Lillard – will go into newsletter, Rene’ will put on website, Laura will “skylert”

Old/Unfinished Business:

- election of VP: Melissa has difficult work schedule, has missed twice, Kim would like to wait a month, Erin is interested for this year, this would allow more flexibility next year
- Motion: approve Erin for 2013 – 2014 year, passed
- District wide parent rep: Kim suggests out letter to friends regarding district wide parent committee; Mary reminded us that there is an alternate already attending meetings

New Business:

1. Annette O’Hern– renewal up in 2015, make sure we are ready. Learning about charter contracts, works with La Crosse Design Institute, working with plans for new high school (project-based authentic learning). Serves as liaison with school board. Will share template for contract when it is renewed. We need to have contract ready for 2014-2015. New one is more than 4 pages, communication piece between board and council, once template is approved then we can work on it together. Laura – we might a year ahead of time. Annette will check.
2. Steve Salerno. Children’s House – what options can we consider? Thank you for checking out other staffing options in other regions. What is optimal? What is required? What does it take to get to 2 full time FTEs?
 1. Maximum of 18 to 1 for SAGE, or 30 to 2

- Can Kindergarten opt out? If yes, maybe could get numbers up.
- Hard to sustain numbers with what we have now.
- With 24 kindergarteners, could fill all 4 E1s.
- Do we try to bring in La Crosse Montessori preschoolers?
- Could preschoolers be allowed to stay all day if they pay for afternoon?
- How do we get 24 kindergarteners? Add preschoolers with them?
- Would TA be provided with preschoolers?
- How do we have La Crosse Montessori preschoolers join?
- Steve: Can “jump start” be provided during the summer?
- SAGE does not allow mix of preschool and kindergarten.
- Should Open House take place if there are no open spots? Probably good to go ahead to “showcase” Montessori program.
- Mobility: 9 families left last year, 2 previous year, most due to job changes
- Could we have a south side Children’s House program?
- If not SAGE (DPI allows schools to go in and out), could increase, advises not going beyond 18.

Announcements:

- WI Innovative Schools Network Conference on Governing: March 26 – 28, 2014, Kim will try to attend; cost: \$300.00 (3 days)
- Mary reported on Bullying talk at Gundersen, website: Together Against Bullying.org
 - o Two types: Reactive, Sophisticated
 - o Connection with parenting styles, more screen time, less social emotional support, have seen violence at home, more likely to be depressed
 - o June 2: Mental Health talk scheduled

Meeting adjourned 7:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Epstein