

Coulee Montessori Governance Board Minutes

May 21, 2015 - Lincoln Middle

Call to order at 5:38

Attendance: Ann Epstein, Becky Misch, Michelle Schroeder (Skype), Kim Shively, Danielle Sprain, Larry McMahon, Melissa Murray
Teacher reps: Nine Dodge, Michele Cook

Guests in attendance/Public Comment: Rebecca Duncan

Teacher Report: Nine Dodge explained project process with an example of a group that went to City Hall to propose a paint-the-sidewalk project (at 9th and Division cross walk); will have a meeting with a sidewalk chalk artist to learn more about technique; farm projects going well (in particular, fly barrels).

Secretary's Report:

1. M/S/P to approve March and April minutes – unanimous

Treasurer's report:

Beginning balance:	\$ 11,462.38
Paid Out:	\$ 4,061.89
Deposits:	\$4,553.40
End balance:	\$ 11,953.89, expecting to be near \$14,000 by June 1 st due to box tops and some remaining fund raising.

Financial requests:

- ⤴ Teacher requests from Miss Nikki and Sara: \$1202.00 + \$190.00 for chairs and small tables
- ⤴ Kim recommended up to \$500 for any support staff who would like to attend Montessori 101 (introductory workshop offered by St.Katherine's in St. Paul). Fee is \$90
- ⤴ Annual checks to teachers for their wish lists: \$400.00 x 9 = \$3600.00
- ⤴ M/S/P to approve \$5,550.00 for 2015 – 2016 school year.
- ⤴ Danielle requested \$100.00 for safety goggles to be used on the farm. (Melissa will explore safety procedures in place across district.)

MSP to provide \$5800.00 for above requests.

Danielle shared her last end of year report. Board acknowledged Danielle's work as treasurer.

Principal Murray's Report:

Open teacher position: Laura screened 5 applicants, recommended 4 for interviews, if anyone is interested Melissa recommended that board members be available May 26 between 3:30 and 5:45; Michelle is available. Melissa explained process (whether or not second interview is needed)
Finished with Badger testing, felt students took testing seriously and did not appear too stressed; enrollments look ok, 8 incoming 6th graders, expecting 6 to 8 students may express interest over the summer; Nine has 28 and expects 6 more to equal 34; graduation will be on May 29th; Nine shared that her 8th graders will participate in whole school graduation on Friday, May 29 and there will be an in-class graduation on Monday, June 1 during the day.

Principal Huber's Report:

Larry MacMahon (interim principal) reported that Badger exams are done. 4 candidates will be interviewed for combined E2/middle position Tuesday, May 26 between 3:30 and 7:00.

K is full, some openings in E1 (second grade), Laura is recommending that we hold E2 at current

number; Larry answered questions regarding specialists – there is little continuity of Encore staff for CM; 10 families opted out of standardized tests this spring.

District-Wide Parent Committee:

1. Michelle will represent board next year.

Fund Raising Committee:

1. Danielle shared end of year report via email.

Outreach Committee:

1. No report as of this writing

Education Committee:

1. Ann passed out end of year report.

Old/Unfinished Business

1. Charter was signed tonight! Then it goes to DPI. If they need clarification, Melissa will bring that back to us. Is now official in La Crosse, DPI may have requests for some changes.

New Business

1. Voting for new members: 4 open spots, Ann, Becky, Fern, Ty are interested. Per by-laws we can have between 6 and 9 board members, so only need one more is necessary. However, problems can occur regarding quorums if there are absences. Kim will keep ballots so absent members can vote.
2. Roger is interested in being president. New treasurer needs to renew 501C3.
3. Kim requested that board members consider executive positions (vice president, secretary, treasurer).

Announcements:

1. Kim emailed meeting dates for next year. Early release will be on Fridays. Elementary conference nights are same as October and March meeting nights so these dates will need to change in order to have staff representation at the meeting. This be put on August agenda.
2. August 20: Election of officers: Northside (As this meeting will take place before the school year begins and custodial staff will not be present, children are not allowed in the building.)

Meeting adjourned at 6:55