

Coulee Montessori SET

September 19, 2017 / 5:30pm / Lincoln - CMAP Classroom

ATTENDEES

Bennett Myers, Brian Merkey, Elaine Phillips, Vie Matty, Alyssa Boardman, Jim Carlson, Michele Cook, Erin Hoy, Laura Huber, Amanda Luedtke, Danielle Sprain, Melanie Stanczyk, Ty Striebel, Michelle Sulentic

Absent: Melissa Murray, Nell Saunders-Scott

Bennett called the meeting to order at 5:36pm.

AGENDA

Recognize Those in Attendance / Public Comment

The Board and public introduced themselves. No public comment.

Board Education Minute

Bennett mentioned the “Wisconsin Public Education Network”, a group active in state politics.

Student Work

Michele provided an update on E1, and shared this year’s book: “Deep Well of Time” by Michael Dorer. E1 is also working on the First Great Lesson, with crystal and volcano projects. Michele passed around crystals made by her students.

Secretary’s Report

Elaine shared minutes from the August meeting.

Motion to approve minutes from August 15, 2017.

***Bennett Myers/Michelle Sulentic
Motion Carried***

Treasurer’s Report

Vie provided an overview of the treasure’s report. She noted a balance of \$6,865.60 after subtracting outstanding checks in the amount of \$676.13. A discussion followed about the status of these checks, and possible procedures for future incidents. Vie will contact the bank about “stop check” fees and look further into discrepancies. She will provide an update at the October meeting.

Motion to approve treasurer’s report for June, July and August 2017.

***Bennett Myers/Brian Merkey
Motion Carried***

Principal's Report

Ms. Huber provided clarification on communication surrounding Ms. Stephanie's exit and Ms. Melanie's hire. She felt the timing of events played a part in the confusion. She welcomes any feedback from families, and asks she be notified of any concerns. She also touched on Ms. Rene's absence. Due to FMLA laws, she was unable to provide certain information. Again, timing was an issue.

E1 training is being provided to Ms. Melanie via after school meetings. She will also be registering for formal Montessori education within the next few months.

Ms. Huber spoke with Randy Nelson regarding the possible move. The School District is looking at purchasing a Trane building on the south side. There is still no definite decision or details - best case scenario, the School District will vote on the purchase in November.

The DARE program begins this week for 4th and 5th grades. There was some concern as to whether DARE follows the Montessori model. This will be addressed again after the coming year.

A Trauma Informed Care consultant will be working with Northside and Montessori to explore implementing the program at Northside. Ms. Cook will be involved in the discussions.

Heather Gartner is the new Montessori guidance counselor.

Ms. Huber described her role in Montessori, and said her goal is to provide logistics to aid decision making by the teachers.

Bennett provided an update for Melissa Murray: As of September 15, CMAP enrollment is 40. She stressed the importance of 5th grade families applying during the Choice & Charter window. Space is a concern, and room options are being explored. She also addressed the concern regarding Friday's mixer and specific targeting of Charter students. She spoke with students involved, and is coordinating with YWCA partners and restorative justice circles. Changes in format are being discussed. Danielle will contact Melissa to inquire about a regular meeting with Melissa such as "Muffins with Laura".

Committee Reports

1. Fundraising: Amanda would like to schedule regular times to work on big box/caps/labels. She also mentioned the Script Card program through Kwik Trip as a possible fundraiser, as well as doing Burachos again.
2. Outreach: Michelle spoke about the new Facebook page, and encouraged others to invite friends and family to follow. The School Store brought in \$65 from the Open House, having the table in different spot next time was suggested. An application was submitted for Rotary Lights, she is still waiting to hear back - help will be needed! Parent/Teacher conferences were discussed. Michelle will look into providing meals during the conferences.
3. Education: The question of a secondary Montessori program at UW-L was discussed. Jim will investigate and report. Alyssa noted the upcoming Montessori conference and the request for scholarship assistance.

Motion to approve \$750 for scholarships: 8 teacher, 2 family, and 1 full family admission.

***Michelle Sulentic /Ty Striebel
Motion Carried***

4. Relocation Committee: Danielle outlined the goals of the group, and noted the upcoming "Pioneer" parents meeting in October, as well as a meeting with Randy Nelson in November.
5. District-Wide Parents: Nothing current to report.
6. Finance Committee:

Motion to approve payment to Advertising Concepts for invoice #84113 dated January 10, 2017 in the amount of \$778.50.

Tabled - Michelle will call Becky to verify.

Motion to approve payment to Advertising Concepts for invoice #85302 dated August 16, 2017 in the amount of \$683.98.

***Bennett Myers /Michelle Sulentic
Motion Carried***

Motion to approve the reissue of checks for outstanding payments totaling \$676.13, and to void checks already written.

Discussed

Vie will set up accounts at Northside and Lincoln for teachers to purchase classroom supplies. An end of year report will be provided by the schools.

Motion to approve classroom funds in the amount of \$2,000 (\$200 per teacher or as needed).

***Bennett Myers /Michelle Sulentic
Motion Carried***

Credit card fees will be further discussed at the October meeting.

Motion to approve the initial cost of \$60 for a credit card processing account.

***Bennett Myers /Michelle Sulentic
Motion Carried***

Old/Unfinished Business

1. Building update: Discussed
2. Montessori conference funding: Discussed
3. Funding / check requests: Discussed
4. Classroom funds: Discussed
5. CC processing and store: Discussed
6. Store update: Michelle and Brian provided an update
7. Re-enrollment process for families: TBD
8. Coulee Recovery Center update: Tabled, City is negotiating
9. By-Laws revisions: Elaine will complete and forward to Bennett

New Business

1. Disposal of financial records:

Motion to approve the disposal policy and disposal of old financial records (pre-2009).

Bennett Myers /Danielle Sprain

Motion Carried

2. SET role in school communications: TBD

Danielle mentioned the Albanesi Math program as a possible purchase to address the missing link between E2/CMAP and high school. Teachers will review the product and share their thoughts at the October meeting.

Motion to adjourn.

Time 7:38 pm

Bennett Myers/Amanda Luedtke

Motion Carried