

Coulee Montessori SET Minutes

September 19, 2023 5:30pm @ Coulee Montessori/Northside Library

IN ATTENDANCE (Board Roster):

Kim Shively	Willie Bittner	Alexis Brandow	Cami Fuller
Alex Hiller	Deanna Maynard	Amy Merkey	Kathryn Wiegrefe
Mariah Bigelow	Sarah Bradle		

All present at meeting except: Willie Bittner and Amy Merkey

Other attendees:

Andy Thomas (parent of CH student) Josh Shively, Genevive (student teacher), Ms Maddie, Jenna Anfang (community school coordinator), Laura

CALL TO ORDER

Public Comment - None scheduled

GOVERNANCE TOPICS

Secretary needed—Kathryn Wiegrefe volunteers!

New board member—Sara Horstman.

-Kim: Makes a motion to amend bylaws through September to allow another person on the board. Alexis seconds, motion passes.

-Kim moves that Sara is added. Alexis seconds, motion carries unanimously

-Sara is on District Wide Parents, we'd like one more person to join DWP, ideally someone with kids in multiple buildings. Parents can speak to Hogan, stay informed both ways. Alexis might volunteer!

School Performance and Student Work

-Having 6th graders has been a positive change! Excited to have them in class.

-Partner with ORA for trails, look into coordinating with them for outdoor school?

-E2 is going to Deep Roots community farm next week and going to Franciscan Sisters Green House to see how greenhouses are run.

-Some of the classrooms have need of higher-priced materials in order to have fully-furnished classrooms. This would exceed the \$300 allotment each teacher is given for a classroom fund. Consider creating a budget category for Montessori materials, approve an amount during treasurer part of meeting.

-Community groups—dividing up groups of 18 K-6 kids on monthly basis and stick with the same group throughout the year. Learning about Oktoberfest and doing Oktoberfest dancing afterward! Hoping for next meeting to be at Deep Roots.

-Directory sign up at conferences to get more families added.

Principal Report—Sarah Bradle

-116 students in CM, not sure of numbers for open enrollment.

-Closing one NS, one SS school. Hired outside entity to avoid bias in doing the assessment for what to close. North Woods, Emerson, Hintgen and Spence are possibilities for closures. Expecting 90 more kids at Northside Elementary regardless of which NS school closes. School board decides what further consolidations take place. Not sure of timeline. Could be a couple of years out, but benefits to making the closure soon after the announcement so that students and staff don't start to jump ship early.

-Swings to tentatively be installed Oct 9-13. Need to shut down playground, so do it while NSE is on intercession

-Official go-ahead for the greenhouse, getting it ordered. Not sure if should still do it with possibility of moving buildings. CM might not get to keep using it because it will be a permanent structure. Grants were intended for a Northside greenhouse, so doesn't seem right not to follow through with that.

District Wide Parents – No meeting this month

Meeting Procedures and Board Jobs – Information provided

Goals and Tasks – Increase volunteering, create parent directory.

- Directory link needs to be sent out for more families to add their info. Discussion about whether to have printed directories or just stick with digital. Printed is probably unnecessary.

Family Night Dates and Needs –Jenna

-Decent turnout from both schools at last week's event. Future dates are set but themes could change. Input on themes and parent volunteers are welcome. Should we incorporate Montessori training for parents to learn more about the learning style, like we did for the soup supper last year? Could have a table for Montessori things to look at and learn, but maybe not make it the center of attention.

November meeting date

-Current November meeting date is the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. Decided to move meeting to Nov 28 and combine with the December meeting. December date will

tentatively be left open in case decisions need to be made and we feel like we need to have that meeting. Kim makes motion, Alexis seconds, motion carries.

Secretary's report

- Kim moves to approve August minutes, Mariah seconds, motion carries

Treasurer's report

- Ms Alison requests \$216 for books

- Up to \$250 requested for hike supplies

- Large proposed increase to field trip funds, in order to account for bussing for outdoor school monthly. Increase to \$4,000. \$400/mo for busses -- \$3600/yr. Keep it at \$4,000 to allow for extra field trips

- Current budget for classroom materials has never been fully spent

- One time requests for furnishing classroom totals \$5,022 for all teachers to have everything they want. Discussion on how much to give now, since we have \$9,000 in the bank. Idea for giving tree for teachers at Christmas to cover some of the items needed.

- Raised \$6,621 at fall fundraiser last year

- Maybe account for future teacher training for forest schools?

- Alex moves to approve budget, Alexis seconds, motion passes

- Alexis moves to approve \$3,000 for classroom materials, Cami seconds, motion carries.

- Alex moves to approve Ms Alison's request, Cami seconds, motion carries.

- Alex approves \$250 for the hike, Kim seconds, motion carries

All-School Fundraiser – Laura

- Same fall hike as last year. October 9th thru 20th for fundraiser. Incentives kick in for percentage of class registered, not amount raised. 25%, 50%, 75%. Extra recess at park, backwards day, movie and popcorn day

- Trying to get permit for fire – having difficulty

- Kwik trip donate smores or glazers?

- Parents bring camping lanterns?

-Teachers have kids decorate their own luminary bags

Meeting is adjourned at 7:31pm