

**Maria Montessori Academy
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, March 11, 2014**



Location: 2505 N. 200 E.
North Ogden, UT 84414

In Attendance: Preston Allen, Loma Prince, Joan Effiong, Dore Elmer

Others in Attendance: Stephanie Speicher (Director), Kim Dohrer (AW), Kara Finley (AW), Ryan Arrington (AW), Sandi Weber (AW)

The mission of Maria Montessori Academy is to provide an individualized grade K-9 education that promotes academic excellence founded on the authentic philosophy of Dr. Maria Montessori. MMA will craft each child's education in partnership with educators and parents to achieve higher levels of academic, personal and social achievement, thereby preparing students to become constructive contributors to their community.

MINUTES

5:42 PM – CALL TO ORDER by Preston Allen

CONSENT ITEMS

- **Board Meeting Minutes**

Joan Effiong made a motion to approve the February 11, 2014 Board Meeting Minutes and the February 26, 2014 Board Meeting Minutes; Dore Elmer seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- No public comments were made.

REPORTS

- **MAPA Update**

Dore Elmer provided an update on MAPA. The Gala is approaching and will feature food from Bella's, a live art auction, a silent auction, and a raffle. The Parent Education Night on school safety went well and included principals from other local schools. Dr. Seuss Day was held in classes to support literacy. Teacher Appreciation Week and Field Day will be in May.

- **Directors Report**

Stephanie Speicher updated the Board on the state of the school. Teacher workshops are planned to help teachers align the Montessori curriculum with state standards. Leadership opportunities for students next year may include a Foundations of Leadership Course, joining National Honor Society, and holding an incentivized reading program.

Reading assessment scores and the results were examined. Testing will begin in April and teachers are working with students to prepare them for the process. Special Education funding, services, and staffing is being researched in preparation for next year. Student enrollment figures for the 2014-2015 school year look positive. The reunification drill is still being planned and the Parent Education Night on school safety was well attended and received overwhelmingly positive feedback. The school is promoting an idle-free campaign, the Dress Code Policy is being reviewed, and the Tuition Reimbursement Policy was proposed. Electronics use by teachers in the classroom for emergency use was discussed.

- **Budget Report**

Loma Prince reviewed the budget and it is in good shape. The insurance is fully paid, technical support is being monitored, and reimbursements have been submitted. Stephanie Speicher and Ryan Arrington were congratulated for their watchful eye on the budget.

CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL AND PROPERTY

- Loma Prince made a motion to enter a Closed Session to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual and the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property; Dore Elmer seconded. Motion passed unanimously, the votes were as follows:

- Preston Allen – AYE
- Joan Effiong – AYE
- Loma Prince – AYE
- Dore Elmer – AYE

Entered Closed Session at 6:23 PM.

- Dore Elmer made a motion to adjourn the Closed Session; Joan Effiong seconded. Motion passed unanimously, the votes were as follows:

- Preston Allen – AYE
- Joan Effiong – AYE
- Loma Prince – AYE
- Dore Elmer – AYE

Adjourned Closed Session at 7:06 PM.

VOTING ITEMS

- **2014-2015 Fee Schedule**

The Board reviewed the proposed 2014-2015 Fee Schedule and Stephanie Speicher discussed the differences from last year.

Joan Effiong made a motion to approve the 2014-2015 Fee Schedule; Loma Prince seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

- **School Land Trust**

Stephanie Speicher discussed the 2013-2014 updated plan and the 2014-2015 plan that is being prepared and the timeline for it to be completed and ready for Board approval.

The vote on the School Land Trust Plan was tabled.

- **Tuition Reimbursement Policy**

The committee discussed the recommended policy and the employment specifications and reimbursement options. Stephanie Speicher introduced the policy and the ability for staff members to advance their education.

Dore Elmer made a motion to approve the Tuition Reimbursement Policy effective July 1, 2014; Loma Prince seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

BREAK FROM 7:22 PM TO 7:32 PM

VOTING ITEMS

- **Board Member**

Joan Effiong made a motion to approve adding Mary Wurm as a Board Member effective immediately for a four-year term; Dore Elmer seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

- **Portables/Yurt**

The vote on the portables and yurt was tabled.

- **Kiva Removal**

Stephanie Speicher presented the cost for the remodel to allow for additional storage space and another room. The allocation from the budget and the original bid specifications were reviewed.

Loma Prince made a motion to approve up to \$15,100 for remodeling the kiva area and closet upgrades; Dore Elmer seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- **Board Term Review**

The Board reviewed the staggered terms and upcoming renewals.

- **Action Items**

The Board reviewed the status of action items.

- **Calendaring**

- Board Meeting April 8, 2014 at 5:30 PM

- Board Retreat tentatively scheduled for June 27-28, 2014

TRAINING

- **Charter School Board University**

Training on chapter twelve was tabled.

ADJOURN

- Joan Effiong made a motion to adjourn the Board Meeting; Dore Elmer seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Board Meeting adjourned at 8:06 PM.

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MINUTES

6:23 PM – CALL TO ORDER

Closed Session to discuss the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property.

6:50 PM – CALL TO ORDER

Closed Session to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual.

ADJOURN

- Dore Elmer made a motion to adjourn the Closed Session; Joan Effiong seconded. Motion passed unanimously, the votes were as follows:
 - Preston Allen – AYE
 - Joan Effiong – AYE
 - Loma Prince – AYE
 - Dore Elmer – AYE
- Adjourned Closed Session at 7:06 PM.

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AFFIDAVIT

This Closed Session was held to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual pursuant to Utah Code 52-4-205(1)(a).

This Closed Session was held to discuss the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property pursuant to Utah Code 52-4-205(1)(d).



Preston Allen, Chair



Date