

Montessori Academy
Governing Board Committee
Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 15, 2017, 5:30 PM

6050 N Invergordon Rd, Paradise Valley, AZ 85253 Room 11

1. Call to order
 - a. 5:37pm by Vice-Chairperson, Nicholas Toronto
2. Record Member Attendance (roll-call or observed)
 - a. Voting Members: Dr. George Wood, Nicholas Toronto, Maegan Dixon, Debra Berkey , Jennifer Dunn, Kara Tustin: quorum present.
 - b. Absent: Henri Cournand, Dr. Jeffery Trent
 - c. Non-Voting Member(s) present: Wanda Wright (Executive Board Representative)
3. Initial Call for Public Comment on Agendized and Non-Agendized Items (two-minute limit per speaker/topic)
 - a. None
4. Acknowledgments/Introductions – George Wood acknowledged all members for their time and commitment to the Board.
5. Old Business (actual visitation order to be determined by the Chair)
 - a. Review/Approval of January 25, 2017 meeting minutes – Several typos were found and corrected. Maegan Dixon moved to accept the minutes as corrected, Jennifer Dunn seconded. Approved 6-0.
 - b. Status Check of Strategic Plan
 - i. Juli Newman will be sending the survey out on Friday. George Wood moved to table the result discussion, Maegan Dixon seconded. Approved 6-0.
 - ii. Jennifer Dunn and Kara Tustin shared the new Parents of Montessori Academy – POMA- Facebook Page. It is a closed group, private site, and will be managed by the two Board members. It is accessed by invitation only. They have developed a series of posts to announce school events. It is a place for Positive interaction of parents. Jennifer Dunn will send out information to all parents – through IT and Juli. Deb Berkey explained the ongoing Senior Elementary gardening program. Before we can continue, we are looking into the water drainage issues. The neighbor’s landscape water is

coming through. The school has requested them to monitor it, with no change. Wanda suggested getting help from the Town. Juli will look into it as a last option in order to not upset any neighbors. We have reached out to various parents, yet have not found an answer or additional help. Kara Tustin offered her husband as a resource. When describing the fencing that is planned. Nick Toronto expressed concern regarding the possibility of rust and safety. The school will see if the materials are safe before they are purchased and installed. Deb explained the project – animal habitats, raised garden beds, worm box, and a pergola for studies. Deb also explained that the Senior Elementary students have done a lot of the work to relocate the tetherballs.

- c. Advisory Council Involvement- Nick moved to table this discussion. Maegan Dixon seconded. Approved 6-0. Discussion revolved around the gathering of more information to use at the next meeting. Members will choose program level projects to be actively supportive and involved in. Approved 6-0.
- d. Events:
 - i. Tax Credit Drive: We are currently under 25,000. We need to promote the drive. Juli is meeting with the Room Parents tomorrow to ask for their support. Tree posters will be going up to show donors by next Tuesday. The “thermometer” will be going up shortly. Juli could not find it, but Wanda believes she knows where it is.
 - ii. Various events: Internships for 7th and 8th graders will begin next week. Juli will solicit any needs by Friday. Field Day was fantastic. We participated in School Choice day with the Honor Council teaching the students a dance. The Senior Elementary is hosting a Chipotle fundraiser on February 24th. 50% of the profits will go to the school. It is next to Sprinkles, therefore, Jennifer Dunn will check to see if Sprinkles would like to join in on the fundraiser.
 - iii. State testing will begin at the end of March and go through April. We will be participating in the computer version of the AZMerit this year. Links have and will continue to be sent to parents regarding resources for the test. Keyboarding is important for the 3rd-8th grade students to practice. The teachers recommend Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing.
 - iv. Science Fair: Debra Berkey and Maegan Dixon explained Science Fair for K-8th grade students on March 1st. They have some awesome parents in different fields of science that are starting to volunteer as judges.
- 6. New Business (actual visitation order to be determined by the Chair)
 - a. None
- 7. Executive Board Report: Wanda Wright

- a. Annual Meeting: Wanda Wright described the Annual Meeting as a State of the School Address by the Superintendent/Principal. In addition to the regular agenda, there will be a report on the school finances, grants, staffing, academic testing, and more. It has been posted for March 22, 2017.
- b. Appointments to the Advisory Committee
 - i. None - The Executive Board is accepting resumes at this time for one open position. The Advisory Council also needs to find a Secretary.
- 8. Final Call for Public Comment on Agendized and Non-Agendized Items (two-minute limit per speaker/topic)
 - a. Juli Newman noted that she is meeting with the Room Parents tomorrow at her house from 5-6 pm – everyone is invited to attend.
- 9. Set date for next School Governing Board Committee meeting. (typically 3rd Weds of a month)
 - a. The Annual Meeting has been set for March 22, 2017.
- 10. Adjournment
 - a. Nick Toronto moved to adjourn. Debra Berkey seconded. Approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:22pm.

The next Advisory Council meeting will be held March 22, 2017 at 5:30pm at 6050 N Invergordon Rd, Paradise Valley, AZ 85253, in Room 11 or other such accommodations as may be appropriate. If members interested in attending desire telephone call-in information, please submit such request in writing to the Secretary at least 48 hours prior to the meeting time so that we may ensure a quorum, to the extent possible.

Submitted by Juli Newman, Interim Secretary Revision "A": February 16, 2017