



**Elm City Montessori School  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
November 7, 2024  
Minutes**

**Our Zoom Meeting:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/2411531073?pwd=NlFoK1dPNnlmL1hndHNQOQkZQVjV6Zz09>

**Quorum reached and meeting opened 5:35 pm.** Quorum was maintained throughout the meeting with 5 participants of 7 (6) current board members.

**Attendees:**

Board- Susan Clark, Alayna Stone, Carolyn Havrda, Keith Krolak, Sudhakar Vamathevan  
(Kara Straun joined meeting after Action Items)

Staff- Julia Webb, Florisca Carter, Sade Jean-Jacques

Amatogo Jeremie no longer can attend and has stepped down due to a relocation.

**I. Approve September Meeting Minutes ([here](#))**

Approved unanimously.

**Action Items were moved to the beginning of the agenda in order to possibly invite to candidates for ECMS Board to join meeting.**

**Action items**

- Vote on new parent liaison, Kara Straun([bio here](#))  
Approved unanimously
- Vote on new member Tony Dini ([bio here](#))  
Approved unanimously

Welcome to Kara! Tony will join next meeting. In person meeting 12/5/24 with details TBA to welcome 2 new members and celebrate Michael Van Leestan's tenure of being the board chair.

**II. Public Participation**

None.

**III. Principal Report ([here](#))**

See linked report for detail.

Ed accountability needs to meet so an invite will go out soon. The School Improvement Plan will be reviewed by this subcommittee. Goal setting has been completed across the school. SBA over time reviewed. Highlighting that reading has been a focus and has made a difference in growth. Math is fluctuating and needs a focus even though math overall other schools are lower in math. Science was significantly strong. Math criteria from Common Core focus is on complex problem solving. Feedback loop through observations of lessons with criteria is driving the improvement work. Focus on:

Reading: Comprehension

Math: Complex problems with visuals and discussions so that they are able to have discourse around their process of problem solving.

#### **IV. ABAR Director Report ([here](#))**

See linked report for detail.

Continuing to work on strategic equity plan for next 3 years. Race protocol anchoring the work. On Wednesday- feelings, managing stress and identifying those each child can lean on was given space to talk about in groups and one on one. ABAR quarter 1 coaching has begun and work across the school is exciting.

#### **V. Director of Finance and Operations Report [HERE](#)**

See linked report for detail.

Several updates including technology, safety, etc. Some approvals may be needed for additional technology. Steering committee has worked with CES to see what is needed including guiding next steps. The playground project is moving forward see schedule in report. Food services is providing food but it may not align with Montessori. This is just at the beginning of its conception. Safety in parking lot is a continued concern.

#### **VI. Committee Reports**

**Education Accountability-** will be meeting soon.

**[Master Planning Committee](#)**

**[Finance Committee](#)**

Please refer to DFO Report. More information next meeting about audit and financial reports per Sudhakar.

#### **VII. Executive Session**

None.

Meeting adjourned: 7:03