



Wildflower Montessori
Public Schools of Colorado

WMPSC Board Meeting Minutes

October 20th, 2025, 5:30-7:30pm

In attendance:

Betsy Symanietz - Board Facilitator
Kelly Gomes - Shared Services Partner
Latia Henderson - Board Chair
Sarah Vescio - Board Member
Sabeen Sattar - Board Secretary
Jeremy Franklin - Board Compliance Officer
Maya Lagana - Board Member
Fay Rizzuto - Board Member
Hali Nurnberg - Board Member
Marcy Fullwood - Board Treasurer
Michelle Hobbins - Teacher Leader
Emma Reicks - Teacher Leader
Emely - Teacher Leader
Megan Smith - Teacher Leader
Zoey He - Teacher Leader
Maggie Regalia (Tatonka) - Financials
Lexi Brown - CBCS Parent/Potential Teacher Leader

Meeting Purpose

Review financials, discuss network updates, and plan board learning topics.

Key Takeaways

- Strong Financials: The network is financially healthy with ~\$870k cash on hand (vs. \$215k LY) and a \$155k YTD surplus. The Grand Valley region has a small, temporary \$11k deficit, which is being monitored.

- Sunflower Enrollment Challenges: Enrollment is the primary challenge for some schools, particularly for K-1 students who require state funding. This has forced a strategic pivot to focus on recruiting UPK students.
- Teacher Leader Pipeline: The "School Startup Journey" is cultivating a pipeline of teacher leaders, including Lexi Brown for a new Grand Valley school. The process is intentionally rigorous to ensure strong, sustainable leadership.
- SAC Focus: The School Accountability Committee (SAC) will focus its public meetings on four key areas: Montessori education, strategic goals, data sharing (e.g., DIBELS), and parent engagement/fundraising.

Topics

Financials & Audit

- September Performance:
 - Revenue: \$281k (+6.4% vs. budget)
 - Expenses: \$176k (-26% vs. budget)
 - Operating Surplus: \$105k
- Year-to-Date (YTD) Performance:
 - Revenue: 3% below target (a minor variance of <\$25k)
 - Expenses: 14% below target (due to property costs and staffing timing)
 - Operating Surplus: \$155k
- Regional Performance:
 - Aurora: \$166k YTD surplus
 - Grand Valley: \$11k YTD deficit (timing-related; being monitored)
- Balance Sheet:
 - Cash: ~\$870k (vs. \$215k LY), providing nearly 150 days of cash on hand (target: 40).
 - Net Assets: ~\$923k
- 2024-25 Audit: The audit was clean with no surprises, validating the network's strong financial health.

Network Updates & Challenges

- Fundraising Highlights:
 - Meadow Rue: ~\$170 from Chipotle fundraiser → after-school club scholarships.
 - Sunflower School: \$89 from Kona Ice; \$5k donation from Adina Furniture completed a matching grant → general fund.
 - Mount Juniper: Monthly fundraisers (~\$130–\$150) → student scholarships.
 - Cactus Bloom: >\$300 from Red Robin → playground development.
- Primary Challenges:
 - Enrollment (Sunflower School): Low K-1 enrollment forced a pivot to focus on UPK students, as they cannot accept students without state funding.
 - Hiring (Meadow Rue): Seeking a Montessori assistant for 6-9 year-olds.
 - Data-Driven Intervention (Meadow Rue): New students have significant academic needs. The team is using data to implement targeted literacy intervention.
- Board Support:
 - Operational Systems: Kelly requested that the board reinforce and use existing operational systems (e.g., strategic plan) to maintain efficiency.
 - Teacher Leader Pipeline: The "School Startup Journey" is a rigorous, multi-step process to ensure strong leadership.
 - Initial contact & self-discovery form.
 - Visioning process with a Wildflower partner.
 - Site affiliation group review (led by Fay).
 - Formal board affiliation.

School Accountability Committee (SAC) Update

- Purpose: A state-mandated committee for parent accountability and engagement.
- Public Meeting Focus:

- Montessori education
 - Strategic plan progress
 - Data sharing (e.g., DIBELS)
 - Fundraising goals
- Internal Work: Monthly meetings will define roles and responsibilities and create a network-wide data-sharing policy.
- SAC Meeting Minutes:  WMPSC School Accountability Committee (SAC)

Board Learning Calendar Brainstorm

- The board brainstormed topics for future 20-minute learning sessions, organized by strategic priority.
- Goal: Develop a calendar of "bite-sized" topics to build knowledge and skills needed to support the strategic plan.

Time	Format	Topic (includes links to supporting documents)	Facilitator
5:30-5:43pm	Discussion	Welcome, call meeting to order, request proposal to approve the agenda • Check-in question: What is the best costume you've ever worn? JF voted to open the meeting All voting BMs votes yes	Betsy
	N/A	Public Comment • For reference, our public comment policy is available here	Betsy
5:43-5:49pm	Information, Validation	September Financials and 2024-2025 Audit FR voted to approve financials and audit All voting BMs approved and validated	Maggie or Tina from Tatonka
5:49-6:14pm	Information	WMPSC Network Update • ALL: Please come prepared to ask at least one question or make at least one comment.	Betsy
6:14-6:20pm	Validation	Consent Agenda: • September Meeting Minutes • Aurora CARS report • GV CARS report • Policies ◦ Public Comment at Board Meetings ◦ Harassment and Discrimination Policy and Procedure No reactions but gratitudes No objections from all voting BMs Consent agenda validated	Betsy
6:20-6:35pm	Information, Discussion	SAC Committee: 2025-2026 Focus	Sabeen
6:35-7:00pm	Information, Learning	Looking back, looking forward: WMPSC's history and future growth trajectory	Kelly
7:00-7:19pm	Discussion	2025-2026 Board Learning Calendar	Betsy
7:19-7:21pm	Information	Upcoming Events • Meadow Rue Fallfest - October 24th • "Teal 101" - Self Management Onboarding session: October 28th, 3-4pm MT (on zoom, passcode: holytime) • The Sunflower School Fallfest - October 30th	Kelly

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- WMPSC Conferences October 30th-31st
 - MJM restaurant Giveback at BJs November 3rd
 - “Intro to Wildflower Charters” - Self Management Onboarding session:
November 5th, 3:15-4pm MT (on [zoom](#), passcode: holytime)
 - ETL Advice Session for GJ November 6th
 - Wildflower Virtual refresher November 13th
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7:21-7:30pm Feedback

[Share your feedback on tonight's meeting](#)

Betsy

SV proposed to adjourn

All votings BMs voted to adjourn
