



APMA Board Minutes
Date: September 4, 2025
Time: 4:00 - 5:30 PM
Location: APM E2 Resource Area

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Guest Attendees 4:06pm

We ask that Guest Attendees who would like to address the board please contact the board secretary (SteeringAPM@gmail.com) prior to the meeting so we can add your request to the agenda.

Attendees: Courtney M., Danielle D., April M., Mark M., Jen Z., Cassie G., Anne S., Rachel S., Matt L., Rachel C., Maggie V., Josie Y., Kim M., Sarah C.(recorder)

Excused: JoBeth S.

Reading of the Mission: **Appleton Public Montessori seeks to nurture the full potential of every child through the presence of the Montessori philosophy in all learning environments, encouraging intrinsic motivation, and instilling a love of learning, now and for a lifetime.**

2. Approval of [Minutes](#) from the last meeting Motion AS, 2nd MM

3. Approval of today's Agenda Motion JZ, 2nd MV

4. Guest Speakers (3 minutes)

a. NA

5. Administrator's Report (Cassie Guilbeault) (8 minutes)

a. Report

- i. Consider the state of AASD at this time - 11 million or more deficit, with plan for a referendum in spring—when making plans to pursue charter expansion. The timing is not ideal for forward movement toward expansion.
- ii. AASD Board interested in visiting APM and all schools in the District. Will invite to project nights and Unity Day. Requested APMA to share events to invite AASD board to.
 1. Ideas: Harvest Moon, Paint a Plank, Time for Me, Mystery Reader.
 2. Contact Cassie with other ideas.
- iii. APM staff attended Virtues Project Training in August (open to APM parents)
 1. Incorporating 2 virtues into school monthly
 - a. Outward virtue: kindness
 - b. Inward virtue: self discipline
 2. Invited Virtues Presenter Terry back to Unity Day

6. Steering Committee

a. **Treasurer Report**

i. NA

7. Voting item

- a. New Applicants Motion to move into a closed meeting CM, 2nd SC. Motion to move into an open session and vote for applicants. CM, 2nd SC
 - i. Josie Young for Community Co-Chair **Motion CM, 2nd SC ML, RS, AM, MM, JZ, MV, AS, CM, SC All in Favor. Motion Carries.**
 - ii. Cassie Curry for Resources Co-Chair Motion **CM, 2nd SC ML, RS, AM, MM, JZ, MV, AS, CM, SC All in Favor. Motion Carries.**
 - iii. JoBeth Schuler for Vice President **Motion CM, 2nd SC ML, RS, AM, MM, JZ, MV, AS, CM, SC All in Favor. Motion Carries.**



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b. [2025-2026 Strategic Plan](#) Motion to approve

2025-26 Strategic Plan CM, 2nd JZ. ML, RS, AM, MM, JZ, MV, AS, CM, SC All in Favor.

Motion Carries.

c. [2025-2026 Budget](#)

- i. \$27,000 in checking
- ii. \$44,000 in endowment
- iii. \$12,000 in savings for conferences
- iv. Acknowledged need for sustainable Montessori materials timeline. Priority to budget for current requests from APM teachers.

1. **Motion to approve 2025-26 Budget Plan CM, 2nd MM. ML, RS, AM, MM, JZ, MV, AS, CM, SC All in Favor. Motion Carries.**

8. Discussion

a. [Montessori Materials](#)

- i. Giving Tree for Classrooms
 1. Ideas: Share at conference nights, Teacher Appreciation Week
 - a. Check/cash
 - b. Include: Volunteer time, field trips
- ii. Include art, music, and gym: not covered by AASD. APM receives \$16,000 annually
- iii.

9. Steering Committee Updates (5 minutes)

a. **President's Report**

- i. Expansion: Not ideal time for expansion
- ii. Invited to Service Learning Fair at Valley New School. Asked board if there is interest in service learning opportunities for VNS students to volunteer at APM events. Board is in favor of VNS volunteers helping with games at Harvest Moon.

b. **VP Report**

- i. NA

10. Teacher Advisory Report (5 minutes)

a. CH:

- i. Kids are in routines and getting used to being at school.
- ii. Curriculum on Kindness from UW Madison.

b. E1:

- i. Community building,
- ii. Great Lessons: 1. The Coming of the Universe (The Beginning), 2. The Coming of Life (The Earth and Biology), 3. The Coming of Humans (Humanity's History), 4. The History of Writing (Communication in Signs), and 5. The Story of Numbers (Mathematics).
- iii. E1 Hallway decorated with art.
- iv. Testing and new routines.

c. E2:

- i. Language test, math test, plans will begin next week.
- ii. Fibonacci, nature, parts of speech, writing
- iii. 4th graders learning new teachers and social dynamics
- iv. Enjoying the class

d. Art/Music/PE:



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- i. Borrowed drums are in closet.
- ii. CH art is woven into lessons.
- iii. E1/E2 sketched, look at art, see, think, wonder, feel.
- iv. PE infusing virtues.

11. Committee Working Agenda

- a. **(2-3 minutes) Community Committee** - *Strengthen the sense of community and connection among parents, students and staff through intentional engagement of parents and initiatives to facilitate students' growth and success in the Montessori methodology.*
 - i. Popsicles on the playground was a success having it combined with back to school night. - Worked Great!
 - ii. We are not moving forward with the buddy system this year as it was not impactful the past 2 years. Will try to encourage use of Facebook page as resource for asking questions.
 - iii. Have "teacher favorites" forms available at curriculum night? Need to update with new staff. - Will ask Jenny.
 - iv. Have merch available to purchase at curriculum night and/or harvest moon? Order more of certain items? - Share inventory at orientation night and use order form.
- b. **(2-3 minutes) Extracurricular and Enrichment Committee** - *Continually explore and implement new, relevant Montessori learning opportunities to nurture the potential of all children at APM to "learn to love to learn."*
 - i. Robotics for E2
 - ii. Running Club led by Kim and Mark.
 - iii. Idea in partnership with Mary Beth Nienhaus Center- Grandparents and students gatherings, play music
 - 1. Any club ideas contact Cassie
- c. **(2-3 minutes) Student Success Action Committee**- *To create a supportive learning environment at APM where every student can thrive*
 - i. Cassie has been hard at work coordinating with the District Student Success Group.
 - 1. Unity Day October 22 with Terry. We are supporting with orange tie-dye Tshirts. Forms will go home with students.
 - 2. Lunch Bunch - APM looking atv Panorama scores and pairing students who will have success at lunch bunch. Supports social and emotional learning.
 - a. 9/22-10/31 with Kike
 - b. 1/12-2/20 with Keila
 - 3. E2 Book/Language Club with Keila after school, 1 hour on Wednesdays 4/8-5/6
 - 4. E2 I Am Champion with Meng on Tuesdays and Thursdays during lunch and recess 11/4-11/20
- d. **(2-3 minutes) Facilities Committee** - *Optimize existing facilities to more effectively support programs and reflect the Montessori community while simultaneously planning for a viable growth plan.*
 - i. Paint a plank - having no signup, what is prohibited on planks?, how to announce next orientation session - teachers will articulate to families. Anne and Courtney will volunteer with Kids Club.
- e. **(2-3 minutes) Resource Committee** - *Strengthen the financial platform to serve the mission, sustainability and planned growth of the school.*



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i. 2 major changes this year

1. Plan for the whole year laid out at once
2. Each fundraiser is being attached to a specific need
 - a. **Grant Coordinator Update-**
 - i.
 - b. **Endowment Director-**
 - i.

f. Event Coordinator

- i. Masquerade Ball 2/7 @The Crystal - allows us to have another silent auction

g. Volunteer Needs

- i. Unity Day Tie Dye T-shirt Rolling Help. Oct 14th

12. New Business

- a.

13. Action Items

- a.

14. A reminder of Upcoming Events-All events can be found on our Bulletin Board

- i. **E&E Meeting: NA**
- ii. **Resources Meeting:** Friday, September 12, 8:30am Coffee Wizards Lawe St.
- iii. **Community Committee Meeting:** Monday, September 8, 10 am Copper Rock by School
- iv. **DEI Meeting: NA**
- v. **Board Meeting:** Thursday, September 4, 4:00pm APM E2 Resource Area
- vi. **Facilities Meeting:** Monday, September 15, 8:30am Copper Rock by School

15. Adjourn Motion to adjourn CM, 2nd JZ 5:30pm