

BOD Meeting Minutes
East Cooper Montessori Charter School
Thursday, March 18.2021
Join Zoom Meeting
Meeting ID: Join Zoom Meeting

<https://charleston.zoom.us/j/84487544623>

Meeting ID: 844 8754 4623

Password: Wp51w1

Executive Session:

I. Administrative -

A. Meeting was called to order at 6:05

: B. Board Members Roll Call:

Abby Kazley- Year 2 of 2 -Chair present
Secretary: Kristin Ormand Year 2 of 2 present
DJ Barnhill - Year 2 of 2 Treasurer present
Denise Runza - Year 2 of 2 present
Abe Gutting- Year 1 of 2 present
Rob Varnado - Year 1 of 2 absent
Merissa Elisei- Year 1 of 2 present

C. Ex-Officio Members:

Jody Swanigan, Principal present
Billy Koll, Financial Director present
Krissie Patterson, Teacher Member present

Happy Birthday ABBY!

D. Mission Statement: Provide a rigorous Montessori education guiding the children toward academic excellence, lifelong learning, and stewardship of the greater community.

E. Freedom of Information Compliance:

F. Approval of Last Meeting Minutes:

G. Public Comment:

H. Decision of Officers for this term

II. Presentation/Discussion Items:

A. Financial: Financial Report

A. Board Budget Review- Proposed for 2021-2022

- 1% increase EFA Funding
- 6% non certified staff increase (CCSD)
- 4% certified staff increase (CCSD)
- Additional Admin (hired)

- 5% increase operations
- Afterschool programs to return
- Contract videographer/Tech Asst to be hired
- 2nd music teacher (TBD)
- 2nd interventionalist (TBD)
- Budget reduction- 1st grade classrooms to be integrated to Lower EL
- 21K positive

Cost changes 2021-2022

Increase in Upper L, Middle, Admin, Tech, Facilities

Decreases to Lower EL. And Primary

Federal Programs available for additional funds from Covid: PPP (filed for forgiveness 3/19)
ESSER II (\$596K)

B. PPP, Years of Service for Teachers

C. Dashboard: 402 Current student count/ Covid Expenses \$710,250.00, Annual Fund at 73% of target

H. Annual Fund Update- 73% of plan

B. Administration/HR

- A. 4 members of Board will roll off this summer:
- B. New staffing 21-22
- C. CCSD No Virtual next year

C. Community & Public Relations

No report

D. Development:

1. Pivot online auction May 14th ONLINE Auction (30K net goal)
2. Annual Fund 73% of plan
3. Board Elections Coming Up

E. Educational Program:

1. MMUN Pivot- ZOOM conference (cost savings for participants) – maybe move MMUN into 7th grade rotation
2. 818 applicants for school choice: 61% for primary
3. Reorganization of upper and middle school- 6th grade to join Middle
Reorganization: Upper L 4-5, then MIDDLE school to be 6-8
With this expand Middle school programs-Music (band, chorus, band, theater), Sports, yearbook, STEM, Coast– 1 elective in 5 day rotation, then a 2nd slim elective (this makes the transition and decision regarding selection of Middle School an open conversation with the kids, parents and ECMCS)
4. Covid changes due to lower rates: mixing pods at recess, may unmask at recess if numbers go down.
5. The Rise Up Project-Diversity Efforts:
Alexander Star- The Artist 4-8th grades on ZOOM- he is going to incentivize the kids for RISE UP.
“Find what breaks your heart and do something about it” 30 human rights-
4th grade- Is this your land?
5th- Systemic Racism
6th- Immigration/ refugees
Middle- Striving to form a more perfect union

F. Diversity and Enrollment:

1. Meeting with DaNine Fleming of MUSC Diversity – deferred to 2021-2022 school year
2. See Rise Up Program above for details
3. Choice Schools- Offers on 4/2, Must respond by 4/22

G. Facilities:

- A. Shade in the courtyard- Springbreak
- B. Lighting Project- CCSD approved LED change
- C. Audiovisual Main Building Summertime
- D. Other Interior Renovations-Small list, paint, cabinets
- E. Carpool Loop Summer- summer 2022
- F. Shifting Classrooms/Furniture Back to Pre-COVID status- may contact moving company
- G. Gardens 3 left to finish

H. Strategic Plan Process Discussion-

- A. Discussion of plan- Plan emailed please review – Board to pick an area to discuss

III. Action Items (voting) -

- A. Meeting Minutes: Approval of the February Meeting Minutes-Approved
- B. Contracts: Kaylyn Gerrity Upper L approved
- C. Kim Reese- ART Teacher approved
- D. Ariel Heicher – Guidance approved
- E. Budget (as proposed) approved

Meeting adjourned at; 7:31 PM

Your Governing Board

The governing board recognizes that public support and open lines of communication are the keys to our school's success.

We encourage you to become involved in our school, to be informed about issues that affect students, parents, and our staff, to inform board members about your concerns, and to attend board meetings. The responsibility of the Governing Board of East Cooper Montessori Charter School is to ensure excellence in the governance of a quality educational program by supporting the school's mission and charter, analyzing needs, establishing policies, allocating resources, and monitoring progress.

Board Meetings

Regular meetings of the Governing Board are held the third Thursday of each month, beginning at 6:00 pm at East Cooper Montessori Charter School. Special-called meetings are scheduled as needed.

Citizen Participation

Anyone wishing to speak to the Board must register in person the night of the regular meeting. The opportunity to address the Board at each regular Board Meeting is 20 minutes at the beginning of the meeting.

- Each speaker has three minutes.
- Speakers may not ask questions of board members.
- Board members may not engage speakers in discussion.
- Disruptive behavior is not permitted.
- Personal attacks aimed at students or staff are not permitted.
- Scurrilous, obscene, or recklessly defamatory language aimed at any board member is not permitted.

The board will follow up on all matters presented by speakers.