



**Elm City Montessori School
Board of Trustees Meeting
January 9, 2025
DRAFT Minutes**

Our Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/2411531073?pwd=NIFoK1dPNnlmL1hndHNQkZQVjV6Zz09>

Quorum reached and meeting opened 5:34 pm. Quorum was maintained throughout the meeting with 6 participants of 7 current board members.

ATTENDEES

Board- Tony Dini, Susan Clark, Carolyn Havrda, Keith Krolak, Sudhakar Vamathevan, Kara Straun

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

I. Approve November Meeting Minutes ([here](#))

II. Public Participation

None.

Action Items were moved to the beginning of the agenda in order to insure full input from Board members that may need to leave meeting early.

- A. Approving negotiations of Friends Center Lease Renewal [Ltr Request Current Lease](#)
Approved unanimously.

- B. Approving proposal for Montessorians of Color Tuition payment program to extend 75% of tuition to include the four additional courses required for certification for current and future staff in the program.
Approved unanimously.

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

See linked report for detail.

Ed accountability needs to meet so an invite will go out soon. Tony and Kara are offered to join.

Amy Schlank and Julia Webb met with NHPS Central Office to review School Improvement planning. Positive feedback was shared with ECMS. See report notes.

There will be support from CO in math and because of meeting the needs for security were addressed.

Reading benchmarks continue to have positive trends. Kindergarten pace is under discussion as the team works to develop/implement strategies to accelerate. Continued work in comprehension is evident while morphology could be improved. Math is now being assessed in content, diagram and problem solving as it mirrors the SBA growth needed in Math. Continued work in Math strategies per PL is very evident in classroom instruction. Next steps in reading will be morphology, utilizing written response criteria in writing and increasing the number of routines focused on strategies for solving complex problems.

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

See linked report for detail.

Many opportunities for deepening learning across biases continue to be extensive. ECMS continues to lead across the district with many aspects of this work.

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

See linked report for detail.

Safety Issues in Parking lot (private company hired for short term).

Facility company working well.

Chromebooks donation has helped save about 10k but over time a budget line will be helpful.

401K Payout at the end of the month.

Finance Report- finances are slightly better than last year.

VI. Committee Reports

Education Accountability Committee- Per Julia will be meeting soon.

Finance Committee- Per Sudhakar finances are slightly better than last year.

Capital Planning Committee- The committee continues the work. They will be meeting every other month. Negotiations on the playground will be discussed as the costs are higher than anticipated. Also, fundraising ideas will also be brainstormed for next steps for the next 6 months. The committee will share more plans with Board during our next meeting. Kara contributed that the 'funding cycle' is starting up again and a webinar next week could be helpful. ECMS FD and perhaps others plans to join the webinar.

VII. Executive Session

None.

Meeting adjourned: 6:37 PM

