

UMSI Board Meeting

September 21, 2025 7-8pm

 UMSI Strategic Plan Final Draft 2023

[Zoom Link](#)

Board Members Present:

Opening

- Jess reads the UMSI Mission Statement.
 - Mission Statement: With integrity, United Montessori Schools of Indiana fosters a community that supports, unifies, and advocates for the advancement of Montessori education.
- [July minutes](#) approval
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General Items

- [Executive Director Report](#) - Jul. 20-Sept. 21
- Nomination of VP Candidate, Quinn McAvoy, by Kathy Lause
Voting to approve by Kathy, second: Laura, all others in favor: 4 (1 abstain-Jess)

Committee Updates

Finance Committee (Kathy)

- Treasurer's Report: Sept. 2025 Balance Sheet
 -  UMSI September 2025 Balance Sheet.pdf
- Finance Committee Meeting in August
 - Discussed grant opportunity Lauren applied for

Conference Committee (Ines)

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- **UMSI FALL CONFERENCE MANUAL**
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- Membership-(Quinn and Laticia)
 - Forte Wayne Mingle - 9/13 @ 2pm @ Electric Works, there were 11 attendees
 - Indy Mingle - 9/20 @ 2pm @ Half Liter BBQ, there were eight attendees
 - Next Mingle events are scheduled for February
 - Member Schools - Lauren is responding to new/renewal memberships, recording them within our system, and updating our website. We currently have 15 member schools and one in process.
 - Individual Members - 12 members (not including Head of School/free memberships)
 - Lauren has been reaching out to non-member schools
 - The membership committee is working on developing our meeting schedule/structure to best support Lauren.
 - Next Committee Meeting: TBA
- Validation Committee (Ines)
 - <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1TAIJIAsz4u3iQpIHbvQzn5IDZ2hdjihN/edit>
 - Handbook renewal and voting on the changes
 - Action Items
 - Update IN Validated schools web page (Lauren)
 - Follow up with past/present validated schools on status/membership

Other Business:

- Junior Achievement Job Spark in Fort Wayne, Nov. 4-5
 - Participating Schools: Magnolia Montessori, Bunche Montessori, MSD of Steuben County, Pleasant Lake Montessori, Southwest Montessori Academy, and Martin Luther King Montessori, as well as The Center for Montessori Education at Trine University.
 - It is hopeful for schools to become members when they participate in the job fair since Dekko is paying for the booth for UMSI.
- Action steps:
 - Identify UMSI board member to attend job fair
 - Budget to print a 24 x 36 poster for Job fair signage- Laura is taking care of this
 - Should Lauren attend? No, Lauren does not need to attend. Laura will attend for UMSI.

Tasks noted at July Meeting:

- Website updates
 - Conference registration/vendors/sponsors posted
 - Member schools up to date
- Mingles planning
- Conference Marketing
- Fundraising opportunities at conference

Next BOD meetings: – Dates/Times

November 16th, 2025

January 18, 2026

March 15th, 2026

May 17th, 2026