

BOD Meeting Minute
East Cooper Montessori Charter School
Thursday, April 15, .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 6:10

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 Absent
Krissie Patterson, Teacher Member Present

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: no revisions

G. Public Comment: Parent Commentary: Jennifer Gable: 3 year Montessori shift for upper L cause for concern, addressing the change from 4-6 grouping to 4-5 with Middle School to 6-8

-Timing was not optimal for those parents wanting to keep their children in a traditional Montessori grouping (after school choice)

-wanted more parental input into this matter- before the decision was implemented

-request more transparency for the decisions in the future.

H. Decision of Officers for this term

II. Presentation/Discussion Items:

A. Financial: Financial Report- no report

A. Dashboard- No dashboard or discussion (Billy absent)

B. Administration/HR

A. New staffing:

B. CCSD Calendar Approval for next year

C. Community & Public Relations

1. No report

D. Development:

1. Update Pivot online auction May 14th- looking to add a Zoom Cameo Appearance –(actor or band)
2. Update Annual Fund: - no update
3. Update Board Elections: (2) candidates for Parent Spots; looking for community Board members

E. Educational Program:

1. Reorganization of upper and middle school- 6th grade
2. The Rise Up Project: (2) parts; Music and Art
3. Sports planning for next year

F. Diversity and Enrollment:

1. Meeting with DaNine Fleming of MUSC Diversity
2. Choice Schools- Offers on 4/2, Must respond by 4/22

G. Facilities:

- A. Shade in the courtyard: postponed installation issues. Could be 6 months
- B. Lighting Project: moving along
- C. Other Interior Renovations
- D. Shifting Classrooms/Furniture Back to Pre-COVID status
- E. Mask mandate: relaxing if covid numbers continue to decline

H. Strategic Plan Process Discussion-

- A. Assignment of areas
 - a. Families- Kristin (lead) and Merissa
 - b. Finance- DJ (lead) and Abe
 - c. Team Building- Denise (lead) and Kristin
 - d. Diversity – Abby (lead) and Rob
 - e. Technology- Abe (lead) and Abby
 - f. Education- Merissa (lead) and Denise

III. Action Items (voting) -

- A. Meeting Minutes: Approval of the March Meeting Minutes: approved
- B. CCSD Calendar: approved
- C. Changes to Grades/Middle school: approved
- D. New Contract: Lauren McMillan: Math Interventionist - approved
Leslie Adkins: Middle School Math Science Specialist - approved
(2) Openings: remain

Meeting adjourned at: 7:22 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.