

Mountain Sun Community School Board Meeting Minutes

May 1, 2018

Open Session

5:45-7:30pm

MSCS Campus

Members Present: Michael, Dilshad, Jennifer, Lauren, Joy, Nicole, Brigid, and Mary

Dilshad chaired the meeting and Jennifer recorded minutes.

Check-in

Lauren led the group in checking in about what the past 10 years has meant to each board member.

New Board Members

Dilshad updated the board on 3 new potential board members who are all interested.

Correction and approval of April open minutes

The minutes are approved with edits.

Transylvania County Natural Play Initiative (TCNPI) update

- Michael is still talking with the Family Place, El Centro, and Rise and Shine, to build a collaboration.
- AmeriCorps will be hiring a volunteer for the program.
- We should hear about the United Way grant by June 1.

Teacher Appreciation Week

- The board will throw the staff luncheon on May 14.
- The parent organization will do a coffee time for teachers on May 15.

Faculty Representative Report

- Brigid reports that all of the classes have spent a lot of time outside most days. They are sharing spaces and seeing each other quite a bit.
- All of the older classes are looking forward to upcoming camping trips.
- There is a new form for parent conferences that is being used in all classes.
- The Acorn's bearded dragon pet died over spring break and Brigid lead the class in a burial ceremony.

Executive director report

Personnel matters

- Michael is looking at staff development for next year and working with Ellie Elzerman with regard to Montessori philosophy and training.

- The Transylvania County Natural Play Initiative (TCNPI) would include teacher trainings on outdoor play.

Parent/staff feedback with a pulse on the community

- The 10 year Anniversary party was very successful and was attended by many former and current families and board members.
- Michael will request volunteers for the school move out on May 29-30.

Recruitment/retention update

- We have had only one withdrawal this year.
- Michael now has 71 confirmed as enrolled and several more potential families for next year.
- The Acorn class is full for next year.
- Michael suggests that the Board strongly consider looking into daycare license to extend our day (for preschoolers) during our next strategic plan. Many prospective parents have expressed a desire for this.

Outreach

- The extended version of the video should be out this week.
- Michael has represented the community at the Songsmith festival and will be at the library's "Spring into Books" activity this month.

Fundraising update

- The recital invitation is going out this week.
- The raffle looks like it will hit the budget goal.

Emergency Protocol Update

- Some of the county schools declared a "soft lockdown" recently. Michael has phone numbers within the sheriff's office and keeps contact whenever there is an incident in the county. The county is working on a process for providing emergency information to all of the schools, preschools, and daycares in the county, public and private.

Finances

- There are still some fundraising needs to be met.
- We will finish the year with 77 students, while we budgeted for 78.
- Our cash balance is healthy.
- All families are up to date on tuition.
- We anticipate carrying cash forward into the new school year.

Form 990 for nonprofits

- The Executive Committee met this month and Claudia presented the 990 form. The form will be available to the public in the office and Board Members may view the form on the Board google drive.

Recital May 22

- Joy and Dilshad are actively planning the recital. The invitations are going out soon. Joy will be organizing volunteers to help with the event.

Next meeting

June 14 at 5:45pm is the next meeting. It will likely be at the conference room .

The meeting continued into closed session.

The meeting reconvened in open session.

Executive Committee Nominations

The board approves Nicole Mihalas to serve as Vice Chair in the upcoming school year.

The meeting is adjourned.