

**CORNERSTONE MONTESSORI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – VIRTUAL AND INPERSON  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2022 – 6:00 P.M.**

**Board Members Present:** Jean Melancon, Jess Goff, Julaine Roffers-Agarwal, Carolyn Ganz, Alyssa Schwartz, Marcus Almon, Sarah Stocco (6:05), Maisah Outlaw (6:13)

**Board Members Absent:**

**Other Attendees:** Chris Bewell, Joe Aliperto (6:15)

**Meeting called to order by Jean Melancon, Board Chair, at 6:03 pm.**

**AGENDA**

**Public Comment Period:** Comments limited to 3 minutes per person.

No guests present.

**Consent Agenda**

- Prior Month Meeting Minutes – edited for clarity
- Policies – some with no changes, some rewritten to align with other documents
  - 203: Consent Agenda Policy
  - 206: Public Comment Period at Board Meetings
  - 406: Public and Private Personally Data
  - 511: Fundraising Policy
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**JESS MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE CONSENT AGENDA. JULAINE SECONDED THE MOTION. THERE WAS NO FURTHER DISCUSSION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. THE VOTES WERE:**

Board Member	Aye	Nay
Almon	x	
Ganz	x	
Goff	x	
Melancon	x	
Roffers-Agarwal	x	
Outlaw ABSENT		
Stocco	x	

**Approval of Agenda & Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

**CAROLYN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE EVENING’S AGENDA. MARCUS SECONDED THE MOTION. THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Board Member	Aye	Nay
Almon	x	
Ganz	x	
Goff	x	
Melancon	x	
Roffers-Agarwal	x	
Outlaw ABSENT		
Stocco	x	

Jean asked whether, given the approved agenda, there were any conflicts of interest. None were disclosed.

### **Head of School Report**

- Welcome back Alyssa!
- Among the main things we are handling right now is the Omicron surge – no fewer than 30 children out every day – just a lot to be on top of and cautious of as we move forward – unless we have so many staff absences we cannot staff rooms, we won’t close school, but lots to keep track of.
- Hired Emma Cornwell – half math/half SPED – started today – hoping she will stay with us as well beyond this year
- Stone Soup – virtual - this Saturday 1/29
- Equity Alliance coming tomorrow and Thursday – there are also family sessions – link out tomorrow – very thorough in approach – meeting with all kinds of groups and individuals
- Safe Learning Plan – new draft just out – main changes are some clarifications around quarantining times, more information about differences between exposure at home vs. at school, all easier to track and follow as we navigate complex situations. Also some changes around some cohorting.
- MCM vaccination policy is going into effect February 1 – all staff needs to be vaccinated

**SARAH MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE SAFE LEARNING PLAN AS MODIFIED. JULAINE SECONDED THE MOTION. THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION. THE MOTION WAS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. THE VOTES WERE:**

Board Member	Aye	Nay
Almon	x	
Ganz	x	
Goff	x	
Melancon	x	
Roffers-Agarwal	x	
Outlaw	x	
Stocco	x	

- Jean suggests that we should give the power to modify the Safe Learning Plan back to the HoS (during Alyssa’s leave of absence, the board needed to approve any change).

**Treasurer’s Report – Joe Aliperto**

- See reports
- November ADM 137

**MARCUS MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE NOVEMBER FINANCIAL STATEMENTS. CAROLYN SECONDED THE MOTION. THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. THE VOTES WERE:**

Board Member	Aye	Nay
Almon	x	
Ganz	x	
Goff	x	
Melancon	x	
Roffers-Agarwal	x	
Outlaw	x	
Stocco	x	

- December ADM 136
- Typical strong and balanced budget and cash balance
- We were awarded O’Shaughnessy grant – cash will come through in January financials.
- Strong fund balance – projected to end the year around 35%
- Lease Aid was approved quickly and completely.

**JULAINÉ MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE DECEMBER FINANCIAL STATEMENTS. MAISAH SECONDED THE MOTION. THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. THE VOTES WERE:**

Board Member	Aye	Nay
Almon	x	
Ganz	x	
Goff	x	
Melancon	x	
Roffers-Agarwal	x	
Outlaw	x	
Stocco	x	

- December donations - \$1360 Mighty Cause – Give to the Max

**CAROLYN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE \$1360 DONATION. MARCUS SECONDED THE MOTION. THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION. MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY. THE VOTES WERE:**

Board Member	Aye	Nay
Almon	x	
Ganz	x	
Goff	x	
Melancon	x	
Roffers-Agarwal	x	
Outlaw	x	
Stocco	x	

**Director of Business Operations – Chris Bewell**

- Enrollment update – currently at 136. If we keep 136 until the end of the year, ADM for the year will be close to 137.
- A little bit in limbo in terms of enrollment, charter school fair, etc, etc – in a mode of wait and see – hoping for surge to subside. For now, we have a video on the website, Alyssa has talked via zoom with potential families, but we’ll keep everyone updated.

**Development Committee – Carolyn**

- O’Shaughnessy grant is exciting news.
- We have hired a grant writer to create grant calendar – she is looking at needs we have identified and opportunities that match.

**Board Chair Report**

- St. Paul schools restructuring/closing schools
  - Vote occurred Dec 1<sup>st</sup>
  - List of schools to close reduced
  - Dialogue with MAICC (Montessori American Indian Childcare Center) as they’re exploring possibly leasing a closed school or other east side bldg
- March joint board meeting, Equity Alliance presents audit results
  - Date/time TBD (April 5-6-7 or April 12-13-14)

**Suggested Agenda Items for Next Board Meeting**

- February 5<sup>th</sup> “retreat/strategic session/reboot” meeting
  - If possible, plan for in-person meeting

- Review of strategic plan and where to focus priorities for remainder of school year
  - Development of HOS goals and PDP

February 15 regular meeting TBD, depending on agenda content

**Adjourn**

**SARAH MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 6:49 PM. CAROLYN SECONDED THE MOTION. THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. VOTES WERE:**

Board Member	Aye	Nay
Almon	X	
Ganz	X	
Goff	X	
Melancon	X	
Roffers-Agarwal	X	
Outlaw	X	
Stocco	X	

***The next CMES Board Meeting is TBA – it will be a Tuesday at 6 p.m – either in February or March.***

***Respectfully Submitted by Jess Goff, CMES Secretary***