

Cornerstone Montessori Elementary School

Governance Committee Meeting [Minutes in blue](#)

Tuesday, September 7, 2021, 5:30 p.m. Online

Members: Chris Bewell, Jean Melancon, Maisah Outlaw, Julaine Roffers-Agarwal (Chair)

AGENDA

- 1) Call Meeting to Order [5:37 pm](#)
- 2) Public Comment Period – Comments limited to 3 minutes per person
- 3) Goals for today's meeting:
 - a) Review policy progress
 - i) Policies to review:
 - (1) Closed meeting procedure [discussed what information was gathered and how to organize it. Will reorganize and send to board for information purposes. Will keep in Board Google Drive folder for reference purposes in case it is needed.](#)
 - (a) Related material:
 - (i) <https://www.mncharterschools.org/utilities/restricted-file.php?ID=3348&strType=download#auth-form>
 - (ii) <https://aspenacademymn.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Policy-205.pdf>
 - (iii) <https://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/hrd/pubs/openmtg.pdf>
 - (2) Discussion of requirement for staff to receive COVID vaccine, thoughts on allowing regular testing instead [extensive discussion regarding whether a policy is what is needed and how specific to be. Need to consult with MCM and have similar policy to ensure that all staff working together have a similar requirement. Need to consider testing program: will CMES provide testing supplies, which tests to accept, how to accept results. In addition, need to have proposed policy reviewed by attorney to ensure we are complying with employment law, etc. Jean will contact Taylor at MCM to discuss their position on a policy. Julaine will contact UST to ask for their guidance. Julaine contacted MACS but has not heard back yet.](#)
 - (3) Need to review Education Bill from just adjourned MN legislature to ensure that we are in compliance (~~see link [here](#)~~ [wrong link](#)); monitor over the next several months and address as necessary
 - (4) For long-term future planning: What policies would need to be put in place for Jr High?
- 4) Strategic Plan Progress review- Discussion of where we are for each portion and what we may want to implement for the coming year [Jean took notes for each point, will consult with Alyssa on topics about which she is more knowledgeable and will bring to board to share and expand for planning for the upcoming year.](#)
 - a) Access
 - b) Community
 - c) Equity
 - d) Sustainability
- 5) Education (orientation, ongoing education, etc.)
 - a) Any additions to list of future board level education topics
 - i) Nancy Dana- governance training
 - ii) Understanding the budget
 - iii) Understand the academic goals and how to support them
 - iv) Paris Dunning (ESABA Executive Director)
 - v) Sarah Plumb (Jr High teacher from Oak Hill)
 - vi) Sunny Hollow Jr High teacher (~~hoping for presentation next school year—update?~~) [Expansion committee will meet with her instead to get expertise on Adolescent program.](#)

- vii) Visit to St Croix Montessori to visit Jr High site or operating Jr High site (Oak Hill, Lake Country, Sunny Hollow, maybe Parkway)
 - viii) Presentation by auditor with financial topics (with audit in October)
 - ix) Presentation about elected officials for the area- who represents us in the area at different levels, who we contact for what
 - x) Presentation and discussion of who CMES families are (number of homeless, travel times to CMES, location, demographics, etc)
 - xi) Presentation by specialty teachers so the board understands what value they add to the students (ELL, literacy, math, and behavior specialists) and the efforts to increase testing scores
 - xii) Follow up review to page 2 terms for Financial Statements after they are distributed for a month or two. (Preparation for audit in October/November)
 - xiii) Equity consultant before process begins
- 6) Next Meeting
 - a) Tuesday September 28, 2021 at 5:30 pm at CMES (plus Zoom link)
 - 7) Any other business
 - 8) Adjourn [6:55 pm](#)