

**CORNERSTONE MONTESSORI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – VIRTUAL ONLY
MARCH 21, 2023 TUESDAY – 6:00 P.M.**

Board Members Present: Jean Melancon, Jess Goff, Julaine Roffers-Agarwal, Carolyn Ganz, Alyssa Schwartz, Sarah Stocco, Maisah Outlaw, Tyler Bouwens

Board Members Absent:

Other Attendees: Chris Bewell, Joe Aliperto from Dieci Finance (6:12-6:33)

Meeting called to order by Julaine Roffers-Agarwal, Board Chair, at 6:05 pm.

AGENDA

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

- No guests present

Consent Agenda

- February 2023 meeting minutes
- February 2023 Strategic Retreat minutes
- Policy 725 Document Retention
- 725.1 General Records Retention Schedule

JEAN MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE CONSENT AGENDA. CAROLYN SECONDED THE MOTION. THERE WAS NO FURTHER DISCUSSION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. THE VOTES WERE:

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

Approval of Agenda & Declaration of Conflict of Interest

MAISAH MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE EVENING'S AGENDA. TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION. THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Board Member	Aye	Nay
Bouwens	x	

Ganz	x	
Goff	x	
Melancon	x	
Outlaw	x	
Roffers-Agarwal	x	
Stocco	x	

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

Head of School Report – Alyssa

- Conferences are this week – attendance is always high and we expect that again. Fewer zoom conferences than in the past - we keep moving towards more in person as much as possible.
- Spring Break coming up - exciting
- Embracing Equity Leadership Residency starts next week
 - o Alyssa, Jess, Catherine from EC program
 - o Start with audit, similar to last year but more catered to our program
 - o Staff should be able to have survey as of April 3rd, plan to complete in meetings
- Pioneer Press and KSTP will hopefully publish/air a story about Cornerstone and Urban Roots – they came last week but we don't know when/if it will happen
- UST - 5-year renewal offered – happy to have that in place

Director of Business Operations – Chris Bewell

- Current enrollment hasn't changed so that's good.
- Applications for next year continue to trickle in.
 - o Some more for middle of elementary program (2, 3, 4) and siblings in the neighborhood
 - o Thanks to Tyler for getting info into ESABA newsletter
- Application for next year
 - o Kindergarten – 23
 - o 1st Grade – 8
 - o 2nd Grade – 5
 - o 3rd Grade – 3
 - o 4th Grade – 1
 - o 5th Grade – 2

JEAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE REVISED CALENDAR TO REFLECT SNOW DAYS TAKEN. TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION. THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. THE VOTES WERE:

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

Treasurer's Report – Joe Aliperto, Dieci Finance

- ADM 143 right now, tracking with budget of ADM 141, so in line with what we anticipated
- Healthy fund balance, no concerns
- 67% of the way through the year, received 52% of funding, spent 58% of budget – all makes sense
- Grants – no changes, nothing currently in the works
- Donations
 - o Amazon Smile donation of \$69
- Calendar - working on title applications now, more federal grant applications coming up in the spring
- Generally, all is tracking with what we expect.
- Question about free lunch bill just signed. This is for next fiscal year and there are many details to come. We will still have info to collect, but will be able to stop charging families (yay!)

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

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

CAROLYN MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE FEBRUARY DONATION OF \$69 FROM AMAZON SMILE. JEAN SECONDED THE MOTION. THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. THE VOTES WERE:

Board Member	Aye	Nay
Bouwens	x	

Ganz	x	
Goff	x	
Melancon	x	
Outlaw	x	
Roffers-Agarwal	x	
Stocco	x	

- Discussion of transfer of bank accounts
 - Sunrise has been wonderful, but as we grow in funds, it's more convenient to be affiliated with one bank instead of multiple banks.
 - Northeast Bank has been very responsive and helpful and offers many benefits of ease
 - Northeast has the capacity to help us manage multiple accounts

SARAH MADE A MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE TREASURER TO INITIATE MIGRATION OF ALL BANK ACCOUNTS TO NORTHEAST BANK. MAISAH SECONDED THE MOTION. THERE WAS DISCUSSION CONFIRMING THAT THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS WERE ALL ON BOARD. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. THE VOTES WERE:

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

Development Committee – Tyler

- Proposing some changes to language of the charter of the committee – engagement and growth focus
- Julaine is distributing the document for us to read and respond with feedback by April 4th so Tyler can revise before our April meeting if needed
- Contact Tyler with questions

Governance – Julaine

- Flexible Learning Policy up for approval
 - Suggested because of abundance of snow days, particularly when these are planned/decided in advance.

- This is our version of an e-learning day, but with no online presence required. This needs to be equitable and achievable.
- We don't have to use them, but we can use this to count towards student attendance/days of school.
- 5 days available and anything beyond would just be a weather day.
- Question about whether feedback has come from families or just to have this in our back pocket. Answer: back pocket.
- Families who do not participate would be marked excused absent, while those who do would be marked present.

CAROLYN MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT POLICY 510 FLEXIBLE LEARNING. MAISAH SECONDED THE MOTION. THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. THE VOTES WERE:

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

- Discussion of expanding our charter to 7th and 8th grade
 - This wouldn't lock us in, but would give us an option if UST authorized this expansion. Starting a serious conversation/engaging in this process will move us forward, no matter what happens.
 - We haven't talked to UST about this for at least three years.
 - Could we start the conversation before applying? We need to know if the application would go through.
 - Question: If application is denied, is there a waiting period before resubmission? Nothing in manual that we have seen yet.
 - We would need to apply the first business day in June in order to start the following year – this seems awfully ambitious for this year, but we could have the conversation started.
 - Does this go to the Development and Engagement committee for more work too? This seems like the right way to go.
 - How do we get commitments from families when we can't guarantee we could have a program?
 - Much discussion of how to have compelling conversations and how to engage families
 - Surveys are tricky
 - Next steps:
 - Tyler, Alyssa, Expansion Task Force will meet

- Alyssa will contact UST to set up a meeting about a possible application.
- Timeline?
 - These surveys and conversations should happen before the end of the school year.

Board Chair Report

- Nothing else to report

Suggested Agenda Items for Next Board Meeting

- Development and Expansion Task Force Charter revision

Feedback – what went well, etc?

Adjourn

JEAN MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:16 PM. CAROLYN SECONDED THE MOTION. THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. THE VOTES WERE:

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

***The next CMES Board Meeting is Tuesday, April 18th, 2023, 6 p.m.
Respectfully Submitted by Jess Goff, CMES Secretary.***