

**CORNERSTONE MONTESSORI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – VIRTUAL AND INPERSON  
TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2022 – 6:00 P.M.**

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

**Board Members Absent:**

**Other Attendees:** Chris Bewell, Tyler Bouwens, Joe Aliperto from Dieci Finance (6:15-6:30)

**Meeting called to order by Jean Melancon, Board Chair, at 6:02 pm.**

**AGENDA**

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

One guest present: Tyler - parent, running for the board – just wanted to say hello, especially to Maisah, and thanks for having me.

**Consent Agenda**

- Draft Previous Month Meeting Minutes
- Calendar for 22-23 School Year

**CAROLYN MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE CONSENT AGENDA. MAISAH 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	
Outlaw	x	
Roffers-Agarwal	x	
Stocco	x	

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

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

Board Member	Aye	Nay
Almon	x	

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

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

### **Head of School Report -Alyssa**

- Busy of course
- AMI consultation right now -today and tomorrow – Carol Hicks from Milwaukee and a trainee consultant (Kate)
- First in person parent event on Monday 4/25 – first time since 2020 in person!! Sign up so that it isn't too crowded, but excited to welcome people back into the building.
- COMPAS – Thursday right before Spring Break and coming again in May – very enjoyable.
- Spring Shindig before break – Friday – it was really nice to mix it up and celebrate together
- Graduation – June 13<sup>th</sup> Monday, in communication with Hmong church to rent space – will share details as they are available
- In process of preparing for a t-shirt fundraiser – last time spring of 2019 so it's time, a UE staff member is studying graphic design and made some options, will share details as they are available

### **Treasurer's Report – Joe from Dieci Finance**

- See reports
- ADM is at 137. This is what we are currently budgeted for and the state is currently paying us for 138. This number has gone back and forth for us as enrollment shifts, but no concerns about these changes as it all evens out.
- Holdback still at 10% so that is fine and no changes anticipated.
- Finances are tracking in line with what we anticipate, seems like we will end the year better than thought which will allow us to budget forward some of the grant dollars. Plan is to get through the year and then look at what we want to adjust.
- Donations: just under \$3700 for the year. There were some donations in the last month – a personal check for \$1500 and from AmazonSmile for \$60. We continue to look for opportunities.
- Strong cash and fund balances – everything looking good.
- Deadlines looking good, getting close to closing out this year and then applying for next year's grants.
- Joe talked through reports (all in line with expectations).

**JULAINÉ MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MARCH FINANCIAL STATEMENTS. MARCUS 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	
Outlaw	x	
Roffers-Agarwal	x	
Stocco	x	

**CAROLYN MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE DONATIONS of \$1500 AND \$60 FOR A TOTAL OF \$1560. 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	
Outlaw	x	
Roffers-Agarwal	x	
Stocco	x	

- Talked at finance committee about having Joe help understand the budget process
- Proposed budget will come out as soon as finance committee has it – lots to read through
- Overview of next budget
  - o 140 ADM
  - o Staffing continues with same model, filling any open positions (enable us to fully staff and use ACCESS funding etc.)
  - o Federal grants – at the end of year think about budgeting forward. Next year some funding will start to expire and we’ll need to plan for sustainability with these grant-funded programs

**Director of Business Operations – Chris Bewell**

- Current enrollment at 136
- Lottery results and have sent out letters to K families – are starting to get info back already too

- Not sure about what spaces we will have available until current families have let us know – then we will tap waiting list for 1-6
- The new timing of lottery seems to be working out well – Chris would recommend we keep it in the spring (February/March).
- MCA testing – things are going very smoothly so far, children seem to have good attitudes, etc.

**Governance Committee – Julaine**

- Board elections coming up
  - o We need to accept slate of candidates
  - o Tyler Bouwens, running for Parent Member position
  - o Jess Goff, running for re-election for Teacher Member position

JULAINE MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE SLATE OF CANDIDATES FOR THE BOARD ELECTION. MAISAH SECONDED THE MOTION. THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. THE VOTE WERE:

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

- Election overview:
  - o We can appoint people to open/unfilled positions, but they do have to be up for election at the next possible opportunity.
  - o Chris - Electronic voting system this year to hope that we can get better election turnout – even though this is “uncontested” – so please encourage all to vote
- Reminder – please contact Jean soon about scheduling self-evaluation about board membership
- MACS primer on Charter Schools - board education – this went out via email at the end of March – this is a good thing to look over to be prepared to talk to people about – funding, etc. We looked over and discussed lots of info on – good to know as we look at possibilities of expansion, lease, etc.

## **Board Chair Report**

- Equity report and joint board meeting
  - MCM – several board CMES members asked about MCM staff at the joint board meeting, not just board members – this is typical of MCM board meetings, but was an oversight on MCM board chair’s part. Taylor apologizes.
  - Next steps – leadership team (both board chairs, HoS, ED of MCM) with Alex from equity alliance – Alex will share additional items about report and share draft of preliminary report – envision that there will be a number of task forces to develop action plans with a variety of constituents – lots of work to do – then communication plans for sharing information with all
  - Comments: appreciating work of EA and detailed data, discussion of two organizations and how to move forward, but we don’t know what the recommendations are yet so it’s too early to be specific, new ED at MCM on the way, lots to still figure out, we will move on what we can, all this might help revisit the MoU
- I Heart Mom event MAY – Family Values for Life – Sarah and Jean did this before – volunteer opportunity before to create packets, during event to hand things out – sharing info with families, good connection to the east side ESABA – etc., food shelf, there too. Location: Gustavus Adolphus church – start up Montessori school in their building.

## **Suggested Agenda Items for Next Board Meeting**

- Annual meeting coming up at 5:30 before next meeting
- Approve preliminary next year’s budget
- Sign Lease Aid Conflict of Interest Statement

Discussion of what went well/what we could do differently

## **Adjourn**

**CAROLYN MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:01 PM. JULAINE 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	
Outlaw	x	
Roffers-Agarwal	x	
Stocco	x	

***The next CMES Board Meeting is Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. after the Annual Meeting at 5:30.***

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