

SAPMS Board Meeting

July 21, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 pm via Google Meet.

MISSION

The Mission of St. Augustine Public Montessori School is to provide students with a learning culture grounded in Montessori philosophy and practice that inspires a love of learning and respect for self, others and the environment.

AGENDA

1. Roll Call

Board Members:

Jason Ferrante, President
Bryant Wilson, Vice President
Andres Kerllenevich, Secretary
Tristan Alfant, Trustee

Others Present:

Diane Dodds
Rebekah Andreu
Andy Evener
Billy Knight
Carla Maggi
Endo Pascasio
Faith Corley
Helene Natiello
Janet Myer
Kevin Deady
Mariana Zimler
Noelle Cassado
Stephanie Massey
Tade W.

2. Review of Public Notice

Notice was posted on the school calendar, the school website, and via email at 11:01 am on July 19, 2022.

3. Approval of Minutes

MOTION:

Made by: Andres Kerllenevich

Seconded by: Jason Ferrante

Motion: To approve the minutes for the June 15, 2022 and July 3, 2022 board meetings which were emailed to the board by Andres Kerllenevich.

Vote: All in favor.

Disposition: Approved.

4 Public comment on Agenda items

1. Carla Maggi expressed disappointment with the change in the lead upper elementary guide.

5. Director's Report

Diane Dodds presented Director's report. Update board on her and Rebekah's training. Diane presented progress on facilities issues and what remains to be done. Diane went over dates between now and first day of school on August 10.

1. New contracts

DISCUSSION: New hire contracts and other contract revisions were presented.

MOTION:

Made by: Jason Ferrante

Seconded by: Andres Kerllenevich

Motion: To approve contract revisions to the handyman contract previously approved.

Vote: All in favor.

Disposition: Approved.

MOTION:

Made by: Jason Ferrante

Seconded by: Tristan Alfant

Motion: To approve two new employee contracts (lead upper elementary guide and permanent substitute).

Vote: All in favor.

Disposition: Approved.

DISCUSSION: Jason discussed his meetings with the landlord re: termites. The landlord agrees that tenting must be done prior to school starting and offered to pay the up front cost and then split the cost with the school paying half, back to the landlord, over time. The landlord tented back in 2015 and they have not answered whether they had a termite bond put in place at that time. Tristan suggested having an attorney review the lease. Jason will approach the landlord to let them know that we do not think that we should have to pay for tenting.

DISCUSSION: Jason discussed the HVAC unit that needs to be replaced in the Juniper house and the unit that may need to be replaced in the upper elementary unit. Bryant asked if the landlord would consider paying for it and Jason said the landlord had said that the school would need to pay for it. Jason will bring that up with the landlord when he discusses termites. Tristan suggested having the attorney also advice as to whether replacing an AC unit would fall under maintenance. Jason will tell the landlord that we also feel that replacing AC units should not fall upon the school. He will report back to the Board.

MOTION:

Made by: Jason Ferrent

Seconded by: Tristant Alfant

Motion: To authorize Jason to contact attorney Seth Corneal to have him review the lease with a maximum fee authorized of \$750.

Vote: All in favor.

Disposition: Approved.

2. Proposed changes to Handbooks, Calendar

DISCUSSION: The Director presented proposed changes to calendar.

MOTION:

Made by: Jason Ferrante

Seconded by: Bryant Wilson

Motion: To approve the proposed calendar presented by the Director.

Vote: All in favor.

Disposition: Approved.

6. Officer Items

1. President (Jason): Discuss recruitment of new Board members. Retirement plan.

DISCUSSION: Retirement plan was discussed above during the Director's report.

MOTION:

Made by: Bryant Wilson

Seconded by: Jason Ferrante

Motion: To approve the revision language, to each existing employment agreement, that calls for opening a simple retirement fund for each employee with a 3% employer match. Also, to pay each employee, only in this contract year, an additional 1% of salary/wages to make up for the difference between the original 4% match rate and the final approved 3% match rate.

Vote: All in favor.

Disposition: Approved.

DISCUSSION: Jason discussed the process for recruiting new board members. Tristan pointed out that we are not in compliance with the number of non-parent board members. Jason will research the process and report back.

2. Secretary (Andres): New campus search committee update;

DISCUSSION: Andres discussed the process for the new facility search committee and will schedule a meeting of the new facility search committee on September 1, 2022.

7. Other Board Business

1. Discussion regarding joining Chamber of Commerce

DISCUSSION: Tristan reported that she and Diane met with the Chamber of Commerce and the requirements to belong. There are two tiers, "Business Builder" \$600 for non-profits and a more expensive level (\$1,000 more). Diane said the being a member of the Chamber would be a great way to promote the school to the community. Jason would like to table the issue until we have resolved all of the facility repair expenses.

2. Discuss returning to in person meetings

DISCUSSION: Jason said he would like to return to in person meetings while hosting virtual access to the meetings. The issue of going to in person meetings will be tabled for another month.

8. Public comment on non-agenda items

1. Billy Knight said he would like more parent volunteers to help clean up before school opens.
2. Carla Maggi texted her concern about the facilities issues and the health of the facilities environment.

9. Adjournment

Jason Ferrante adjourned the meeting at 7:30 pm.

Minutes by: Andres Kerllenevich

Date approved: August 18, 2022