



First State Montessori Academy

Public Session Board Meeting

Thursday, April 23, 2015

Call to Order: 6:32 p.m. by Yvonne Ness

Adjournment: 7:25 p.m. by Yvonne Ness

Present: Maribeth Low, Courtney Fox, Gina Castelli, Beth Carter, Erin Carroll, Heather Townsend, Yvonne Nass, Chanda Gilmore, Zeke Allinson, Angela Angeny, Chris Graham, Jed Donahue, Kyara Panula, Kristen Chastain

Absent: Jessie Keith

- I. Introduction of Board of Directors
- II. Team Building Exercise “How We Relate”
- III. Approval of minutes from March 26, 2015
- IV. Governance Committee
 - a. Recommendation – 4-7-15
 - i. The Governance Committee recommended that the FSMA Board of Directors accept the Delaware Alliance for Nonprofit Achievement (DANA) Mapping Board Excellence training package at the cost of \$2,500 tentatively scheduled for May 9, 2015. Heather found a facility to hold the training at. Some confusion over hours and rates and Courtney noted the need for more than 4 hours of training to help develop strategic goals and that the strategic piece is an extra fee. Regina noted that it would be nice to have an outside party to help through transition. Kyara suggested that we do the strategic planning without outside help and do the \$1,000 plan if we feel we do not need the help. Jed noted that this might have more value a year out. Yvonne noted the need to get this done to help determine what to accomplish in 2015-16 and what the committees need to do since the board is operating under a new structure. Courtney stated that there is no date that says we have to have a strategic plan starting date. Angela added that we might need to ask for an addendum to package to help make a recommendation for what we need.
 - ii. Board accepted the DANA training without the mapping for May 9 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Ronald McDonald House.
 - iii. Motioned by Yvonne and seconded by Maribeth. Motioned passed.
 - b. Recommendation – 4-13-15
 - i. The Governance Committee recommended that the FSMA Executive Committee, include: Co-Chairs, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Governance Committee Chair, Development Committee Chair and Academic Excellence Chair. This allows more people for a quorum. Zeke would step down from budget committee.

- ii. Motioned by Beth and seconded by Kristen. Motioned passed.
- V. Head of School Report
 - a. Courtney spoke at the Legislative Hearing and did not use school's name and was not speaking on behalf of the school, but as a school leader, educator and parent.
- VI. Finance / Citizen Budget Oversight Committee
 - a. No treasurer report because we do not currently have a CBOC chair.
 - b. CBOC receives and reviews the details of the budget and the board gets a summary. Courtney stated that the school should be at 75 percent and we are at 58 percent of expenses.
 - c. Next meeting will look at year two budget and any changes that need to be made in regards to spending.
- VII. No public comments