



First State Montessori Academy

Public Session Meeting

Thursday, December 3, 2015

Present: Zeke Allinson, Angela Angeny, Gina Castelli, Jed Donohue, Courtney Fox, Yvonne Nass, Chris Graham, Kristen Chastain, Erin Carrol, Heather Townsend

Absent: Beth Carter, Chanda Gilmore, Kyara Panula

Yvonne Nass called meeting to order at 6:35p.m.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Yvonne motioned to approve the minutes from Thursday, October 20, 2015. Zeke Allinson proposed a change of wording to the minutes taken during his report. He requested to change “assistant teachers” to “personnel sub-group.” Yvonne motioned to approve the minutes with the corrections. Jed Donohue seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Committee Reports

Finance: Zeke Allinson reported that he was unable to meet with the consultants prior to this meeting, but the finances are on track. Zeke then referenced the web report and gave an update on the personnel sub-group that did not pay into the pension during the last school year, but should have. It was determined that these employees will eventually get this money, so they have to contribute. Innovative Schools is still working with the pension office to figure out how the personnel sub-group will pay ~~back~~ their portion of the pension. Payments have been delayed until after the New Year. Zeke Allinson motioned to put web report and budget on web site and Gina Castelli seconded. Motion approved.

Head of School: Courtney presented the Organizational and Financial Framework Report to the board. Courtney talked through each report, explaining the different measures. Courtney then presented the Annual Report, which is a narrative that supports the Performance Framework. Conversation about these reports ensued.

Governance: The Governance Committee recommended dissolving the Academic Excellence Committee for now and adding an Ad Hoc committee if needed. Courtney

mentioned that she was hesitant to dissolve the committee, but rather adjust the frequency of the meetings to bi-annually. The checkpoints are valuable and are still needed. Heather added that the Academic Excellence Committee has been meeting monthly to get started. There is a new Academic Framework coming and this committee could offer help with this framework. After conversation, it was decided that the Academic Excellence Committee would stay the way it is until committee revisions in March.

Academic Excellence: Heather highlighted a few points from the Academic Excellence meeting report.

Development: The Annual Fund has been launched. The Board talked about the new FSMA sign and agreed that we should get a plaque to commemorate Hunter Clarke-Field's dad for his contribution. Gina Castelli will be writing a thank-you card to him on behalf of the Board.

Unfinished Business

Ad Hoc: Angela Angeny gave a presentation that outlined each individual survey question and the responses that were given. After the presentation Yvonne motioned that we create a committee to further explore the idea of expansion. Gina Castelli seconded the motion. The motion passed. Courtney Fox stated that a future meeting has been set up to discuss the building at 920 N. French Street. We would need to apply for modifications to add two K-1 classrooms by December 31, 2015. Gina Castelli motioned to increase FSMA's population by 5-15%. Heather Townsend seconded. The motion passed.

New Business

Public School Choice Expo: Join Courtney Fox and Liz Madden at Public School Choice Expo on December 5th from 10-2 if you are available.

Public Questions/comments: No public questions or comments.

Motion made and passed to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Kristen Chastain, Teacher Representative