



First State Montessori Academy

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: May 23, 2018

Call to order: 6:03 p.m.

Adjournment: 7:18 p.m.

Location: First State Montessori Academy Lower School

Present: Zeke Allinson, Angela Angeny, Jed Donahue, Courtney Fox, Sara Grant, Chanda Gilmore, Courtney Loughney, Natalie Marchani, Sarah Nagle, Meghan Newberry, Michael Reilly, Janine Salomone, DaWayne Sims

Regrets: Kyara Panula, Aubria Nance Phillips

Guest: Liz Madden

J. Donahue motioned to approve the April 26, 2018 minutes. J. Salomone seconded. No objections. Minutes approved.

Reports

Governance Committee. B. Carter reviewed output document of ongoing governance projects. This was B. Carter's last meeting and D. Sims thanked her for her many contributions.

Finance Committee. D. Sims reviewed monthly narrative web report. Z. Allinson motioned to approve. C. Gilmore seconded. No objections. Motion passed.

Development Committee. J. Donahue provided status update on the capital campaign. B. Carter asked if the campaign is on a calendar year or academic year timeframe. J. Donahue said it is academic. C. Fox stated that the campaign was shared via Facebook videos and classroom communication. M. Reilly asked about pushback against fund. A. Angeny said it depends on where people come from; if coming from a public school background, it may not be something they are familiar with. Discussion ensued around level of awareness for annual fund and its purpose and the need to make the public aware of it.

Secretary Report. C. Gilmore reviewed updated board of director documents and requirements of board members.

Public Comments

Lisa Kanaburn asked about school safety measures as the school increases in numbers as well as the increase in school shootings nationally. C. Fox replied that the school has a procedure that is consistent and mandated by Homeland Secretary and has a meeting for them to visit the school. Lisa Kanaburn also asked about measures in place to support students as a means to preemptively look at students who are troubled or need help. C. Fox replied that they worked with school psychologists and other protocols to create an internal policy for staff to use to identify students who may need additional support. D. Sims said that the board will provide an updated response in the next board meeting.

Anna Steppich asked about school safety, particularly during morning during drop off. Wondered if the board considered hiring a police/security officer at FSMA. She was present during a lockdown and believed it wasn't safe and there are organizations that will volunteer their time to assist. Requested that the board make this their top priority for safety and review lockdown procedures. C. Fox said she would follow up on her comment after the meeting with Homeland Security.

J. Donahue motioned to adjourn into executive session. J. Salomone seconded. No objections. Entered executive session at 6:43 p.m.

J. Donahue motioned to adjourn executive session. C. Gilmore seconded. No objections. Re-entered public session at 7:06 p.m.

Old Business. Last Thursday, First State Community Loan Fund held annual dinner. D. Sims thanked board members who attended and that they were able to make new relationships within the Wilmington community.

New Business. D. Sims stated that they have secured funding for the board training, which will occur on a Saturday. Last week was Mariano Rivera Foundation 5K run and J. Salomone met with the CFO and spoke with him about their backpacks for inner-city kids' program as a possible volunteer opportunity for the school. D. Sims officially welcomed C. Loughney as a parent director.

A. Angeny motioned to adjourn. B. Carter seconded. No objections. Meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.