First State Montessori Academy, Inc. 920 N. French Street Wilmington, DE 19801



Public Board Meeting Minutes April 27, 2023

Meeting Start Time: 6:04 pm Meeting Adjourned: 7:02 pm

In Attendance (In Person): Anabelle O'Malley, Kristen Gideon, Michael Reilly, Courtney Fox

Shannon Tumolo, and Becky Phillips

In attendance (via Zoom): Loren Holland, Meghan Newberry, Matt Petrin, Kim Lopez, Janine

Salomone, and Sarah Nagle

Regrets: None

Guests: Rikki Petruccelli and Matthew Bender

Comments from Board Chair

The Board Chair thanked the Board and the Governance Committee for their efforts for recruiting and supporting and promoting FSMA in the community. In addition, she provided some background and insight about the joint meeting of parent and teacher directors of several Charter Schools that was hosted by the Delaware Charter School Network. Comments were provided by A. O'Malley and B. Phillips who were in attendance at the joint meeting. The Head of School also provided some background on pending legislation for Charter Schools and certifications for administrators.

Public Comment

No public comment was received.

Approval Public Minutes

The minutes from the March 23, 2023, public board meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the March 23, 2023, public board meeting minutes was made by M. Petrin. Second by S. Tumolo. Vote passed. No objections. One abstention from J. Salomone.

Website Monitoring Report from the Department of Education

• The website monitoring report for the month of April was reviewed. The report indicated that we met all the criteria.

Head of School Report

The Head of School provided an update on the following:

- 4/5/6 Overnight Trip.
 - o Tonight is the overnight trip.
 - o Historically it has been held in the fall, but this year it is in the spring. It has not occurred since the pandemic started.

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- o C. Fox discussed some of the benefits of the trip for the students.
- o The 4/5/6 students raised approximately \$6,000 for the trip.
- Middle School Adventure Trip
 - o This is an annual trip for the middle schoolers that is planned by the students with some oversight by the administration.
 - o The adventure trip helps with showing students safe ways to take risks.
 - o This trip will occur in a couple of weeks.
 - o The middle schoolers run fundraisers all year for the trip. They have raised over \$10,000.
- Upcoming Events in May and June
 - o Staff Appreciation Week by the PTO
 - o Field Day
 - o There are several field trips are coming up.
 - o Graduation June 9th at 3:00 pm at Frawley Stadium.
- Transition Events. There are several upcoming events and activities geared towards supporting the students and families with upcoming transitions.
 - o Upper School Transition Day in the summer
 - o Middle School transition/community events
 - o An event for new families will be held in the summer.
 - o Playground playdates
 - o Kindergarten Preview camp

Committee Reports

Executive Committee Report

M. Newberry reported that the Executive Committee met last Monday. The discussion was focused on the certification and credentialing of Charter School Administrators; reviewing the governance committee's efforts to recruit new board members; and ensuring our meetings remain assessable for Board members to attend and continuing to meet in a hybrid model.

Development Committee Report

B. Phillips provided the Development Committee report. She thanked those who assisted with getting the thank you notes out for the Do More 24 donors. \$11,300 was the final amount raised for the Do More 24 campaign. B. Phillips reported that she will be meeting next week with a parent about a potential location for the Ten-Year Anniversary event. She hopes to have a more solid plan and event strategy after the summer.

Finance Committee Report

M. Petrin provided the Finance Committee report. For the month ending March 2023, approximately \$285,000 of revenues were collected. We are ahead of revenue for the year. Expenses year to date are at \$7.1 million, which represents 75% of the calendar year. M. Petrin discussed the issue with the 27th pay, which happens every 11 years.

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Reserves are unchanged at \$1.452 million. We are within the guidelines of the bond covenants and there are no risk there. A motion to approve and post the March finance narrative was made by M. Reilly. Second by A. O'Malley. Vote passed. No objections. No Abstentions.

Governance Committee Report

S. Tumolo provided an update on the Governance Committee's recruiting efforts. K. Gideon also provided an update on the committee's efforts. K. Gideon presented several names of people who would be interested in joining the board and/or supporting FSMA with the advisory board or short-term projects. The committee would like to be able to interview people before the annual meeting in June. The Governance Committee will recirculate the survey that was previously sent to the board regarding a skills matrix. There was also discussion about timing for recruiting new board members from within the school community.

Executive Session

A motion to move into executive session was made by M. Petrin. Second by S. Tumolo. Moved into executive session at 6:55 pm. Returned from executive session at 7:02 PM.

Motion to adjourn by M. Reilly. Second by A. O'Malley. Gideon. Meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm.