



Public Board Meeting Minutes April 24, 2024

Meeting Start Time: 6:04 pm

Meeting Adjourned: 7:10 pm

In attendance in person: Rikki Petruccelli, Rebecca Phillips, Courtney Fox, Meghan Newberry, Lindsay Abrahams, Loren Holland, Annabelle O'Malley, and Matthew Bender

In attendance via Zoom:, Sarah Nagle, Shannon Tumolo, AliShah Watson, Emily Burton (joined at 6:12pm), Michael Reilly (joined at 6:14 pm) and Kristen Gideon (joined at 6:15 pm).

Regrets: Matthew Petrin

Guests: None

Public Comment

- There was no public comment sent via email or in person.

Approval Public Minutes

The minutes from the March 27, 2024, public board meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the March 27, 2024, public board meeting minutes was made by Lindsay Abrahams. Second by A. O'Malley. Vote passed. No objections. 1 abstention (R. Petruccelli).

Website Monitoring Checklist from the Department of Education

- The website monitoring report was reviewed. The report indicated that FSMA is compliant in all areas.

Head of School Report

The Head of School discussed the following in her report:

- FSMA 10-Year Anniversary Celebration recap
 - o The Head of School thanked Becky Phillips and the Committee for their work on the 10-year Anniversary Celebration.
- Visits from the Department of Education
 - o The Head of School highlighted the importance of showing the Department of Education what FSMA does and what a Montessori education looks like
 - o The Department of Education visited the school last month for curriculum. They visited today for related arts, and will be in tomorrow to meet with the 3rd grade teachers around literacy.
- Efforts to educate the community on Montessori education:
 - o Partnership with Sussex Montessori Academy on a hiring video.
 - o Partnership with University of Delaware on an article coming out that will highlight University of Delaware's Montessori training program.
 - o FSMA will be part of an article in Delaware Today on Montessori education
- Lower School Renovation Plan



- o Final plans have been completed and submitted for permits.
 - o Contractors will do their final walk through for pricing.
- 7th Grade Week of Impact
 - o 3 days for the week of impact.
 - Day 1: They go to Main Event with 6th graders who will transition to middle school. The purpose is to help build a community for the incoming middle schoolers.
 - Day 2: Design a Project – Day of Impact
 - For their day of impact, they each have to do 4-6 hours of community service to expand their impact outside of the classroom.
 - Day 3: Volunteer at Material Resource Center in Lancaster
 - o Helping the students build their capacity for service.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee Report

M. Newberry reported that the Executive Committee has had its focus on the 10-Year Anniversary event. M. Newberry announced that the IDEA Awards (Celebrating Innovation, Dedication in Education with Administration), hosted by the Delaware Charter School Network will be on May 9th. The event celebrates the charter community. Also, a reminder about graduation on Monday June 10th and a request for Board presences was made.

R. Petrucci provided an update on the technology for hybrid board meetings.

Development Committee Report

- B. Phillips provided the Development Committee Report. She provided a recap of the 10-Year Anniversary Celebration. She thanked all the volunteers, FSMA staff members, and committee members who worked the event to help make it happen.
- The total raised after expenses was \$60,396 of which \$49,125 was sponsorships.
- B. Phillips thanked the donors and sponsors during the meeting but also has a plan to send them thank you letters from the FSMA Board.

Governance Committee Report

S. Tumolo provided the Governance Committee Report. The committee has not met yet this month, but has a meeting planned for Sunday. The plan for the upcoming meeting is to discuss knowledge transfer for board members who are rolling off the board in June. In addition, she requested that those that brought in their conflict-of-interest form, to provide a copy to M. Newberry.

Finance Committee Report

C. Fox provided the Finance Committee Report. The narrative for March was discussed. 75% of the year has gone by, and there have been no large, unexpected expenses this month. The revenues and expenses for this month were reviewed. A motion to approve and post the March



finance narrative was made by R. Petruccelli. Second by M. Bender. Vote passed. No objections. No abstentions.

Executive Session

A motion to move into executive session was made by S. Tumolo. Second by B. Phillips. Moved into executive session at 6:42 pm. Returned from executive session at 7:09 pm.

A motion to adjourn was made by M. Bender. Second by A. O'Malley. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.