

Montessori Regional Charter School
Board of Trustees Meeting
July 16, 2008

Board Members Present:

Mary Burrows	Ali Samuels	Charlie Witchcoff
Mary Slusarz	Leesl Warren	Ken Gamble

Margo Wolfe 6:14 pm

Board Members not in attendance: Susan Carnes, Chris Marsh, Joe Kaiser

Also in attendance: Anthony Pirrello, CAO/Administrator, Jill Duncan, Teacher Liaison to the Board of Trustees, Tom Pendleton, Board Solicitor and Jane Binder, Administrative Assistant.

Public in Attendance: Rick Polaski, Cheryl Schodt, Curriculum Coordinator, Tina Pabon 6:24 pm, Candy Koket 6:24 pm

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM by Leesl Warren, President, leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment – Rick Polaski

Approval of Minutes: Minutes for June 11, 2008 Board of Trustees meeting were read and accepted with the following amendment:

Ken Gamble left at 7:15 pm

Motion to approve June 11, 2008 minutes as revised:

Moved by: Mary Slusarz

Seconded by: Ali Samuels

Motion passed by a show of hands 6 – 0

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Policy Manual Revisions - Tom Pendleton

Tom Pendleton, Board Solicitor, discussed and reviewed the process and a number of changes that were made to the Board of Trustee Policy Manual (See draft of revisions distributed at June Board meeting)

Motion to accept the MRCS Policy Manual as revised:

Moved by: Mary Slusarz

Seconded by: Charlie Witchcoff

Motion passed by a show of hands 7 – 0

CAO report – Anthony Pirrello – see report

1. Reflection on Brian Carpenter's suggestions from August 27, 2007: As of July 7 of his 15 suggestions have been accomplished.
2. Main office project – Bids have been received and recommendation is to approve a contract between MRCS and Whipple Construction Company

Motion to approve contract for construction of basement offices between MRCS and Whipple Construction Company

Moved by: Margo Wolfe

Seconded by: Leesl Warren

Motion passed by a show of hands 7 – 0

3. Organizational Flow Chart –Title One Teacher will now report to Curriculum Director and Coordinator of Special Services title will become Special Education Coordinator

Motion to approve new Organization chart with Title changes:

Moved by: Leesl Warren

Seconded by: Ken Gamble

Motion passed by a show of hands 7 – 0

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4. Dates for Board Development- Discussion on possible dates – Anthony will update board in August
5. New Hire – Rebecca Schaufele

Motion to approve new teacher, Rebecca Schaufele:

Moved by: Mary Burrows

Seconded by: Charlie Witchcoff

Motion passed by a show of hands 7 – 0

Charter Renewal - Tom Pendleton, Solicitor and Anthony Pirrello

Tom Pendleton gave overview of process for renewal stating that the first step is notifying the Chartering districts, Erie and Millcreek (between July 1st and November 1st) that MRCS will be requesting renewal of Charter. It was determined that we would send the notice at the end of August 2008.

Tom Pendleton also updated the Board regarding recent Charter School friendly legislation that had passed including the removal of references to all enrollment caps.

Committee reports

Finance Committee – Ali Samuels

1. Finance Committee met on July 8 to make sure that all changes discussed at June Board meeting had been reflected in budget
2. Asked Anthony for progress report on signed agreements for all contract employees – report in August
3. Budget impact of MCHE not sending preschool students – \$33.8 – This amount will be made up by an addition of 5 children to the school
4. At July 8th meeting Chris Marsh presented RFP document for Transactional Audit
5. Discussion of RFP for Line of Credit and audit –Ali Samuels provided samples

Old Business:

Chris Marsh (not present) had requested an Executive Session be held to discuss a grievance.

Board of Trustees went into Executive Session at 7:53 pm

Board of Trustees resumed Open Session at 8:56 pm

Tom Pendleton – Board Solicitor

Discussion of Charter School Board Principles and proper behavior of Board members:

1. Make sure Board members have training – they must act collectively not individually
2. Must be a thorough list of Policies and Procedures
3. Remove Board members when necessary
4. Identify potential Board members who have the skills and abilities to be a productive Board member – Identify those individuals who may be problematic Board members in advance

Motion to adjourn:

Moved by: Margo Wolfe

Seconded by: Mary Slusarz

Motion passed by show of hands 7-0

Adjourned at 9:02 pm

Recorded by: Jane Binder 7/16/08

Submitted by: Susan Carnes – Board Secretary