

Montessori Regional Charter School
Board of Trustees Meeting
November 12, 2008

Board Members Present:

Mary Burrows

Chris Marsh

Leesl Warren

Susan Carnes

Ali Samuels

Charlie Witchcoff

Ken Gamble

Mary Slusarz

Margo Wolfe

Joe Kaiser –left at 7:45pm

Board Members not in attendance: All Present

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: Cheryl Schodt

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:15 PM by Leesl Warren, President, leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve minutes from October 9, 2008 minutes:

Moved by: Chris Marsh

Seconded by: Ken Gamble

Motion passed by a show of hands 10-0

Public Comment: None

Executive Session to discuss Legal issues 6:23 pm

Public Session resumed at 7:00 pm

CAO report – Anthony Pirrello – see report (attached)

- Enrollment – 209 students
- Keystone Achievement Award for meeting AYP

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- Board Development
 1. AMS Conference - Margo Wolfe, Mary Slusarz and Leesl Warren attending
 2. Brain Carpenter Seminar – Board members should RSVP Leesl Warren to verify if unable to attend at 12-6-08 training
- Approval of New Hires

Motion to Approve and ratify the employment of new hires of M. LaMar (Special Education) and A. Hotchkiss (TA)

Moved by: Susan Carnes Seconded by: Joe Kaiser

Motion passed by a show of hands: 10- 0

Motion to Approve and ratify the contract for School Psychologist, L.Gatti

Moved by: Leesl Warren Seconded by: Joe Kaiser

Motion passed by a show of hands: 10 - 0

Finance Committee – Chris Marsh

- Line of Credit expanded at Northwest Savings Bank

Motion to move accounts from First National Bank (FNB) to Northwest Savings Bank (NWS) to be in compliance with the mortgage covenants

Moved by: C. Marsh Seconded by: Margo Wolfe

Motion Passed by show of hands: 9 – Favor
1 – Abstention (Ali Samuels) see statement

- Finance Committee pursuing a Request for Proposals (RFP) to ultimately decide where to place accounts for best interest rates

Strategic Planning Committee –

The Board has directed the Strategic Planning Committee to establish key milestones and deliverables for investigation of expansion options for MRCS including the following variables: Student Impact, Economic Impact, Student Enrollments and Building Financing

Old Business:

- Ad Hoc Committee – Defer to January agenda
- Charter Renewal
 - ➡ Response to District requests – ready for Tom’s review – Due by December 6, 2008
 - ➡ Reasons for Revoking a Charter

Under state law, the district(s) can revoke a school’s charter for the following reasons:

- “Material violations” of the charter, which could include repeatedly failing to file annual reports with the district and state.
- The school fails to meet curriculum standards or academic performance standards.
- The school is convicted of fraud.
- The school violates the state’s charter-school law.
- The school violates any federal law from which it is not exempt, including laws governing the education of special-education students.
- Financial mismanagement or failure to meet audit requirements.
- The district can also immediately revoke a charter if there is a serious health or safety risk to students or staff.

New Business:

- Grievance Procedure Flow Chart - will be attached to the policy manual, Grievance section
- Board officers – anyone interested in serving as a Board Officer should let Leesi Warren know by 11/19/08. Leesi will compile slate and send to Board members
- Ali Samuels submitted resignation effective immediately citing personal conflicts
- Orientation information should be put together by the office and given to the new Board members on Tuesday, December 2nd

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Motion to adjourn:

Moved by: Chris Marsh

Seconded by: Susan Carnes

Motion passed by show of hands 9-0

Adjourned at 8:19 pm

Recorded by: Jane Binder 11/12/08

Submitted by: Susan Carnes – Board Secretary