

Intro Session 8:15 am

A1. Call to Order: 8:21am, Attendance: Hillary Mizia, Jon Pointer, Tim Weinmann, Amy DeVries, School Director: Liv Helmericks, Pedagogical Chair: Nancy Sexton, Faculty Rep: Barbara Albert (8:30am), and Guests: Tian Wang, Ana Elias-Dag, and Greg Hirschi (8:35am)

A2. Approve Minutes: ***Tim Weinmann motioned to approve the minutes.***

Jon Pointer seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

A3. New Business: No new business

A4. Approve Agenda: ***Tim Weinmann motioned to approve the agenda. Amy DeVries seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.***

A5. Reading Our Mission: Cultivating the Creative Mind

Mountain Sage Community School offers Waldorf-inspired, arts-integrated education, fully incorporating sustainable living practices into student learning. Each child will be empowered to cultivate meaningful connections to their intellectual, physical, emotional, social and creative capacities in healthy, safe and beautiful learning environments. Through a supportive community of peers, parents and teachers, each child will become a confident, self-directed and engaged learner, invested in their own education.

A6. Public Comment - 3 minutes per person - limit 20 minutes total

Ana, wanted to bring the topic of school traffic safety to the Board. Ana's son was almost hit by a car last week. She and a few other parents will begin volunteering in order help ensure safety and also plan to recruit more parent volunteers. Ana asked the Board for more thoughts and ideas to best facilitate more safety and use the additional volunteers. Ana leaves 8:37am

Business Session 8:35 am

B1. Consent Agenda

B1.1 ADD 4.6 New Board Trustees

Changes to be made: Adopted date. Additional time for questions from either the Board or the prospective Trustee allowed at second meeting. Vote will be held at the end of the second meeting.

B1.2 ADD 4.11 Enrollment Process

This policy has already been updated on the website and the version shared at the meeting is not up to date. Amy will bring the updated version of the Enrollment Process policy to the next meeting.

B1.3 GP 3.4 Roll of the Board President

Changes to be made: Adopted date. Frequency reflected on Board calendar

B1.4 GP 3.3 Agenda Planning

Questions asked: What are Educational Ends policies? Could be changed to Educational or Academic Goals. These are reflected in our School Charter.

Changes to be made: Adopted date. Frequency reflected on Board calendar.

Principal to be changed to School Director for all. Need to look at the Educational Ends policy and decide on better language that more reflects what MSCS policies are. Educational Goals was suggested. Need to include a sentence reflecting the collaboration of the School Director and the Board in creation of the Agenda.

B1.5 GP 3.2 Board Job Description Liv and Hillary

Questions asked: Several Trustees, Liv and Nancy felt the job description was lacking much of the work the Board is responsible for.

Changes to be made: Liv and Hillary will work on a revision of the Board Job Description policy GP 3.2 and bring to the next meeting for consent.

The Board consented to items ADD 4.6 and GP 3.4 with the changes listed above.

B2. Discussion Items

B2.1 2016 Budget (45 minutes)

B2.a Review three options: Jon and Liv walked the Board thru three proposed budget options. The Finance Committee proposed that the Board assume the following in the budget to be proposed at the next meeting: Use of the unrestricted reserves to repay the loan, use of the higher salary option to retain current staff, the Administration will choose the best option for the part time additional positions and 26 instead of 24 students in classes. The Board discussed all in depth and is supportive of the above assumptions.

B2.b Unused Leave Time Policy review: A question was asked about a cap, which is a proposed maximum of 20 days with a straight roll-over. The need to look at the risk within the budget was discussed. The Board would like to see the numbers, but is supportive of the change.

B2.2 Fund Development (25 minutes)

B2.a Plan check-in: Tim updated the Board on Fundraising efforts. The Board would like to keep the faculty informed of the Fundraising efforts. An idea was proposed to reach out to the homeschool community for many of the fundraising plans. The topic of Fundraising vs. Advertising for enrollment was discussed. It was decided that many of the School Life plans will be targeted towards gaining a community database and building our enrollment. Full classes with long wait lists is the best way to fund our school.

Possible Fund Development contacts are asking for information on where the School could most use their money. Program expansion and middle school expansion were ideas. Others contacts were wanting to donate a percentage of their business income to the School. Several ideas to encourage and allow for these donations were discussed. An email to parents for possible donor information and requesting testimonials was suggested. Another suggestion was asking Teachers to share classroom stories.

The River Song donor tour will take place on April 13th.

B2.b Grants: The Board discussed that Amy can help Annie and the school by keeping up the spreadsheet with possible grants. The Board discussed needing to shift the focus from fundraising to marketing and enhancing our enrollment strategies.

B2.c Faculty Letter: The Board wishes to respond to the Faculty letter with appreciation. We need to help the Faculty shift their mentality from fundraising to marketing in order to fill our classes and create demand for our school.

B2.3 Marketing Outreach

B2.a 2016/17 Numbers: Boosting Enrollment and Waitlists: The Board believes shifting focus from fundraising to the overall Fund Development/ Marketing plan of filling all our classes and having healthy wait lists will create demand for our school and bring donors.

B2.4 Board Development

B2.a Meet Greg: Q&A: Greg asked about the legal ramifications of being on the Board.

B2.b Meet Tian: Q&A

B2.c Any other new prospects

B3. Action Items

1. Approve 2016-2017 School Calendar

Hillary Mizia motioned to approve the proposed Calendar for 2016/17

Amy DeVries seconded the motion

The motion was unanimously approved

2. PSD Board Tour on May 10th: who can be there: Hillary is available

Closing Session 10:45 am

C1. Review All Action Items

C2. Move to Adjourn:10:48am

C3. Closing Verse: *Steadfast I'll stand in existence. With certainty I tread life's path. Love I cherish in the depths of my being. Hope I place in every deed. Confidence I place in every thought. These five guide me through existence. These five guide me to the goal.*