

Mountain Sage Community School - Board Agenda, 3-9-2015  
Location - MSCS, 6:30-9:30PM

### **Intro Session**

A1. Call to Order: 6:30pm, Attendance: Jon Pointer, Hillary Mizia (excused absent), Amy DeVries, Tim Weinmann (6:34pm), Liv Helmericks, Sarah Braun, Consultant: Nancy Sexton, Guests: Ariel Witt, Warren Mesloh

A2. Approve Minutes: Approved

A3. New Business

A4. Approve Agenda: Approved with addition of Parent Feedback in Governance Section

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

Warren (our Landlord) passed on information regarding traffic and parking. One of the neighbors has decided to take action and pledged to hire a tow truck. All of the property owners are concerned about the liability of a child being hurt on their property. Insurance claims could be confusing and if someone is hurt on a property where they were not supposed to be, it could expose MSCS to liability as well. Warren left a letter with the Board to pass along to parents.

### **Business Session**

B1. Financial Updates

1. Budget updates- Sarah-Gennie: All looks good. The Board needs to approve the 2015/16 Budget by April 15th. It was decided to move the Board Meeting in April from the 20th to the 8th.

B2. Director Update - Liv

1. Review written admin report - questions and/or important points:

Hillary had emailed Jon about getting with Tim and Ariel to work on Fundraising in general.

Parent Council will be adding a working meeting in addition to the regular meeting in order to have some real time to tackle projects and festival ideas.

The enrollment numbers are looking really good. All classes are full with a wait list with the exception of the 5th and 6th grades. Ariel suggested a grade specific outreach at the library to attract a few more students to 5th and 6th. It was also suggested we think about re-branding the parent evenings to something more festive than education night in order to attract more parents to these evenings.

The Board discussed the 2015/16 calendar. Changes suggested were ending the half-day Kindergarten at noon instead of 12:30, moving Winter Faire from December 5th to the 12th, and having the middle school day begin at 8:15am.

The Board also scheduled the 2015/16 meetings based on the current schedule.

**Jon Pointer moved to approve all Annual School Calendar changes  
Amy DeVries seconded the motion  
The motion passed unanimously**

The SAC met in February and the Annual Parent Survey is in process.

Nancy had some comments on the middle school design blueprints. There was not much blackboard space in relation to the doors and it was suggested the doors be moved a bit. Pocket doors were also suggested for the quiet room to allow more room for shelves and teacher resources in that room.

The School may need to do some infrastructure work in the garden in relation to the Growing Dome grant project. This work may become a targeted ask for future.

The Board was asked to adopt a “no idling” policy. Poudre School District has a district wide “no idling” policy and the Board would like to encourage, educate and promote the idea of providing the best air possible for our kids.

Fundraising Guidelines were discussed and it was decided that all Fundraising asks happening at the school should go thru Liv and/or the Faculty.

### B3. Governance

1. Parent Feedback: A parent contacted Jon with some concerns about our Positive Behavior Interventions & Support process. Jon has met with Liv, will meet with the student’s teacher and then will share with the Board once all information is acquired.
2. Review Board Calendar items for March - Jon: The Board discussed
3. Director review process - Jon: Jon has created a Director Review Survey that will go to Faculty, Admin, Board, Liv’s PSD Contacts and Liv’s Mentor. Liv will have her self-evaluation for the April meeting. In April, Jon will gather the AdHoc Committee to summarize the responses and give Liv a review of her performance for this year. For next year, the process will begin with the Survey being sent out in February with the AdHoc Committee meeting in March and Liv’s self-evaluation due in March as well.
4. Board guest and exit policies - Jon: Jon brought the Board Guest policy and the Exiting Board Members Policy to the Board for discussion. Jon will change the time period from 15 minutes to 20 and change “might instead of may” on the Guest Policy. Jon will add “or is removed from” and add the Vice President as substitute if the President or Secretary are the member in question to the Exit Policy.

**Amy DeVries moved to approve the Board Guest Policy and the Exiting Board Members Policy with the above changes.**

**Tim Weinmann seconded the motion  
The motion passed unanimously**

5. Approve school calendar for 2015/2016 - All : Approved with changes, see above
6. Strategic Plan review and work session - All: Moved to April meeting.  
Also discuss sharing with faculty and our sustainable living goal
7. New board member discussion and voting - All: The Board discussed asking Ariel Witt to join the Board

**Tim Weinmann moved to invite Ariel Witt to join the MSCS Board of Trustees**  
**Jon Pointer seconded the motion**  
**The motion passed unanimously**

The Board went thru the Action Items Google Doc and updated.  
Ariel leaves 8:40pm

### **Closing Session**

- C1. Review New Action Items - Also review of old action items and action item registry
- C2. Move to Adjourn: 8:44pm
- 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.