

Mountain Sage Community School - Board Agenda, 7-14-2014
Location - MSCS, 7:00-10:00PM

Intro Session

A1. Call to Order 7:06 pm, Attendance: Liv Helmericks, Sarah-Gennie Colazio, Nancy Sexton excused absent, Jessi Brandt-Feldenkirchen excused absent, Hillary Mizia, Jon Pointer, Duan Ruff absent, Amy DeVries, Faculty Rep: Sarah Braun

A2. Approve Minutes: Minutes Approved

A3. New Business: No new business

A4. Approve Agenda: Agenda 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

Business Session

B1. Treasurer Report and Audit Update - SG/Duan

The Board discussed a few different options regarding the health insurance benefit offered by Mountain Sage. The Board would like to continue to provide as much benefit as possible with regard to health care. Sarah-Gennie will continue to monitor how much of the budget can be directed to each employee who chooses to take our offered care. The total budget for 2013/2014 is not quite complete yet as we have a few outstanding payments to make. John Cutler will be conducting an audit August 21-22 and will have a draft audit available by the September board meeting.

Sarah-Gennie leaves 7:41 pm

B2. Director Update - Liv

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

The Board discussed some organization, re-tuning and updating of the website. It was agreed that the site needs more pictures posted and a better organizational flow. It would be nice to have some blog posts from teachers on the main webpage; possibly with password protection. Hillary asked that teachers submit articles for use on the Facebook page.

Jon asked about the 2014/15 budget review. Liv just wanted the Board to be familiar with it and have any questions answered so the Board can offer approval at the August meeting.

The Board discussed the progression of construction in the Kindergarten space. The kitchen, laundry and other needed items are on track.

Liv, Abby and Nancy are working diligently to be ready for the 2014/15 school year.

George Hoeffcker and Donna Burgess will be visiting Mountain Sage in November.

2. SAC Results, Performance Results and Goals- The Board discussed. There was not a large return on the surveys so results are limited. SAC meetings will be quarterly with the next one taking place after TCAP results.

B3. Governance - Jon

1. Review calendar- The Board will look ahead to August
2. Board binder and minutes discussion - Amy discussed with the Board the question of printing minutes and having a physical copy available in the school. It was decided that printing a copy of all minutes was not in line with our school values and therefore will only be posted online. Minutes can always be made available to anyone wishing to view them.
3. Strategic Plan Discussion and Proposed Goals - Amy and Hillary (read below in preparation) - Amy and Hillary came up with a 3-year goal for each of the three truth statements reviewed at the Retreat. These goals were presented to the Board for approval. The Board agreed to the three goals and now needs to identify objectives and specific strategies including steps to complete, whom the strategy is assigned to, specific measures and timelines for completion. Once strategies are identified and assigned, the Board will have homework that will include reports on the progress prior to meetings. The Administration, Liv, the Faculty, and several committees with also have specific measurable objectives and strategies. Similarly to the Board, the strategies will need to be assigned and include steps, measures and timelines to be completed. Progress will be reported to the Board.

It was decided to leave this portion of the agenda and finish up the remaining items with the intention of returning to a brainstorming session if time allows: 8:33pm

9:19 pm the Board returned to the Strategic Plan Discussion

The board worked together to come up with some of the important objectives. The Google Document was shared and ***All will work on identifying measurable objectives and strategies for the approved 3-year goals.

4. Sustainability Definition - Hillary (read below in preparation) The Board made a small change and approved the Sustainability Definition

B4. CLCS/CDE Items

1. Board training modules
 - a. Any notable training items? Hillary, Duan and Amy
 - b. Schedule to complete? Hillary, Duan and Amy - Finished
2. CCSP Grant Training needs - Liv/Amy - We have met all of our training needs for 2013/2014.

B5. Misc

1. Safety plan update - Liv- Jessie and Liv have split up the work. Liv will be editing soon and then be able to bring a plan to the Board for approval. Liv will also need to hold a staff training.
2. Volunteerism and board specific requests - Hillary discussed that more volunteers are needed for the various ongoing projects and the Board needs to lend

some support to the Volunteer Coordinator. The Board discussed several ideas and it was decided that Board members would share all Facebook posts or requests for help. It was also decided that a Volunteer Plea from the Board would be sent out via email. It was also discussed that a new Parent Council Chair is needed.

Closing Session

C1. Review New Action Items

C2. Move to Adjourn: 10:04 pm

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.

Strategic Plan Proposed Goals (from Hillary and Amy)

Site/Facility: A beautiful, functional space inside and out that brings forth abundance and peace.

Three year goal: To have fully developed indoor and outdoor spaces, as defined by our leased space as of 2014.

Community: A strong, supportive group of families with the courage to have integrity of mission, connection, and love of learning.

Three year goal: To engage 75% of all Mountain Sage parents and guardians in both volunteer activities and school functions.

Deepening of Program: An effective, well developed, and accessible school that both guides and learns from the greater Fort Collins community and beyond.

Three year goal: To become a successful, publicly recognized, financially solvent, one track K-8 school.

Sustainability Definition Proposal (from Hillary)

Sustainability is the mindful awareness of the interconnected relationships between our planet and the diversity of life upon it.