

Mountain Sage Community School - Board Agenda, 9-8-2014
Location - MSCS, 7:00-10:00PM

Intro Session

A1. Call to Order: 7:07pm, Attendance: Liv Helmericks, Nancy Sexton, Sarah-Gennie Colazio, Jessi Brandt-Feldenkirchen, Hillary Mizia, Jon Pointer, Duan Ruff (arrival at 7:15), Amy DeVries, Faculty Rep: Sarah Braun

A2. Approve Minutes: Approved

A3. New Business

A4. Approve 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. Financial Updates

1. Enrollment and budget updates - SG : Sarah-Gennie updated the Board on the new budget based on the decreased number of enrolled students. The Board is in favor of actively recruiting more students during the next weeks, beginning with staffing the MSCS Sustainable Living Fair Booth and reaching out to attendees of the Fair. Several other ideas were discussed as well.

In preparation for the possibility of this lower count remaining the same or decreasing by October 1, 2014;

Jon Pointer moved to cut half of the current budget for the Consumable Instructional Materials, invite 4 more students to the Kindergarten class for a total of 24, fill the Sixth Grade from 23 to 24 students and freeze the Playground Expenses.

Hillary Mizia seconded the motion

The motion passed

Hillary asked if the Board would be willing to help with managing the large job of keeping up the PR/Media presence of MSCS.

SG leaves 8:08pm

2. Foundation update - Jessi updated the Board on recent developments of the Foundation. Monica Corrado has agreed to be a member of the Foundation Board. A gift letter will be mailed to the parent body in early October introducing the Foundation as a board response for financial stability. Jessi also discussed several other plans the Foundation is working on.

Jon Pointer moved that the Board delegate the Executive Council to write and approve a gift letter to be sent out following the Harvest Festival.

Duan Ruff seconded the motion

The motion passed

B2. Director Update - Liv

1. Review written admin report - questions and/or important points: Liv briefly touched on the Technical Assistance Requirements for the final year of the CSSI Grant. The Parent Council Meeting was successful and all classes are represented by 2 volunteers. The School Directory is being worked on and then the work of building classroom community can begin. The Personnel Hiring/Faculty Committees are working on job descriptions. There was a discussion of using Biodynamic practices in the garden. MSCS has been approached by the Alliance for Public Waldorf Education to participate in a process that will allow us to be strengthened through outside evaluation and support by the Alliance.

2. CDE Turnaround Status update - Liv and Jon recently spoke with PSD Assistant Superintendent, Todd Lambert regarding the school's status and next steps. Liv and Jon updated the Board on where we go from here and the first step is to send a letter to the parent community from the school advising them of the Turnaround status. Liv spoke with her mentor about an appeal but was advised against going forward. The School Advisory Council (SAC) will be meeting soon to create an improvement plan which will be presented to PSD by December board meeting.

Jon Pointer moved that Mountain Sage not pursue the process to appeal the Turnaround Status of the School.

Duan Ruff seconded the motion

The motion passed

B3. Governance - Jon

1. Review Director goals and plans - Liv - **Postponed until October meeting.**
2. Board check-in and review Board Skill Set Matrix - Jon - **Postponed until October meeting**
3. Set agenda for October retreat - All - Jon and Hillary will set the agenda
4. Strategic Plan and Goals working session - All- **Postponed until October meeting**

B4. Misc

1. Training plan for George's visit in : Jon and Liv will work on this

Closing Session

C1. Review New Action Items

C2. Move to Adjourn: 10:07pm

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.