

**Leelanau Montessori Public School Academy
Regular Meeting
Monday, July 17, 2017 7:00 p.m.
310 Elm Street Suttons Bay, MI 49682**

1. Call to Order: Vice-President Macdonald called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call: Vice-President Macdonald, Secretary Chaney, Trustee McConnell, Trustee Lutke, Trustee-Miezio
Others: Eric Royston-Head of School (HOS), Kallie Craker, Julie Yoffrey, Hollie Andersen, and Nicole Martin.

3. Additions/Approval of July 17, 2017 Agenda:

MOVED BY MEZIO SECONDED BY LUTKE TO APPROVE THE JULY 17, 2017 AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

AYES: ALL NAYS: NONE ABSENT: 3 MOTION CARRIED

4. Revisions/Approval of June 19, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes:

MOVED BY MCCONNELL SECONDED BY MEZIO TO APPROVE THE JUNE 19, 2017 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED.

AYES: ALL NAYS: NONE ABSENT: 3 MOTION CARRIED

5. Public Comment: Hollie Andersen expressed concern about the staffing plan for school year 2017/18. She indicated that given the number of students how could staff be expected to manage the workload with the anticipated staff. Further, she indicated that she will have three students with IEP's in her class and it will be just her and a part-time aide. She also highlighted that it is more work intensive to teach a Montessori curriculum than a traditional school curriculum. Board members listened to her concerns and provided feedback on why it supported the current staffing plan. Hollie Andersen also expressed concern about whether students would be able to participate in the Suttons Bay Public School theatre productions during the school year. The Board expressed its support for continuing to support students who want to participate in the SBPS productions.

6. Head of School Report: HOS Eric Royston reviewed his submitted HOS report. He highlighted improved scores on the student standardized test (NWEA) and anticipates improved results on the M-STEP when the results are available in October. He briefed the Board on the status of the bridge loan, 3rd grade reading coach and new State requirements, school lunch program, State changes to the isolation and restraint policy. He concluded his remarks by stating that current enrollment is at 116-117 and he anticipates it to come in slightly higher.

7. Annual Organizational Meeting:

MOVED BY MEZIO SECONDED BY MCCONNELL TO ADOPT RESOLUTIONS #9-2017 - #23-2017 AS PRESENTED AND DISCUSSED.

AYES: ALL NAYS: NONE ABSENT: 3 MOTION CARRIED.

Old Business:

8. Committee Reports:

a. Academic Excellence: Mezio agreed to serve as the new Board member on the Committee. She will get with the other members and decide who will chair the Committee.

b. Facilities: Macdonald mentioned that the Committee met last week and developed a plan for facility needs. She indicated that a school work bee is scheduled for 18 and 19 August.

c. Finance: Royston commented that the Committee is on track to obtain a new bridge loan of \$250K once the current loan is paid off. This should occur in August.

d. Fund Raising: Mezio reviewed her submitted written report. There will be an ice cream social at the Marina Park on August 30th to kick off the new school year.

e. Grant: Royston attended grant training offered by the Rotary Club in Traverse City. He received information on an opportunity to submit a capital grant to Rotary by September 1st. The grant can go up to \$100K.

f. Governance: Chaney reviewed his submitted written report. He provided an outline of a Board/staff retreat planned for August 27th. More details to follow once plans for the retreat are firmed up.

g. Marketing: McConnell reviewed his submitted written report. He indicated that the school website has been updated with new photos and the billboard on M22 is now advertising the school. He also mentioned that the Committee is working on a Facebook campaign to advertise the school. Finally, he briefed the Board on an effort to obtain birthday cards for Maria Montessori's birthday in part to market the school and fundraise.

Future of the School: Various Board members provided updates on the future of the school. Mezio mentioned that pledge sheets have been updated to make pledges contingent on the school receiving a charter. This should ease concerns about donations to the school. Royston stated that the Purchase Agreement has been signed by all parties and just needs to be reviewed by the school's lawyer and then approved by both Boards. He indicated that the Board needs to approve the \$5K earnest money that is due to escrow within 10 days of the Agreement. This funding will come from the Evening of Art budget line item according to Mezio. Royston continues to meet with the architect concerning the building requirements. Royston provided a brief update on efforts to obtain a school charter including renewed efforts to obtain a charter from Bay Mills College.

MOVED BY LUTKE SECONDED BY MCCONNELL TO AUTHORIZE THE PAYMENT OF \$5,000.00 TO THE COLDWELL BANKER ESCROW ACCOUNT AS EARNEST MONEY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR THE CONNIE BINSFELD BUILDING.

AYES: ALL NAYS: NONE ABSENT: 3 MOTION CARRIED.

New Business:

9. LMPA Operations Manual: Royston provided an update on the status of the school's operation manual for 2017/18. He forwarded the updated manual to the Board for its review but not approval until the August Board meeting. He will highlight changes since the Board approved the manual in March.

10. Public Comment: Nicole Martin expressed gratitude for all the Board's efforts. Kallie Craker asked the Marketing Committee Chair for financial support for school postcards to promote the school. McConnell agreed to support the request.

11. Board Comment: Chaney asked the HOS to promote no texting or cell phone use around the school area /zone. He agreed to do so.

12. Adjournment: The Board agreed by consensus to adjourn at 9:00 p.m.

Vice President

Date

Secretary

Date