

**Leelanau Montessori Public School Academy  
Regular Meeting  
Monday, May 16, 2016 7:00 p.m.  
310 Elm Street Suttons Bay Schools Media Center**

1. **Call to Order:** President Bordeaux called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. **Roll Call:** President-Bordeaux, Secretary- Chaney, Treasurer- Nelson, Trustee-McConnell, Trustee- Martin, Trustee- Macdonald, Trustee- Bennett

**Absent:** Vice President-Lint (arrived at 7:03), Trustee- Evans (excused)

**Other:** Rebecca Creighton- Interim Head of School, Beth Bassett- Recording Secretary, Arden Wilson- Program Director

3. **Additions/Approval of May 16, 2016 Agenda:**

**MOVED BY MACDONALD SECONDED BY MCCONNELL TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED.**

**AYES: ALL NAYS: NONE ABSENT: 2 MOTION CARRIED**

4. **Public Comment:** None

5. **Revisions/Approval of April 18, 2016 Regular Meeting Notes:**

**MOVED BY MACDONALD SECONDED BY MCCONNELL TO APPROVE THE APRIL 18, 2016 REGULAR MEETING NOTES AS PRESENTED.**

**AYES: ALL NAYS: NONE ABSENT: 2 MOTION CARRIED**

6. **Revisions/Approval of May 11, 2016 Special Meeting Notes:**

**MOVED BY MACDONALD SECONDED BY MCCONNELL TO APPROVE THE MAY 11, 2016 SPECIAL MEETING NOTES AS PRESENTED.**

**AYES: ALL NAYS: NONE ABSENT: 2 MOTION CARRIED**

Lint arrived at 7:03 p.m.

7. **Head of School Report:**

Interim Head of School Rebecca Creighton reviewed her submitted Head of School report. In regards to the vision statement Creighton requested the Board approve the revised vision statement- "The Only Way to Change the World is through Education" a quote by Dr. Maria Montessori. After discussion the following motion was made:

**MOVED BY MACDONALD SECONDED BY MCCONNELL TO APPROVE CHANGING THE VISION STATEMENT AS DISCUSSED.**

**AYES: ALL NAYS: NONE ABSENT: 1 MOTION CARRIED**

Concerns were voiced over the discussion that occurred at the SB/Leelanau Montessori collaborative work group meeting regarding unifying/merging of our program with Suttons Bay. Some Board members commented that the work group was not the appropriate place for these discussions. It was commented that merging could be one of the many options available. It was commented that the Board had voted a year ago not to merge and some were wondering why it was even being discussed. Creighton commented that it is a beneficial diverse group and valuable discussions have happened. Arden Wilson commented she has appreciated the process and believes it has been a worthwhile collaboration. Further discussion was tabled until the agenda item discussion.

**Old Business:**

## **8. Committee Reports:**

**a. Finance:** Nelson reviewed the submitted report. Nelson commented that the proposed budget will be presented at the June meeting. Nelson commented the paperwork for the bridge loan will be ready next week and requested a motion to approve Bordeaux, Creighton, and Nelson to sign the loan papers in the amount of \$250,000. Nelson commented the new loan will pay off app. \$50,000 of the old loan.

***MOVED BY LINT SECONDED BY MACDONALD TO APPROVE OBTAINING A BRIDGE LOAN FROM CHEMICAL BANK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$250,000 TO PAY OFF THE OLD LOAN OF APPROXIMATELY \$50,000 AND TO BE SIGNED BY BORDEAUX, CREIGHTON, AND NELSON.  
AYES: ALL NAYS: NONE ABSENT: 1 MOTION CARRIED***

Items That were discussed in regards to finalizing the budget were the Great Start Preschool Program, transportation, health care cost increase of 7%, and the per pupil increase still yet to be decided by the state.

**b. Fundraising:** Bordeaux reviewed the submitted report.

**c. Marketing:** McConnell commented the committee is moving forward with a new website that will be mobile and PC friendly and will be meeting again soon to finalize.

**d. Governance:** Chaney reviewed the submitted report.

**e. Facilities:** Macdonald commented she is working on a Powerpoint presentation on the facility needs of the school and the possibility of moving the classrooms and office down by the Primary/Toddler area. Creighton commented she is looking at the lease and it was discussed that the lease and the charter go hand and hand. It was again stated that the staff would like to all be together and the needs of the staff is a high priority.

**f. Grant Writing:** Macdonald commented that Anita Abbott agreed to work on researching Rotary Charities grant and Samantha Bennett is also working on additional grant applications. The committee is also working on a process for requesting funds.

**g. Academic Excellence:** Martin reviewed the submitted report.

**9. HOS Search Update:** Bordeaux commented that we are currently in negotiations with a candidate and will keep the Board updated.

**10. Leelanau Montessori/Suttons Bay Work Group:** Continued discussion regarding the appropriateness of a merging discussion happening at this work group. It was agreed to table the discussion until next month and have Bordeaux speak with Suttons Bay Board President Steve Hall.

**11. Strategic Plan:** The Board thanked Chaney for his hard work and the following motion was made:

***MOVED BY MCCONNELL SECONDED BY MACDONALD TO APPROVE THE STRATEGIC PLAN AS PRESENTED.  
AYES: ALL NAYS: NONE ABSENT: 1 MOTION CARRIED***

**12. Head of School Evaluation (Closed Session):**

***MOVED BY MACDONALD SECONDED BY MARTIN TO APPROVE MOVING INTO CLOSED SESSION  
AYES: ALL NAYS: NONE ABSENT: 1 MOTION CARRIED***

***MOVED BY MACDONALD SECONDED BY MCCONNELL TO APPROVE MOVING OUT OF CLOSED SESSION.  
AYES: ALL NAYS: NONE ABSENT: 1 MOTION CARRIED***

**New Business:**

**13. Bridge Loan:** As discussed.

**14. Preliminary 2016-17 Budget:** As discussed

**15. Public Comment:** Arden Wilson commented that the Great Start Preschool Program is not a fit for our school and hopes to come up with a plan to release from it. Arden said she hopes the facilities committee moves forward and could make a recommendation despite everything else going on. Beth Bassett commented that it will be important to refer to the strategic plan when making decisions.

**16. Board Comments:** Macdonald thanked everyone and commented that we are all here because we care about our school and community. Bordeaux commented she is looking to schedule MASB in the fall.

**17. Adjournment:** The Board agreed by consensus to adjourn at 9:41 p.m.

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President

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Date

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Secretary

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Date