



Board Meeting Minutes

Desert Sky Montessori

Virtual Meeting

May 18, 2022

Jessica Loukonen called the meeting to order at 6:16pm.

Present: Jessica Loukonen, Cara Nowak, John Eskew, Daisy Sexton, Kevin McKennon

Also present: Jodie Borgia, Julia Sutter, Heather Phillips, Bill Alsdurf Jr, Deli Thordarson, Ute-Anja McDonald

BUSINESS

2022.05.18.01 Jessica Loukonen moves to approve the April minutes. John Eskew seconds. The April minutes are approved by unanimous vote.

A. Jodie Borgia: Head of School Report

a. Enrollment

- i. Finishing the year with 162 students
- ii. 174 students are currently enrolled for the next school year; still budgeting for 176 students for next year; Jodie Borgia, Bill Alsdurf Jr, and Heather Phillips have decided to wait to fill the remaining spots until the end of July; there is a strong waitlist

b. Staffing

- i. Will announce to the community in June which staff members are leaving
- ii. Interviewed a potential candidate for a head teacher position yesterday; will be interviewing for the Spanish position soon
- iii. An advertisement has been placed with AMI [Association Montessori Internationale]; have received some applications from teachers currently overseas: Pascaline Myers will be researching what sort of work would be required in order to hire these candidates
- iv. Need to hire 2 applicants with Oregon teaching licenses

c. Testing

- i. State testing results were not good, which is consistent with testing results from across the state currently; language results were fairly good, especially in grades 3-5—a positive, as lots of time has been put into interventions with language this year
- ii. School-based testing results will be made available by next month's board meeting

d. Covid

- i. Deschutes County is now considered high-risk for Covid
 - ii. There have been cases in the school, but no sign of community spread within the school so far; if multiple children in the same class or cohort were to test positive, distance learning for that cohort would need to be considered
 - e. Substitutes
 - i. DSM will not have any substitutes available beginning after Memorial Day; will continue to keep classes open and in-person for as long as they can be staffed
 - ii. Will talk to the PCA [Parent Community Association] about the possibility of having parent volunteers come in for the last 3 weeks to help out
- B. John Eskew: Treasurer Report
 - a. Priority has been given to working on the moving budget; next year's budget will hopefully be available by next month's board meeting
- C. Julia Sutter: Business Director Report
 - a. The spreadsheet detailing the moving budget now includes which companies have been confirmed and when their work is scheduled to begin
 - b. Waiting for an updated quote from SignFX as BLP [Bend-La Pine] is taking their sign but leaving the posts
 - c. Waiting for a quote to fix any missing siding and have the doors painted at the new location
 - d. OWC [One World Center] is in the final lease negotiations
 - e. Has spoken to the principal at Realms to reconfirm that DSM can move into the new property on July 1, 2022; will speak with the property owner to change the date of the lease starting from August 1, 2022 to July 1, 2022
 - f. Will be reaching out to the parent community for help with packing and moving to lower the costs
 - g. Reminds everyone that she is available to answer any questions before the end of the school year
- D. Bill Alsdurf Jr: looking forward to July 1, 2022, and moving to Bend, Oregon; is excited about the applicant he and Jodie Borgia met with yesterday; appreciates Julia Sutter's reminder to reach out for help
- E. Jessica Loukonen: Board President Update
 - a. Would like to tentatively plan a board retreat for late August 2022 to discuss what we want the next school year to look like; do need to begin working on policy
 - b. Wondering about the service we purchased through OSBA [Oregon School Boards Association] and when we would have to renew that since they were behind and did not have time to help at first
 - i. Julia Sutter: OSBA could not help for about 4 months; thinks the renewal date will be a year from when they started sending policy to be looked over
 - ii. Jessica Loukonen: will make a new folder for board policies that need to be reviewed; requests the original documents sent by OSBA along with the changes that Jodie Borgia, Heather Phillips, and Pascaline Myers have made
 - 1. Jodie Borgia: thinks it would take the board a very long time to go through both sets of policy
 - 2. Julia Sutter: thinks the board should be able to see the changes that have been made to the document when previewing them in the system

- c. Would like to thank Julia Sutter for all that she has done for DSM over the years and is grateful for the work she has done concerning the move, as this is Julia Sutter's last board meeting with DSM

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:58pm.

Recorded by: Cara Nowak

Minutes approved at 6/15/2022 Board Meeting