



Board Meeting Minutes
Desert Sky Montessori
63645 Scenic Drive, Bend, OR 97701
April 8, 2019

Sam called meeting to order at 6:15pm

Present: Grant Martin, Jolene Dodge, Sam Pierce, Cara Nowak

Absent: Jennae Thompson

Also present: Jodie Borgia, Julia Sutter, Heather Amaral, CeCe Bangerter, Bradley Smith, Daisy Sexton, Francie Towne, Pascaline Ocana, Marissa Bunker, Jason Sexton

OPEN FORUM

Francie: Thank you—for teachers hired, staff's dedication, etc.; would like her children to go to middle school at DSM

Marissa Bunker: Was told when enrolling in DSM that the school would be adding a class each year and is frustrated that this (adding 7th and 8th grades) might not happen in time for her child to have access to these services

Heather Amaral: Oregon House Bill 3063—if passed, would eliminate religious and philosophical exemption for vaccines, give OHA power to add vaccines to vaccination schedule, would allow only OHA to give exemptions to immuno-compromised children (takes authority away from personal doctors), would go into effect 8/2020; could have profound financial effects on schools if all unvaccinated children are pulled; 30% of current DSM students are under exemption; would like to see the board speak out against this to the district and let parents at the school know that this is happening (letters to those that are exempt, perhaps?)

REVIEW & APPROVE MINUTES

2019.4.8.01 Grant moves to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2019, meeting. Jolene seconds. The minutes are approved by unanimous vote.

BUSINESS

A. President Report

- a. Adolescent Program / Middle School - board will be voting on this in May
- b. Upcoming work sessions/Melissa Halbert - to be held on May 4; board training and focus groups
- c. Strategic Planning - Survey/Focus Groups timeline – end of year staff/board dinner cancelled

B. Head of School Report

- a. Enrollment, lottery & waitlist - 127 children currently enrolled at DSM; lottery for the school was pulled last Tuesday, April 2; our current waitlist is ordered as follows: 2018/19 Bend La Pine waitlist children, 2019/20 Bend La Pine lottery children, 2018/19 out of district waitlist children, 2018/19 out of district lottery children; recommends voting as a board on this waitlist order so that we remain consistent; Jodie does contact the previous year's waitlist 3x per year to see if they would like to remain on the list, and guesses 60-70% opt to remain listed
- b. Instructional Hours & Start Times - 900 instructional hours are required per grade level per year; proposed time to be voted on will give the school 2.8 days of extra instructional time (can be used toward snow day make up if needed) and allow morning prep times of 45 minutes for Primary staff and 1 hour for Lower and Upper staff

2019.4.8.02 Cara moves to approve start and end times for the 2019.2020 school year as follows: OWC 8:15am – 3pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and 8:15am – 1:30pm Wednesday; BRC 8:30 – 3:15 Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and 8:30 – 1.45pm Wednesday. Grant seconds. Start and end times are approved by unanimous vote.

- c. Staffing & Teacher Contracts - Head teachers and assistants were given their letter of offer before Spring Break; will expect an answer by April 15; Jodie and Sam will be interviewing applicants for the Upper Elementary position for next year
- d. Jodie will be going to Montessori for Social Justice conference in Portland, Oregon, this June and will share what was learned with staff

C. Business Director Report

- a. Facilities Update – OWC: insulation finished; permits approved for outdoor parking lot lighting; Dan?? and Julia meeting with county planning on Thursday, county will tell us what is needed as far as septic (secondary treatment system, drainage field on site, etc.) in order to increase the number of buildings at OWC, expects roughly \$100,000 to complete this; can portable toilets be used if we decide to use modular classrooms (district has 8 modulares available at this time); work party April 27 to build out sandbox and remove weeds from drainfield; BRC: \$2352 quote for door with windows; CAM's went up \$254.16 per month
- b. Budgets & Finances - Almost finished submitting ODE reimbursements; bought \$15,000 of new Upper Elementary class materials from ODE fund; filed 2017/2018 taxes; awarded Environmental Center Grant (\$500); applied for Ramsay Family Foundation Grant (\$10,000); discussing Anjulia Foundation Grant
- c. ODE – need to add 5th grade to our available grades

2018.4.8.03 Grant moves to add 5th grade to the list of available grades at DSM for the 2019-2020 school year. Cara seconds. Adding 5th grade approved by unanimous vote.

- d. Rock, Paper, Scissors – Ask board for involvement with donations, raffle baskets, etc.; bus and band reserved for event; parking for cars to be decided

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 7:10pm

Recorded by: Cara Nowak

Minutes approved at 5/8/19 Board Meeting