



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

Sam Pierce called the meeting to order at 6:16pm.

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

Also present: Jodie Borgia, Julia Sutter, Brad Smith, CeCe Bangerter, Kim Bangerter, Kim Martin, Heather Dommershausen, Tasha McFarland

OPEN FORUM

Kim Martin: Concerned about babies being allowed in the classroom, formal grievance was filed; has talked with other parents who are also concerned; also expressed concern about the way her complaint was handled

BUSINESS

- A. Board Values, Practices & Meeting Guidelines
 - a. Would like to begin each board meeting by stating our values, to be cemented at a later date

- B. Consent Agenda
 - a. Amend March Minutes
 - b. Approve April Minutes
 - c. Plumbing bid (OWC)--Christensen Plumbing: board asked for more bids to be gathered
 - d. General Contractor bid (OWC)--Wendlek Contracting: board asked for more bids to be gathered

2019.5.8.01 Sam Pierce moves to approve the consent agenda. Jolene Dodge seconds. The consent agenda is approved by unanimous vote.

- C. New Board Members
 - a. Kim Bangerter: Believes in Montessori and is ready to give back to the community; non-profit experience; potential conflict of interest with spouse on staff: tries to separate business and personal life—will represent needs of all children at DSM, not just personal/family

2019.5.8.02 Cara Nowak moves to vote Kim Bangerter onto the DSM School Board. Grant Martin seconds. Kim Bangerter is voted onto the DSM School Board by unanimous vote.

- b. Brad Smith: Leadership roles for 16 years, mostly for profit, has participated on many boards in that space; values sense of community at DSM; has experience in digital communications and marketing that he would like to use for DSM

- i. Would need to resign from DSMP Board with 10 days' notice before being voted onto DSM Board; needs to submit a DSM Board application; board will wait on vote until next meeting

- D. Business Director/Financial Report
 - a. Surprise inspection at DSMP: cited for multiple instances of non-compliance; all staff error: policies are in place to prevent this, but were not being followed; checks have been put in place; we will be fined after our second offense

- E. Head of School Report
 - a. Testing: EasyCBM used to track children's progress; all data will be brought to the board after the 3 yearly tests are completed; DSM will be adopting Dibels testing—run by the district's testing team—next year

- F. Policy Discussion: Infants in the Classroom
 - a. Jodie Borgia: policy would include infants up to 270 days old, requires 2 alternative caregivers, and can be terminated at any time; believes it will improve morale and empathy in children and staff; realizes we will need to purchase a different insurance policy if infants are allowed in classrooms; would like the board to approve the policy and then put trust in her—Jodie—to implement the policy
 - b. Sam Pierce: believes infants present would not be a detriment to the classroom; insurance: we would not be able to keep our current insurance, indicated other insurance companies do cover these types of policies to include infants—safety protocols, parent of infant signing waiver not to sue and acknowledging any accidents with infant would need to be covered by the parent's medical insurance, etc.—but does not know what the pricing for that sort of insurance policy would be
 - c. Jennae Thompson: concerned about the charter contract and adequate insurance
 - d. It is not known if Bend/LaPine School District would support an Infants in the Classroom Policy
 - e. We would have to follow specific licensing to have the policy be in effect at OWC
 - f. Board discussed not allowing regular and frequent infants in classrooms without an approved policy and insurance covering such in place

2019.5.8.03 Kim Bangerter moves to reject the Infants in the Workplace Policy as presented at the board meeting tonight. Sam Pierce seconds. The Infants in the Workplace Policy as presented at the board meeting tonight is rejected by unanimous vote.

- G. Middle School Discussion and Task Force
 - a. Would like to form a task force made of board members, parents, staff, and possible community members to explore adding Middle School to DSM—financial implications, school visitations performed, etc.; Kim Bangerter volunteers to lead this effort; Jolene Dodge would like to be on the committee

2019.5.8.04 Sam Pierce moves to form a task force to explore the creation of a Middle School Program and report on findings by the December 2019 board meeting to include board members, staff, district, and parent representation. Cara Nowak seconds. A task force to explore the creation of a Middle School Program is approved by unanimous vote.

H. Facilities Task Force

- a. Board members to look into risks, financials, etc...will discuss at June 2019 board meeting

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22pm.

Recorded by: Cara Nowak

Minutes approved at /19 Board Meeting