



Board Meeting Minutes - Special Session

Desert Sky Montessori

July 2, 2020

Virtual Meeting

Sam Pierce called the meeting to order at 6:15pm.

Present: Sam Pierce, Cara Nowak, John Eskew, Jolene Dodge

Also Present: Jodie Borgia, Julia Sutter, Jessica Loukonen, Heather Amaral, Pascaline Ocana

BUSINESS

- A. Survey Results
 - i. Jodie Borgia: 77 of 180 people have responded so far to the parent/guardian survey that was sent out 6/29/2020
 1. Priorities for children returning to school: social/emotional and physical health plus using Montessori materials were highest priorities listed; academic achievement was lowest ranked
 2. Most meaningful tools for distance learning ranked: Zoom calls with teachers, then Zoom calls with peers, then paperwork sent home
 3. Enrollment in DSM: most families surveyed stated that in-person instruction time for the coming year was very important to them
 4. All the information gathered solidifies the idea that if Bend/Lapine School District offers full-time in-person instruction—as the recently announced in their plan for 5 days per week—DSM will need to offer something similar in order to retain families
 5. So far, 39 people want to be involved with the community Zoom calls Jodie will be hosting to deal with planning for the next school year
- B. Jodie Borgia is recommending DSM does not offer preschool places this year so that we will have the space to retain the K-6 program while offering the maximum number of in-person instructional days possible
 - i. The priority must be to the charter school because it will then survive to help generations of children beyond those currently enrolled
 - ii. There are 176 charter school children currently enrolled; we could offer 4 days of in-person instruction while following social distancing mandates by using the Pika classroom for the charter school; it would allow us cohorts of 25 children, with 5 children being rotated out of the classroom per day, for 4 days of in-person instruction per week per student; children would receive all instruction in their 4 school days, which would eliminate scholarly expectations while rotated out
 - iii. Pascaline Ocana would need to run a hybrid in-person/comprehensive distance learning program
 - iv. John Eskew: looked at the numbers and various options and thinks this is a well-thought-out plan; might want to see if families with multiple students enrolled can have their days at home coordinated to have their children at home at the same time
 1. Jodie Borgia: will try her best to make this happen; will also try to coordinate with parents as to which day they would like their children at home if there is a strong need
 - v. Jessica Loukonen: wonders if there is a plan for early and after-care

1. Julia Sutter: there will be a price difference because of the child being at school for 4 days instead of 5, but we are still planning to offer both at this point

2020.07.02.01 Sam Pierce moves to approve the budget as presented. Cara Nowak seconds. The budget is approved by unanimous vote.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:41pm.

Recorded by: Cara Nowak

Minutes approved at 8/19/2020 Board Meeting