

Mountain Village Montessori Charter School  
27285 Brandon Circle  
Steamboat Springs, CO 80487  
**Governing Board Meeting**  
**August 10, 2017**

Our Mission:

To inspire each child to learn and grow as a responsible global citizen in a collaborative, peaceful, and safe environment through the proven methods of Montessori education. As a school of choice, Mountain Village Montessori Charter School is a place for students, families, and teachers to grow together as a community. MVMCS aims to develop responsible, self-directed and resilient children who become life-long learners and creative problem solvers.

Our Vision:

Mountain Village Montessori Charter School creates a respectful, safe, nurturing and diverse educational community where students, staff, parents and community members collaborate to become empowered, enriched, challenged, resilient and prepared individuals meeting the demands of an ever-changing society.

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In Attendance:

Jeff Merga (Chair, via phone)  
Kate Godley (Director of Business and Finance)  
Michael Girodo (Head of School)  
Leslie Gumbrecht (Secretary)  
Mike Morris  
Emily Barnhart  
Kristen Rockford  
Heather Martin (partial attendance)

Action Items:

- Michael will follow up with Chris at CSI to clarify the process of moving from year 2 to year 3.
- Kristen will send Michael an email introduction to Meg Franges.
- Kristen will form a marketing committee for the Ghost Ranch event.
- Board members will work to find donors/sponsors/auction items for the Ghost Ranch event.
- Board members will submit their governing board goals to the Google Doc (created by Leslie) by end of day September 12.
- Michael will send out survey to 6<sup>th</sup> grade parents by mid-September regarding interest in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades.

Minutes:

- I. **Call to Order:** 8:41am.
- II. **Agenda Review:** Mike moves to approve agenda. Emily seconds. Board approves.
- III. **Public Comment:** Emily shared that several families expressed concern regarding the 20/20/30 delineation of students. The board agrees that communication between parents and teachers is a priority. There are ways to compensate teachers with 30 students. Michael expressed awareness of the situation.

- IV. **Approval of Minutes:** Tabled
- V. **HOS Report—Michael G:**
  - a. Busy getting ready for the start of the school year.
  - b. *Enrollment:* There are between 192 and 194 students enrolled. Kindergarten, first, and second grades have waitlists. Other grades are at capacity.
  - c. *Staffing:* still in need of one primary assistant teacher (Sharon’s Classroom).
  - d. Implementing several strategies to meet the needs of the SPED and GT students.
  - e. Developing and strengthening various community relationships.
  - f. Putting together a calendar of staff trainings.
  - g. Received some test results from last school year. The board discusses how to best interpret this data and share with parents.
  - h. Working with the Director of Business and Finance to prepare for the CSI visit forthcoming in spring. Michael will follow up with Chris at CSI to clarify the process of moving from year 2 to year 3.
- VI. **Business Administration Report:**
  - a. *Introductions:* New Director of Business and Finance—Kate Godley, and new Administration Director—Julie Dinkens.
  - b. *501c3 Status and Recommendation:* Kate and Michael recommend taking action to secure our 501c3 status. The board discusses the steps this would entail. The board supports hiring G&G to facilitate this process.
- VII. **Committee Updates:**
  - a. *Facility Committee:* Tabled
  - b. *Fundraising Committee—Heather Martin:*
    - i. Emphasizes the necessity of a large but sustainable event that can be replicated yearly or bi-yearly.
    - ii. This year’s plan is a dueling piano show held at the Ghost Ranch on October 27<sup>th</sup>. Tickets will be \$75 each. The goal is to have 200 attendees.
    - iii. Heather and her team are working to secure sponsors and auction items.
    - iv. She recommends a committee put together a short marketing video. Kristen will get committee together.
    - v. Board members will also recruit sponsors/donors/auction items.
    - vi. Board discusses the difference between a community event and a fundraiser.
- VIII. **New Business:**
  - a. *Discussion Regarding Governing Board Goals:* Leslie will create a Google Doc for board members to submit their ideas. Board will discuss at the September meeting.
  - b. *Middle School Strategy and Development:*
    - i. The board discusses several issues regarding budgeting, staffing, and programming for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades.
    - ii. The board also discusses the timing of adding two additional grades. The board discusses several issues concerning the sustainability of adding a Middle School as well as the responsibility that MVMCS has to current 6<sup>th</sup> grade students.
    - iii. The board agrees that obtaining the interests and needs of current families is key in determining how to move forward. Michael will connect with 6<sup>th</sup> grade families, and administer a survey to collect data.

- c. *Elect New Treasurer:* Jeff will serve as interim treasurer while the board works on recruiting a new treasurer.
- IX. **Old Business:**
- a. *Vote on Board Meeting Calendar:* The dates for the 2017-18 school year are as follows: 9/15; 10/13; 11/10; 12/8; 1/12; 2/2; 3/9; 4/13; 5/11; 6/8. Emily moves to approve meeting calendar. Mike seconds. Board approves.
- b. *Vote on 17/18 Financial Policies and Procedures:* Board discusses edits needed to the document. Kristen moves to approve the Financial Policies and Procedures document pending the discussed changes. Emily seconds. Board approves (with one abstention).
- X. **Executive Session:** n/a
- XI. **Next Meeting:** Friday, September 15 at 12:30pm at MVMCS.
- XII. Emily moves to adjourn. Mike seconds. Adjourn at 11:24.

Tabled Items:

- Approval of July Minutes
- Facility Committee Update
- Governing Board Goals