

**Mountain Village Montessori Charter School  
Governing Board Meeting Agenda  
April 12th, 2019 @ 12:30 pm  
Mountain Village Montessori Charter School  
27285 Brandon Circle  
Steamboat Springs, CO 80487**

**Our Mission:**

To inspire all children to learn and grow as responsible global citizens in a collaborative, peaceful and safe environment. We are committed to using authentic Montessori methods with integrity to develop each child's intrinsic intelligence as they become resilient, self-directed leaders and problem solvers. As a school of choice, Mountain Village Montessori is a place for students, families and teachers to grow together as an intentional community in the pursuit of academic excellence.

**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 collectively meeting the demands of an ever-changing society.

- I. Call to Order
  - A. Present from the Public:
    - a. Jessica LeBlanc;
    - b. Clare Berkey;
    - c. Jessica DeFeyter;
    - d. Christine Lilly;
    - e. Kelly Schaeffer.
  - B. Present from the Board:
    - a. Emily Barnhart, SAC  
Committee Chair;
    - b. Mike Morris, Vice Chair;
    - c. Tim McCarthy, At-Large;
    - d. Erin Gallagher, At-Large;
    - e. Jason Galligan, Treasurer;  
(Jason Godley proxy to  
Jason Galligan)
    - f. Jeff Merage, Board Chair;
    - g. Mona Gibson, Finance  
Subcommittee Chair;
    - h. Tony Urbick, Secretary.
  - C. Present from the School:
    - a. Darcy Walters, Staff Liaison;
    - b. Julie Dinkins, Business and Finance Mgr;
    - c. Michael Girodo, HOS.
- II. Agenda Review
- III. Public Comment
  - A. A discussion was had by members of the Public, the School, and the Governing Board at MVMCS surrounding the Agenda item on the Middle School discussion. Background was given on middle school at MVMCS, a wide-ranging discussion was had surrounding impacts, feasibility, alternatives to the traditional three-year classroom cycle in upper Elementary, and desire to offer MVMCS education into Middle School grades, typically 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>. Minutes are current on MVMCS website.
- IV. Approval of Minutes from 3/8/19 Meeting—Changes were submitted by Board members in advance of the meeting. Meeting Minutes Approved with Changes.

- V. Agenda Item Shift: Finance Committee Update:
  - A. Finance Committee
    - a. Vote: Updated Financial Policies & Procedures
      - 1. Discussion on Spending Thresholds:
      - 2. Mike Motion to approve “free to spend” threshold without Board Approval: Revise downward the cap on discretionary spending directed by HOS without Board approval from \$9,999 down to \$5,000. Jeff second, Motion Carries Unopposed.
    - b. Vote: \$250 Activity Fee, plus additional \$25 fee for school supplies. Jason Moved, Mike Second, Motion Carries Unopposed.
- VI. HOS Report (Summary given orally for public present.)
  - A. Discussion on enrollment, retention target, “intent to return” outreach;
  - B. Testing participation update;
  - C. Jen Mac, promoted to Lower Elementary Lead in Fireweed Classroom;
  - D. New assistants and specialists—literacy, SPED
  - E. Grants and Education Fund Update;
  - F. Midyear MAPS Data
    - a. Discussion on MAPS Data—Emily, SAC Chair;
    - b. Reading Strength;
    - c. Opportunities on Math;
    - d. Bottleneck of individual influence on higher grades’ scores;
    - e. Working with Montessori methods to successfully mesh with mainstream testing approach.
- VII. Old Business
  - A. Topic: Eliminate/Retain 6th Grade in 2019/20
    - a. Discussion started by HOS—background, current state of “cohort” enrollment shrinkage from fifth into sixth grade, impacts on student experience and education, state standards increase, impacts on staff and teachers, specialized curriculum.
    - b. Discussion on middle school program suspension, practicality, duration, shared desire to ensure serving all students, challenge on maintaining a sixth grade without a full middle school;
    - c. Discussion on Middle School Task Force;
    - d. Discussion on MVMCS same accountability standards as SSSD, Public Perception, importance of the 3-year cycle;
    - e. Vote: Motion to cancel offering sixth grade for the 19-20 school year—Board Chair move, Mike second, Discussion, Motion carries unopposed.
- VIII. Committee Updates, Continued.
  - A. Finance Committee
    - a. Review February Financials & Cashflow --tabled
    - b. Review FY19 Budget & FY20 Prelim Budget--tabled
  - B. Facilities Committee
    - a. Security Grant Update--tabled
    - b. Building Efficiency Upgrades--tabled

- IX. New Business
  - A. Changes to Board
    - a. New Roles for existing board members
      1. Jeff Merage term as President expires; Stepping up to Chair Middle School Task Force.
      2. Mike Morris agreed to start as Chair;
      3. Jason Galligan moves to Vice Chair;
      4. Jason Godley moves to Treasurer;
      5. Tony Urbick continues as Secretary for FY 19-20.
    - b. Recruitment discussion
    - c. Vote: New Board Recruit: Jessica Valand –Tabled.
- X. Executive Session--None
- XI. Review of Action Items
- XII. Next Meeting (May 10th, 2019)
- XIII. Adjourn

Approved