



Lowcountry Montessori School

Minutes

Board Meeting

Date and Time

Wednesday February 20, 2019 at 6:30 PM

Location

749 Broad River Dr., Beaufort, SC 29906

The mission of Lowcountry Montessori School is to provide an authentic Montessori education building a foundation for lifelong learning.

Directors Present

C. Lucas, D. Fent, D. Pickett, P. Chester, T. Vande Burgt

Directors Absent

S. Lemstrom

Guests Present

A. Horn, M. Zappia, Mike Bell, S. Fox

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance and Guests

B. Call the Meeting to Order

D. Pickett called a meeting of the board of directors of Lowcountry Montessori School to order on Wednesday Feb 20, 2019 at 6:30 PM.

C. Reading of Mission Statement

D. Approval of Agenda

D. Pickett made a motion to approve agenda.

P. Chester seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

E. Statement of Compliance with FOIA

F. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

D. Pickett made a motion to approve minutes from the Board Meeting on 01-24-19 Board Meeting on 01-24-19.

C. Lucas seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Director's Report

A. January update.

Skipped

III. Committee Reports

A. Academic Excellence

Sara Lemstrom, Dan Mackin, Amy Horn, Sarah Fox, and Beth Bonnette attended. Beth is Sarah's trainer from Houston. We talked about getting the student government up and running to assist with the Restorative Justice part of the program. Matt made a working document to translate the data on the State of the School info. Amy shared information from the District with the Board regarding the school report card. We are looking at the gaps in the math curriculum versus the state testing in order to attend to those needs and improve. Amy reviewed the report card with the Board.

B. Governance

Governance hasn't met yet. They will try to meet next week.

C. Finance

Met this afternoon. Budget changes we need to go over. There were some concerns that need to be gone over. No motion now. Will have a follow-up finance meeting next week.

D. Fundraising

Fundraising hasn't met. The Board members were asked to commit something financially before and they were very helpful. Doug asked for their support again since it is a new

year financially. RTR is moving along. Still looking for a Platinum Sponsor. We have about 10 vendors. Would like to have about 20. Board Members finding a vendor each would help us out. Amy has been working on getting a car to raffle. Honda Stokes has agreed verbally a Honda Civic for \$22K out the door. We would sell raffle tickets at \$50 a piece and sell 1000 of them. We could make \$27K. We would use a third party raffle system so that staff could purchase tickets. This will have to be investigated more. We have to register the raffle through the state. Would like the Board's approval for it. Patrick will call the Mercedes place and Doug will call Nissan. Money should be spent out of Raise the Roof funds for the down payment. Need to look at other non-profits that have done raffles for information/procedures.

E. Facilities

We now have two Board members for the Facilities committee, Tom joined. If they need to meet, let them know. We had our first surprise fire inspection and it went really well. He had some good suggestions.

IV. New Business

A. USDA Loan

Mike Bell shared with the Board about the purchase of the facility. Our opportunity to purchase is July 1, we are moving it earlier. We are looking at a USDA loan - either to purchase this or purchase this and build a community center with classrooms. Estimate for the project is 11 million for the full project. The loan itself to purchase is about 7.3 million. The pre-app package should be done by this Friday and be submitted for approval. We would like to close on this and move the purchase money through USDA and then also build. We would like to close them as close to simultaneous as possible. The appraisal has been done. The next step after submitting the USDA pre-app is getting a feasibility study done. We have to front the money and will receive it back from the loan. 20-25K for the feasibility study. The back up plan is to use a traditional bank for a bridge loan.

D. Pickett made a motion to allow Amy to begin the USDA application process.

P. Chester seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

D. Pickett made a motion to authorize the feasibility study contract.

D. Fent seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

V. Executive Session

A. Executive Session

D. Pickett made a motion to go into Executive Session.

P. Chester seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

VI. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:44 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
S. Fox