

APPROVED



Lowcountry Montessori School

Minutes

Special Board meeting

Date and Time

Thursday May 15, 2025 at 4:00 PM

Location

Lowcountry Montessori School

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

Directors Present

A. Wright, G. Alexander, J. Poole, K. Scott

Directors Absent

None

Guests Present

A. Horn, B. Shaffer (remote), S. Fox

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

G. Alexander called a meeting to order on Thursday May 15, 2025 at 4:02 PM.
J. Poole made a motion to approve agenda as is.

A. Wright seconded the motion.

The team **VOTED** to approve the motion.

C. Public Comments

Heather Potinger

Asks that the teachers are heard when it comes to this position for Amy. Asks that the community be kept and their ideas accepted and used towards what the next position will be expected of. Asked for a survey/anonymous and wants to make sure the board knows how much was done by the current director and as a teacher she is concerned about the next head.

Teacher from lower EL

Asked for more diversity in the school. Community members that have outside eyes looking in. Not just parents.

Natasha asked for a sub committee to review the staff member with the board. To keep their goals in mind as well.

Greg let each person know that we appreciate the concern for the community. The Alliance gave the idea to complete a sub committee/ committee.

Amy Spoke to the liaison position stating it could be use for a fresh face. Teachers asked who is the liaison. Teachers discussed holding elections for liaison.

Some spoke about amending bylaws to include a couple liaisons one for each grade level. Heather proposed a committee that meets before the board and brings everything to the board. Cindy speaks on behalf of different growth and development for more representation with liaison.

D. Budget Review

Tabled as the representative was not available/present

E. New board members

Kristine presented the current situation of being noncompliant with current state laws as well as our current bylaws. She referred to emails from Kevin with the Alliance and the schools attorney regarding the matter she's brought forth. Kristine has asked that we allow our newly elected board members for the one year positions and the newly appointments in the one year seats to be able to join the board to get the board back into compliance with state and local laws. Greg voiced that according to our bylaws, his concern and opinion about how he feels we should remain as is and let all the new people join in July to keep it all together and uniformed. He wanted to have the new board members have a DSS Background checks. However he was reminded by Amy that is not apart of the process as is and not in the bylaws.

A. Wright made a motion to fill the one year terms and the one unexpired seat.

J. Poole seconded the motion.

The team **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

A. Wright Aye
K. Scott Aye
J. Poole Aye
G. Alexander No

F. Vote on appointments

tabled until exec session Vote after
A. Wright made a motion to Fill the seats as followed.
J. Poole seconded the motion.
Immediately seat Alonzo and Kayla for one year term and
Unexpired appointed seat Lizzy Lyles.
Matt Thompson, Tess Brosnan, and
appointments as followed Ashley Walker and Gregory Alexander will start July 1, 2025.
The team **VOTED** to approve the motion.

G. Vote on Interim

Greg wanted to motion to extend Amys contract until successor is here.
Amy asked if she could have the initial contract extension until Aug 31th
With board approval for extension further.
A. Wright made a motion to extend Amys contract until Aug 31th.
J. Poole seconded the motion.
The team **VOTED** to approve the motion.

H. Search committee

Search committee discussion
Board members:
Angela
Jennifer

Teachers:
Amy suggested:
Debbie Yates
Nicole De'anna
Heather Skinner
Heather Pottinger
Possibly the outside consultant(another Montessori leader)

K. Scott made a motion to Angela and Jennifer from board teachers: Debbie Yates Nicole De'anna Heather Skinner Heather Pottinger as search committee.
G. Alexander seconded the motion.
The team **VOTED** to approve the motion.

I.

Discussion of Board retreat

Retreat is May 23-24 over night(can leave as needed)

Greg asked Amy to help prepare information for:

Governance vs Management

Bylaws

Budget

Greg addressed the concern about funding for retreat. Board budget line

J. Executive Session

J. Poole made a motion to go into exec session 5pm.

A. Wright seconded the motion.

The team **VOTED** to approve the motion.

J. Poole made a motion to leave exec session.

K. Scott seconded the motion.

6:26 pm

The team **VOTED** to approve the motion.

II. 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 6:28 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

K. Scott

Documents used during the meeting

None