

APPROVED



Lowcountry Montessori School

Minutes

Governance Meeting

Budget Workshop

Date and Time

Thursday May 7, 2026 at 4:30 PM

Location

749 Broad River Rd

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

Committee Members Present

A. Wright, B. Shaffer (remote), G. Alexander, L. Lyles, S. Fox

Committee Members Absent

A. Chavarria, A. Walker, C. Rentz, J. Poole, K. Lyon, M. Thompson, M. Watkins, T. Brosnan

Guests Present

V. Roming

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance and Guests

B. Call the Meeting to Order

G. Alexander called a meeting of the Governance Committee of Lowcountry Montessori School to order on Thursday May 7, 2026 at 4:34 PM.

II. Governance

A. Discussion of board election

Discussion had by G. Alexander, A. Wright, L. Lyles, S. Fox

Recommendations for Upcoming Board Officers

Chair- T. Brosnan

V. Chair- A. Chavarria

Secretary- L. Lyles

Treasurer-M. Thompson

G. Alexander will of course continue to help with things that we are currently working on, and will be there to support the new Board Chair, but would like this to be his last year a Board Chair

May 15th Emily is coming to take written statements from anyone who wants to give them about the middle school program, she will also take emails and will be removing personal information before giving to S. Fox

L. Lyles asked if Board Voting will be starting soon.

S. Fox yes, just have to do the e-ballot part.

G. Alexander asked how S. Fox feels about the recommendations.

S. Fox agrees with them.

G. Alexander We need to send out an evaluation of the CEO

L. Lyles think Board on Track says we are at about 47% for the CEO evaluation

A. Wright I think that is for previous ones.

S. Fox I did one

G. Alexander I sent one out

L. Lyles so is that all that did it?

G. Alexander will have to look into it

L. Lyles--S. Fox is the director correct? Board on Track says we don't have one.

S. Fox and G. Alexander yes

L. Lyles so I will get that updated

B. Public comment

None

C. Discuss of Budget

G. Alexander we do not have the budget to discuss yet.

S. Fox have been working on it, met with Rose and Martha and Chance and Jonathan. Went through all of Martha's questions and Copper's questions. Looked at what the district wants budgeted for supplies and salaries. They gave me a template for salaries and then they will go through them to make sure everything is filled in for benefits and everything for what the district wants. Then we will be formulating a budget and working on the first draft. Matt had said he wants it by the 14th.

G. Alexander what is it 30%

S. Fox for salaries? 65% and historically we have been at around 80%

A. Wright it's supposed to be in that range

S. Fox it's supposed to be at that the 65%, he said if we have 20% for supplies and different materials, and if you have some of the cleaning people in that section and you are a little under, as long as those two things match up. But with the situation we are in now we want to stick to the 65

G. Alexander without any names how many do you know are not coming back

S. Fox 5

G. Alexander how many will we need to be replaced?

S. Fox unsure about some, one has been replaced, not being replaced, one depends on enrollment, one has been replaced with current staff, and other one not been replaced but needed. Still have several positions open that are needed, just plugging in numbers for those. Have Becky looking into if as a Charter School we have to follow the state 50k minimum, if so we will need to make some adjustments.

B. Schaffer looked it up and have not heard back from the district. Last year we were told we didn't have to, but it was encouraged.

S. Fox and Chance said we did. We only have a couple, probably 15k difference. Some are in training and may get there by over the summer. Don't know how fast people will be certified. We are always working towards compliance but are out right now.

G. Alexander what is the percentage now?

S. Fox we are at 68% and we need to be at 75%. There are a few people in the process. Becky has been encouraging everyone to work towards it.

G. Alexander do they more if they are certified?

S. Fox historically it has been about a 2k bump

G. Alexander so maybe we need to change the bump for when they are certified.

S. Fox there is another one going that will need to be replaced.

G. Alexander so 6 and 3?

S. Fox yes. Have interviewed but haven't made decisions yet. Depends on numbers.

L. Lyles have numbers for next year dipped really bad?

S. Fox not on paper, but there have been rumors

D.

Vote Courses

III. Other Business

A. Executive Session

A. Wright made a motion to into executive session to discuss contractual matters.

L. Lyles seconded the motion.

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

L. Lyles made a motion to leave executive session.

A. Wright seconded the motion.

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

IV. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

L. Lyles made a motion to adjourn meeting.

A. Wright seconded the motion.

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

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

L. Lyles