APPROVED

Sankofa Montessori

Minutes

April Academic Committee Meeting

Date and Time
Wednesday April 10, 2024 at 2:00 PM

Location
Please go to zoom.com and join meeting.
ID to join: 601 495 1069

Through a culturally responsive, child and family-centered Montessori education, Sankofa Montessori ensures that all of our students develop the knowledge, skill, and agency to have a life of purpose.

Committee Members Present
A. Allen-Thames (remote), E. Moore (remote), S. Harvey (remote)

Committee Members Absent
None

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

C. Approve Minutes

E. Moore made a motion to approve the minutes from March Academic Committee Meeting on 03-13-24.
A. Allen-Thames seconded the motion.
The committee **VOTED** to approve the motion.

II. Academic Excellence

A. Leadership Team's Corner

1. Enrollment- at 192 accepted applications, goal is 210; plan to start waitlist; stricter requirements this year for enrollment. 84/88 students returning for next school year. 120 incomplete applications and working on recruitment efforts now to engage waitlist and enrollment lists to get no less than 180 students by July 2024.

2. Personnel Updates- New special ed teacher working well. No new hires for this school year. For next year, adding one additional primary and lower el teachers (hired 1 new lower ed teacher and 3 candidates in pool for new Primary teacher). Christa Harrel from Associate director of curriculum and instruction coming from Arkansas for next school year.

3. Updates on school suspensions/expulsions- No expulsions. Suspensions: K- 3 out of school and 2 in school; 1st-2 out of school and 2 in school; 2nd- 0 out of school and 0 in school. Total of 5 out of school suspensions and 4 in school suspensions.

4. Prep for Spring MAP testing- Teachers in staff training for MAP test preparation; PPT shared during meeting. Math at 37% efficient in fall and 43% efficient in winter; for ELA 36% efficient in fall and 42% efficient in winter. However, our school goals are 60% for Math and ELA. Mention of NATE report card and notice of downward trends in statistical evaluations in reading.

5. Miscellaneous- State of school on Zoom for school community on April 11 @ 5 PM and will discuss academics, finances, operations, highlight the board of directors, and strategic growth (enrollment/facilities). Parents with high interest for extracurricular programs. Plans for a PTA next year. Members of committee mentioned taking steps to research nonprofit organizations that provide extracurricular activities to schools for free and Sarah plans to reach out to the parent committee to start research process.

B. Discussion of Special Education

Unable to convene on Special Education due to limitations and late start of meeting. Will discuss at next academic meeting.

III. 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 3:01 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
A. Allen-Thames