APPROVED

Sankofa Montessori

Minutes

January Governance Committee Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday January 18, 2024 at 10:30 AM

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. Nash (remote), E. Moore (remote), K. Karacalidis (remote)

Committee Members Absent
None

Ex Officio Members Present
S. Harvey (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

K. Karacalidis called a meeting of the Governance Committee of Sankofa Montessori to order on Thursday Jan 18, 2024 at 10:32 AM.
E. Moore made a motion to approve the minutes from December Governance Committee Meeting on 12-14-23.
A. Nash seconded the motion.
The committee **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Executive Director's Corner

A. Updates

Hiring

Year 23-24 : 15 submitted applications, 8 have started
Some coming in with high needs; 1 student needs 1-on-1 assistance
Parents agreed to hire a behavioral interventionist-insurance does not kick in until 8 weeks from now
Will need to hire staffing for this child which will impact the budget
Teacher in a performance improvement plan--plan ends at the end of the month; have seen improvement; has been receiving one one one coaching; needed some additional support

Year 24-25: Budget for staffing needed for 252 kids
Adding a Discipline Associate; already added a Discipline Coordinator/Dean of Culture

- Need additional staff for discipline for every 150 kids; at 252 need minimum of 2
- Currently piloting Tier 1 schoolwide behavior system in most disruptive classroom; data mid-February; goal to have system in place next year and will aid with earlier intervention of Tier 2 or 3 behavior
- based on reflections from this year and speaking with other school leaders need more assistance

Adding Curriculum and Instruction Coordinator
Adding Montessori Coach

Checking with Finance to see how these additions would impact the budget before posting

Monitoring results

Monitored in September-7 findings total out of all measures(good for first year school)--goal for next year is 0 findings
Findings=violated statutory, regulatory, or contractual agreements; will need to send corrective action plan to SCSC by Feb. 20

2 categories finance and operations

- Finance-9 measures

Results: 2 adverse actions (suggest that these things get fixed); 4 findings 3 things we're doing well
Findings in this area primarily related to Finance handbook

- Operations-4 indicators

1. Educational Program Compliance-11 measures; Results=0 findings
2. Governance, Ethics and Transparency-11 measures; Results=1 finding
3. Obligations to Students-21 measures; Results=3 findings
4. Employer Obligations-8 measures; Results=0 findings

Designated as a high risk monitoring school
We have to submit financial and enrollment info every month

Enrollment/Recruitment
23-24: 15 submitted applications, 8 have started
24-25 Hard launch on Jan. 2
Pushed ads, gathered leads
Continuing with events
71 applications-in good position going into new year
Requiring all families to attend at least 1 prospective family event
Parents with children with an IEP are required to come in for a tour

Calendar

- Similar to last year's calendar
- Same start/end time
- Keeping same planning day (Wed.)

Submitted CSP application
Should find out at the end of the month about the grant but that timing is tentative

Will need to review by laws at the next 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 11:19 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
K. Karacalidis