APPROVED

Sankofa Montessori

Minutes

Full Board Meeting

Date and Time
Wednesday August 28, 2024 at 6:30 PM

Location
Meeting ID: 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.

Directors Present
A. Allen-Thames (remote), A. Nash (remote), E. Moore (remote), F. Sheffield (remote), G. Edward (remote), K. Karacalidis (remote), K. Williams (remote)

Directors Absent
A. Grant

Ex Officio Members Present
S. Harvey (remote)

Guests Present
Adrian Jones (remote), Alexis Stokes (remote), Alias Iphone 13 (remote), Amanda Sivert (remote), Asantewa Sunni-Ali (remote), Chris (remote), J. McCrary (remote), Janaysia Trail

(remote), Juliana (remote), LaDonya Buchanan (remote), Michelle Barnard (remote), Rhushanda Barnes (remote), Robbie Phillips (remote), Yolanda Galimore (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

K. Karacalidis called a meeting of the board of directors of Sankofa Montessori to order on Wednesday Aug 28, 2024 at 6:34 PM.

C. Approve Minutes

E. Moore made a motion to approve the minutes from Full Board Meeting on 07-24-24.
F. Sheffield seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Academic Excellence

A. Committee Meeting Highlights

Had a lot of parent participation at the meeting-1st meeting since school began

Enrollment
Currently have 164 enrolled.
Goal is 180.
K is waitlisted
K-enrolled 63
1st-49
2nd-26
3rd-25

Suspensions/expulsions
No information on suspensions/expulsions

Personnel
Hiring for part-time assistant-less than 19 hours
Hiring for additional special education teacher

Standardized testing-Fall
NWEA/MAP testing-should begin within next week
emphasis for training teachers/administrators on proctoring the test
K will be taking GKids test; reading acceleration pathway; MAP reading fluency (univeral screening for dyslexia)

Data probably not available until October

Special Education
35 students currently identified as needed special education services; 8 students ID'd for referral
Based on need, looking for an additional special education teacher

3 students identified as gifted based on testing-looking to contract with a gifted teacher

Other Information
Teacher newsletter starting this year

Federal monitoring this year

Webinar hosted by SCSC on CPF and renewal criteria-tomorrow

III. Finance

A. Committee Meeting Highlights

July 2024 Financial Overview
- Funds Received: $304,408
- Expenses: $227,228
  - Salaries: $88,846
  - Benefits: $26,322
  - Professional Services: $19,286
  - Building Services: $52,579
  - Administrative Services: $14,678
  - Supplies: $7,654
- Positive Cash Flow: $77,180
- Ending Balance of Operating Account: $382,142

Future Projections
- Projected Ending Cash Balances:
  - December 2024: $629,269
  - June 2025: $728,204

- Cash on Hand: 42 days as of July 2024, expected to drop to 35 days in August 2024 but increase to 81 days by June 2025

We are projected to have a positive cash balance and meet performance standards through June 2025.

IV. Facility Task Force

A. Highlights and Updates

Negotiating demolition of curb, signage in front of school, and fencing
Working on start date
Will inform Board when date confirmed

Carol Daniels needs to change the elevation of the pond -Will take place during break in October

Discussing Phase 2 of Renovations
Renovation of 2nd floor of current building-plans completed, ready to be permitted
Planning out for any additional spaces to be done (discussing with architectural team)-this additional scope will be done at later time

SCSC safety visit anticipated for October

Also discussing options regarding temporary walls with the architect

V. School Leader's Corner

A. Updates

Personnel
Both additional special education teacher and part-time teaching assistant have been hired and began work
Update from Academic meeting

Enrollment
On track
Goal 180, made the adjustment to 168 based on space
Will model out the adjustment at the next finance meeting and see how it impacts the budget

Documents for Board to Review
Conflict of Interest-Board needs to sign new document for this year
Bylaws-Board members review and revise during next committee meetings
Will need to vote on any changes at the September Board meeting

School Happenings
Make up MAP testing last week of August

Hold on MAP reading fluency test (dyslexia screening testing)-pending legislation may impact, would allow parents to opt out
Parents would need to send back form to opt out on September 6
Information will be in next newsletter
Looking at additional ways to assess whether a students needs additional support through multi-tier system of support

Garden day-August 17; Sankofa Market in November

Annual Title I meeting occurred today-1/3 of parents attended
Discussed what funds being used for
Parent Compact discussed-encouraged by federal government
Parents offered ways in which they could also support, and ideas for the school
This Friday-Snacks with Sarah
Hispanic Heritage Month celebration
Picture day-9/27

School needs and support
Nothing outside of what has previously discussed
Will update as we get deeper into the school year

How will the parents will be able to opt out of MAP reading fluency testing? How communicated?
Per Sarah, newsletter going out on Friday, will also be discussed at Snacks with Sarah and kids will take home the document needed to opt out

VI. Public Comment

A. Community Talk

Errika opened the floor for public comments

Amanda Sivert: Question about the fire alarm earlier this week. Is there any additional information about the cause and what is being done to prevent it in the future?
Sarah: System monitored by company not on site. Still working with them to find out why that happened. Might have been an accident based on report from Fire Department.
Hoping to get final answer by end of next week.

J. McCrary: Calendar was changed so that Spring Break is aligned with Clayton County Schools. Question about whether Fall Break aligns too.

Sarah: Board voted for the change to Spring Break to align with Clayton County. Up to Board whether to change Fall Break to align with Clayton County as well.
Errika: Clarify when Clayton County has fall break.

VII. 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 7:22 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
K. Karacalidis