APPROVED

Sankofa Montessori

Minutes

Governance Committee Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday February 13, 2025 at 10:30 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.

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 Feb 13, 2025 at 10:35 AM.

C. Approve Minutes

E. Moore made a motion to approve the minutes from Governance Committee Meeting on 01-09-25.
A. Nash seconded the motion.
The committee **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

D. Executive Director's Corner

Staffing updates-January
23 flight crew members
9 lead teachers/captains
5 co-captains
4 staff support
4 flight control
Contractors-recruitment, 1 sped para, 1 gifted teacher, ESOL

Hiring for SY 25-26
In the process of recruiting new teachers
Attended GCSA job fair-received some application
Using Indeed
Heavily pushing jobs on our job platform
Current # of students 125
70 decisions, 79 new applications
Goal for SY25-26= 200
Slow growth model based on current enrollment patterns
Transportation challenges contributing to student retention
Most of the families with transportation issues were outside Clayton
Exploring having PTO facilitate carpools and own that
Exploring external bus providers (would provide buses and drivers)-limits cost
Adding 1 Kinder teacher, 2 lower el, 1 upper el-based on new numbers and adding 4th
Offer letters already sent out, and will be hiring to fill positions of teachers not asked to return
2 additional teaching assistant positions

Thinking through transportation options
Errika will connect Sarah with possible tech options to address transportation issues for families

Interviewed potential teachers to add to staff for next year

Staff Attendance

Flight captains-8 absences; breaks down to 2 teachers (planned and illness)
Co-captains-0
Staff support-3
Flight control-0
Anticipating uptick for Feb. based on illness

OSS
0-K
0-1
1-2nd
2-3rd
All suspensions based on physical assaults (not fighting) towards a peer

Special Ed data
27 kids with IEPs-increase from previous month
3rd-7
2nd-5
1st-8 (+3 last month)
K-7

21 receiving speech therapy
12 kids receiving occupational therapy
Holding constant with number of kids with 504 plans
ESOL holding 4 as constant
Gifted-2 students currently, 5 additional qualified and will begin after Feb. break
4 students in the testing process
Related: Check with GCSA about possible ramifications of funding freeze and litigation by some AGs that might impact 504 plans and funding. Will this impact charter schools?

Enrollment will close for 24-25 on February 24; count occurs March 7
Any students who want to enroll after that date will need to wait until SY 25-26
Current enrollment
K-47
1st-36
2nd-25
3rd-19

Student attendance 1.5% increase from December (numbers for January)
May be lower for February due illness

School Happenings
January 17th-100th Day of School Celebration
January 31st-Takeoff Celebration

Love Day Dance 2/12
PTO spearheading Black Wall Street project

SCSC monitoring results came back (one year behind)
3 finding for fiscal management and oversight (Sarah filed or is planning to file corrective actions)
Process did not include plan for addressing loss of equipment or damage
Inventory did not disclose what we would do if we disposed of data or the sale price if we sold something
Conflict of interest did not meet legal requirements
2 findings for operations (can file corrective action to recoup partial points)

CPF Results
Sarah reviewed the results with us and also checking with SCSC about a question regarding the financial score
Does not include Milestones because we do not take that until next year
Can ask questions until March 3 before results presented to the SCSC Board

Sarah will present the Board with a timeline of when policies need to be approved

EdTech update-made 1st payment on settlement; 2nd and final payment due March 31

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 11:32 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
K. Karacalidis