

APPROVED



Hill View Montessori

Minutes

Accountability Committee Meeting

Date and Time

Monday June 8, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Welcome to the May Accountability Meeting!!

Committee Members Present

H. Herklotz (remote), J. Gibbons (remote), J. Hood (remote), K. Laureano (remote), N. Dolan (remote)

Committee Members Absent

K. Bridges

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

K. Laureano called a meeting of the Accountability Committee of Hill View Montessori to order on Monday Jun 8, 2026 at 6:01 PM.

C. Approve Minutes - none

II. Accountability

A.

Review Timeline of Data

B. Upcoming Data to be reviewed & Presented

Hannah shares STAR Progress (Math)

- Reported that final DIBELS data is still pending because 8th grade testing was only recently completed and scores are still being uploaded into Open Architects.
- Reminded the committee that Fall STAR scores were artificially inflated due to testing accommodations being administered incorrectly.
- Explained that accommodations had been provided based on staff judgment rather than students' IEP requirements.
- Clarified that Winter and Spring STAR assessments were administered correctly and provide a more accurate comparison.
- Reported:
 - Student proficiency increased by 1.6% from Winter to Spring.
 - Student Growth Percentile increased by 1.2% from Winter to Spring.
- Acknowledged that math performance remains an area of concern.

Discussion Regarding Math Performance

Kristen asked:

- How the accommodation issue occurred.
- Whether the dedicated math teacher model should be explored further as a potential strategy.

Jeff asked:

- Whether there are successful Montessori or outside-school models that should be studied.
- Whether additional homework, parent education, progress monitoring, or math clubs could improve outcomes.
- What strategies leadership is pursuing to address ongoing math concerns.

Hannah responded:

- Leadership is actively researching successful Montessori and public school math models.
- She has consulted with leaders from other Montessori schools, including schools using the IM curriculum.
- There is currently no single solution for math improvement.
- Additional interventions and supports are being implemented and monitored.

Classroom Model Discussion

Hannah reported:

- Classroom-level data showed stronger growth in classrooms where:

- One staff member focused primarily on literacy.
- One staff member focused primarily on math.
- Additional data is needed before determining whether this model should be expanded.

Additional Math Supports

Niamh reported:

- An additional math interventionist will provide push-in support next year.
- Intervention will focus on:
 - Math fact fluency.
 - Understanding relationships between operations.
 - Early intervention before students significantly fall behind.

Math Improvement Initiatives

Current initiatives include:

- Structured lower elementary math curriculum.
- Summer math work for students.
- Additional math intervention support.
- Collaboration with Greenfield Learning.
- Six-week pacing guides and progress monitoring assessments.
- Increased focus on reteaching and mastery before moving students forward.

DIBELS Progress (Literacy)

Hannah Presented Literacy Data

Overall proficiency:

- Fall: 39.2%
- Winter: 41.8%
- Spring (excluding 8th grade): 46.1%

Kindergarten proficiency:

- Fall: 11.1%
- Winter: 22.9%
- Spring: 40.5%

Lower Elementary proficiency:

- Fall: 40.2%
- Winter: 42.5%
- Spring: 52%

Discussion of Literacy Growth

Hannah noted:

- Literacy growth was significant across multiple grade levels.
- Results demonstrate that students and staff are capable of strong growth when effective systems are in place.

Jeff asked:

- What level of annual growth would generally be considered realistic.

Hannah responded:

- Typical annual proficiency growth is approximately 2–4%.
- Current literacy gains significantly exceeded those expectations.

Literacy Interventions

Niamh reported:

- Growth is likely connected to implementation of:
 - Heggerty.
 - Pathways.
 - Increased direct intervention within classrooms.
- Students are entering future grades with stronger foundational literacy skills.

- Members discussed identifying similar systems and practices that could improve math outcomes.
- Literacy gains were viewed as evidence that instructional changes can positively impact student achievement.

C. Accountability Plan

D. Surveys

Kristen Provided Staff Survey Update

- Staff Survey closed on Friday.
- Goal was 40 responses.
- Received 37 responses from 57 staff members.
- Results were organized into three categories:
 - Board and school feedback.
 - Ginger and Marc feedback.
 - Hannah and Niamh feedback.
- Written comments were summarized into themes to protect anonymity and improve review efficiency.

Discussion Regarding Survey Results

Kristen asked:

- Whether leadership feedback should be distributed immediately or reviewed by Ginger and board leadership first.

Hannah confirmed:

- Feedback regarding Hannah and Niamh would be shared with Ginger.

Jeff suggested:

- Confirming the appropriate review process before distributing leadership feedback.
- Balancing transparency with confidentiality.

Additional Notes

- Kristen noted that staff responses generated several ideas that may be useful for future committee planning and retreat discussions.

Family Survey

Kristen Provided Family Survey Update

- Family survey has been transferred into JotForm.
- Translation capabilities have been added.
- Optional demographic questions were included.
- Introductory language was added explaining:
 - Purpose of the survey.
 - Accountability Committee's role.
 - Importance of family feedback.
- Survey distribution is planned for the coming week.

Discussion Regarding Demographic Questions

Hannah reported:

- She contacted MCPSA regarding demographic questions but had not yet received guidance.
- The committee discussed proceeding while remaining flexible if changes are needed.

Survey Participation Incentives

Kristen asked:

- Whether incentives could be offered to increase participation.

June suggested:

- Raffle prizes using extra school t-shirts.

Additional discussion included:

- Potential gift card raffle if budget permits.

Jeff L. approved:

- Moving forward with t-shirt raffle incentives.

Family Survey Next Steps

- Final edits will be completed.
- Surveys will be sent out by Wednesday

Dissemination Hannah Reported

- The school's dissemination requirement has been completed.
- Requirements now focus on outreach and invitations rather than attendance.
- Compliance was achieved earlier in the school year.

E. Action Items

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 6:46 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
J. Gibbons