APPROVED

Urban Montessori Charter School

Minutes

Regular Board Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday May 27, 2021 at 6:15 PM

Location
The UMCS Board intends to follow the lead of the Alameda County Board of Education regarding the timing for our return to in-person board meetings, and in-person public comment opportunities. For now, our Board will continue to meet virtually and all public comment will be done through Zoom.

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PER GOVERNOR NEWSOM'S SHELTER IN PLACE EXECUTIVE ORDER DATED MARCH 19, 2020 (WHICH IS HERE IN ITS ENTIRETY) AND BY ORDER OF THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE COUNTY OF ALAMEDA DATED JUNE 5, 2020 (Revised June 18, 2020, July 15, 2020, and August 20, 2020) (WHICH IS HERE IN ITS ENTIRETY): THIS WILL BE A VIRTUAL-ONLY MEETING

Members: Loren Bentley Tammero, Olivia Couch, Jan Faraguna, Christina Greenberg, Greg Klein, Davis Leung, Hae-Sin Thomas, Stacey Wang

Urban Montessori Charter School welcomes your participation at Board meetings. The purpose of a public meeting of the Board of Directors ("Board") is to conduct the affairs of the organization in public. Your participation assures us of continuing community interest in our school and assists the Board in making the best decisions for our school. To assist you in the ease of speaking/participating in our meetings, guidelines are provided at the bottom of this agenda. All materials for all board and committee meetings, including audio recordings of Regular Board Meetings, are available via on our BoardOnTrack public portal and is also accessible via the UMCS School Calendar.

Directors Present
D. Leung (remote), G. Klein (remote), J. Faraguna (remote), L. Bentley Tammero (remote), S. Wang (remote)

Directors Absent
C. Greenberg, H. Thomas, O. Couch

Guests Present
D. Bissonnette (remote), K. Feeney (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

D. Leung called a meeting of the board of directors of Urban Montessori Charter School to order on Thursday May 27, 2021 at 6:18 PM.

B. Record Attendance

C.

Review of Action/Discussion Items

No changes needed.

D. Board and Community Appreciations

Krishna appreciated Kara and the Fundraising Team and the FAC for the Walkathon and a super successful event, and the t-shirts. And also to all the families for the Appreciation Luncheon. And of course to our teachers for all that they do!

Loren appreciated Krishna and Dr. Rogers-Ard for the collaboration and work together in support of families and the FAC.

Greg appreciated teachers and staff.

Davis appreciated how our community moved through this very difficult year, deep appreciation for Krishna, all the teachers and staff, and board members.

E. Board Member Comment

No board member comments on items not on tonight's agenda.

F. Presentations from the Floor

No public comment on items not on tonight's agenda.

II. Head of School Report

A. Head of School Report

Krishna shared her report, which is in the public documents section of this meeting in BoardOnTrack.

Upcoming events -- next week is the last week of school, summer program starts Wednesday, June 9th. 6th and 8th grade promotions are next week as well.

Updates from Manzanita with Teacher Emily, who shared about distance learning this year. Very strong attendance in Manzanita Classroom. Strong methods for catching kids who aren't online and getting them on to the lesson right away. So many more lessons from across the full curricula -- like on clouds, nature -- and not just reading and math. Much more interdisciplinary. Lots of trying different methods on conferencing to support different family needs. Strong coordination with Teacher Amy. Went on virtual field trips.

Greg asked about the future use of Seesaw, and Teacher Emily that it could still help with giving students a recording of instructions and a variety of options to use respond, but could be helpful in particular in case of smoke, or other closures. Important to carve out time to provide feedback.

Jan asked about lessons learned to bring into next year, and Teacher Emily responded that it's important to align lessons across levels that include lessons from all curricular areas of the classroom.

Krishna shared updates on planning for 2021/2022, including information from the Governor's May revise and his expectation for a full in-person return in the Fall. Currently testing out expanded outdoor seating and shared options. Governor also proposed expanded transitional kindergarten.

Will soon be resurveying families about their intent to return given the return to in-person instruction.

Krishna shared the latest enrollment information and intent to return data, showing that we currently show more students than is in our draft budget, which supports strong budgeting for next year.

Krishna shared an updated classroom placement practice for this upcoming year that included teachers working together to place students transitioning levels. Teachers shared "data snapshots" for students, and then about the receiving classroom community descriptions, and then matched for fit and not just based on who the teacher is. Longer term, could mean notifying families sooner -- for this upcoming school year, families will know in early August.

Greg asked about placing new-to-UMCS students, and Jan offered surveying those incoming families for information. Krishna shared that hadn't yet happened, and still could in the coming weeks.

Loren asked about what data is included in the "snapshots," can families add to that data, and is peer friendships a part of the snapshot. Teacher Emily shared that the snapshots included demographics, DIBELS, NWEA, RTI data, and notes. Did not include parent requests or recommendations, but teachers know that shifts may happen later on.

Krishna shared about plans for the upcoming summer school, three classrooms kinder through 7th grade, serving approximately 50 students. Ed Specialist and Student Support Assistants will be on site and supporting students. Five days a week, 8:30-12pm.

Krishna shared staffing updates, including very strong retention of lead teachers. One Lead Teacher is moving on to a new school, and the school always prepares as best as we can in case there is more change over the summer. Three leaves of absence have either begun or are upcoming with new babies arrived or coming soon!

Krishna shared the finalized school calendar, aligning with OUSD on the major breaks.

Loren asked about how the return in the fall will be finalized. Krishna shared that it will be clearer after the budget bill is passed and signed into law in June.

Greg shared some milestones on the timeline when the state budget is passed.

Jan asked about universal transitional kindergarten. Are there funding implications for this coming year? Krishna shared that it depends on exactly when the child turns five in the year. Want to maintain the classroom and staffing regardless, supports future enrollment.

No public comment on this item.

B. PUBLIC HEARING: Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) 2021-2024

Davis opened the public hearing for our 2021-2024 LCAP.

Krishna shared what the LCAP is and how it's structured, particularly in support of our unduplicated students. Each LCAP, schools reflect on the past year's goals, actions, and investments. This year, we reflected on two year's worth of goals from the prior LCAP and the LCP.

Krishna reviewed our four draft goals, each with metrics and actions. The draft LCAP is posted on the agenda and on our website's public documents.

Krishna asked for feedback on goals, metrics, and actions.

Greg emphasized that there are additional actions and services that the school will provide that are in the budget, but may not specifically show up in the LCAP.

Greg what the staff touchpoints have been to get their feedback. Krishna shared that School Leadership Team and staff have been asked to weigh in on their ideas on how we might invest to support specific groups of students to hit our goals. ELAC was also engaged multiple times, along with being on all our board and committee agendas.

No other questions or comments. Davis closed the public hearing at 7:17pm.

III. Finance Committee

A. Discussion Item - Committee Report, including year to date financial report

Stacey shared the finance committee report, which is in the public documents section of this meeting on BoardOnTrack.

Operating income forecast increased due to in-person instruction grant money arriving from the state.
Cash is improved, now at two month's reserve, not at three month's cash on hand.

No questions or public comments.

B. FY 2021-2022 Budget Proposal

Stacey continued with next year's draft budget. For next year, the Governor's May Revise includes a larger COLA than in years past. Some increases for Special Education as well, and other one-time funding opportunities. Expecting in-person instruction for the fall to be the default mode of instruction. For our draft budget, updated it with information from the May Revise, placed staff on the salary schedule. Included expense plugs to match specific COVID-19 relief revenue. Current multi-year draft budget shows positive operating incomes over the next three years.

Stacey reviewed the timeline between now and June approval to finalize our budget.

Greg shared that the committee reviewed the Expanded Learning Grant and Love, Learn, Success MOU, both of which were recommended for tonight's General Consent Report.

Krishna shared that the board should expect lots of updates on the final budget that comes up for a vote in June. Have to wait for the Governor to sign it into law, and then incorporate all the final changes from Sacramento.

Greg agreed shared that the finance committee moved back its meeting, so staff would have time to make those changes and bring them to committee for a deeper look a few days prior to the regular board meeting in June.

No other questions or public comments.

IV. Academic Oversight Committee

A. Discussion Item - Committee Report

Jan shared the committee's report, including lots of discussion about the academic program, in-person learning, reviewing the draft LCAP, and plans for summer programming. NWEA MAP and DIBELS assessments underway right now. Attendance and chronic absence holding steady, improved year over year. Heard from Daniel and Krishna on areas of work that were successful during distance learning, and what to keep with the return to in-person instruction, in particular, aligned levels on lessons and pacing; and using data to understand student progress and identify students for additional support.

Greg asked Jan to review some of the LCAP metrics and baseline data.

No other questions or public comment.

V. Family Advisory Council

A. Committee Report

Loren shared the FAC's report, which is in the public documents section for this meeting on BoardOnTrack. Loren shared about the Walkathon wrapping recently -- great fun and netted out $23,000. Families raised $90,000 this year to support the school and families in need! Decentering Whiteness in the FAC continued, including two recent meetings with families in the book group. Very engaged and productive conversations -- would love even more families to attend and join! Meeting next at the end of August. Upcoming there is a general listening session for BIPOC parents and caregivers, and Dr. Rogers-Ard will share back anonymous high-level feedback to the FAC leaders, Admin, and the Board. The FAC board seats will be up for election in September and the first meeting of the FAC next year will be at the end of August.

Davis asked Loren if she planned on running for re-election, and Loren replied that she will likely not run, but find other ways to support.

No other questions or public comment.

VI. Executive & Governance Committee

A. Discussion Item: Committee Updates, including candidates for board service, Form 700, and training

Greg shared the committee's report, including a reminder to board members to complete your Form 700 if still not done.

Please think about who you may know that would want to be on the Board. We are looking for new ideas and new members that bring different perspectives to our community. Members can reach out to Greg for finance report clarifications and training if needed.

We discussed our board meeting calendar for next school year, and the draft was linked on tonight's agenda.

No questions or public comment.

B. Discuss and vote on the Board Term renewal of Greg Klein

S. Wang made a motion to approve a new two-year term on the board for Greg.
L. Bentley Tammero seconded the motion.
No questions or public comment.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call	
D. Leung	Aye
G. Klein	Abstain
H. Thomas	Absent
C. Greenberg	Absent
J. Faraguna	Aye
S. Wang	Aye
O. Couch	Absent
L. Bentley Tammero	Aye

VII. Other Business

A. Oakland and California Updates

Greg shared about FIA's recent A-G Awards event for schools.

Greg shared briefly about AB 1316 legislation and its potential implications on UMCS.

Jan shared that OUSD's Board is meeting every week in June.

No other questions or public comment.

B. Approve Minutes from April 22, 2021 Regular Meeting

D. Leung made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Board Meeting on 04-22-21.
J. Faraguna seconded the motion.
No questions or public comment.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call	
D. Leung	Aye
G. Klein	Aye
J. Faraguna	Aye
H. Thomas	Absent
L. Bentley Tammero	Aye
C. Greenberg	Absent
O. Couch	Absent
S. Wang	Aye

C. Action Item - Vote on General Consent Report

G. Klein made a motion to approved the General Consent Report for May 27, 2021.
D. Leung seconded the motion.
No questions or public comment on this item. Greg clarified that there was a clerical error with the date on the agenda for this item.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

G. Klein	Aye
D. Leung	Aye
O. Couch	Absent
J. Faraguna	Aye
C. Greenberg	Absent
H. Thomas	Absent
S. Wang	Aye
L. Bentley Tammero	Aye

D. Collect New Business items for Future Meetings

No new business items.

VIII. Closed Session

A. Public Employee Performance Evaluation - Head of School

The board went into closed session at 7:50pm.

Krishna left at 8:05pm.

IX. Return to Open Session

A. Report out of any closed session action(s)

In open session at 9:08pm, Greg reported out an action taken in closed session:

Davis motioned to finalize and share the evaluation, seconded by Loren. Approved unanimously.

X. 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 9:09 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
D. Leung

Documents used during the meeting

None

THE ORDER OF BUSINESS MAY BE CHANGED WITHOUT NOTICE Notice is hereby given that the order of consideration of matters on this agenda may be changed without prior notice.

REASONABLE LIMITATIONS MAY BE PLACED ON PUBLIC TESTIMONY The Governing Board's presiding officer reserves the right to impose reasonable time limits on public testimony to ensure that the agenda is completed.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS MAY BE MADE Notice is hereby given that, consistent with the requirements of the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, special presentations not mentioned in the agenda may be made at this meeting. However, any such presentation will be for information only.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION For more information concerning this agenda or for materials relating to this meeting, please contact UMCS at 4551 Steele Street, Oakland, CA 94619 or board@urbanmontessori.org. All materials are available via the Governance Section of our website: http://www.urbanmontessori.org/governance or directly via our BoardOnTrack public portal.