

APPROVED



Urban Montessori Charter School

Minutes

Regular Board Meeting

Date and Time

Thursday August 26, 2021 at 6:15 PM

Location

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://tinyurl.com/Zoom5102904005>

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PER GOVERNOR NEWSOM'S EXECUTIVE ORDER N-08-21 DATED JUNE 11, 2021 ([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 on our [BoardOnTrack public portal](#) and also through the [UMCS School Calendar](#).

Directors Present

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

Directors Absent

H. Thomas, O. Couch

Directors who arrived after the meeting opened

J. Faraguna

Directors who left before the meeting adjourned

J. Faraguna

Guests Present

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 Aug 26, 2021 at 6:20 PM.

B. Record Attendance

C. Review of Action/Discussion Items

No changes needed.

D. Board and Community Appreciations

Loren appreciated all the classroom teachers, stepping up in so many years. And all of the staff.

Greg echoed appreciated the Ops and Admin teams.

Krishna echoed and appreciated Mr. Buck and Ms. Rosi for all their stepping up.

Daniel appreciated all the work Ms. Krishna has taken on, too!

Greg appreciated families and students for coming everyday in the midst of the on-going pandemic.

Stacey appreciated the opportunity for students to get in-person learning, and adults pivoting to help make it all work.

Daniel echoed the appreciation for teachers, and that the Great Lessons were all happening in the first days of school.

E. Board Member Comment

Greg made a comment a return to in-person meetings later this Fall.

F. Presentations from the Floor

No public comment on non-agenda items.

II. Head of School Report

A. Head of School Report

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

Upcoming events include Back to School night, other parent education nights, Book Group (*White Fragility*), and the Readathon starting up soon.

Nine days of safe, successful school in-person -- all staff and students TK-8 all on one campus for the first time ever. Following all safety protocols. Cases will happen and feeling ready for when that occurs.

Jan arrived at 6:31pm.

Daniel shared instructional updates. Focus recently on creating systems to support teachers with their work in the classroom, including curriculum map for all grades, aligned recording keeping, lesson planning & observation tools (in common in each level).

System of Justness by Public Montessori in Action is a whole-school plan on how we respond to students and their needs so that responses are aligned and predictable. Strong Montessori Implementation and Child Study have been components in the school already, and now also the third part, which is Nautilus Approach. It's not about going up a discipline ladder, but instead about helping students centered back into their work in the classrooms. Training included how to create strong conditions before there are more

difficulties; consistent language to use with students; supports from other staff for repair and reentry into the classroom.

Krishna shared regarding charter renewal, we will now seek renewal in Summer of 2023 in time for Fall 2024.

Krishna shared enrollment updates -- remains complicated this year just like last year! TK-K is lower, and we can do recruitment. Still have a lot of uncertainty from many families about their intentions to return in-person.

Re: staffing, instructional roles are all filled and hiring now for an Assistant Site Coordinator.

Loren asked Daniel about curriculum maps versus lesson planning.

Daniel shared that the curriculum map lays out all of the 99% lessons, plus a few Common Core-specific lessons that are not already in Montessori. The lesson planning tool is about planning out which students are going to get which lessons throughout a week.

Parent Anna asked about teacher communication with families. Krishna responded that expectations on communication from teachers and the frequency is going before the School Leadership Team so those can be developed by teachers -- this work is coming very soon.

Loren asked about the assistant coordinator role, and Krishna responded that the Ops and Admin team are all learning new skills and will also teach those too the new role so they can support.

No other questions or public comment.

J. Faraguna arrived at 6:31 PM.

III. Finance Committee

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

Stacey shared the committee's report, which is in the Documents section of this meeting in BoardOnTrack.

Last year's budget ended with a large one-time surplus, due mostly to one-time COVID relief monies. Our fund balance is strong now exceeds County expectations.

For 2021-2022, the state finalized its budget, including new one-time funding streams, along with new additional state grants, many of which don't yet have much detail released.

State deferrals have now been repaid and eliminated moving forward.

For the latest forecast since July 1st, now showing over \$100,000 operating income in the forecast.

Davis shared a huge appreciation for Alejandra Rodriguez from Edtec, who is moving on her current role -- she has been fabulous. Will be working again with Bryce -- who is also awesome!

Jan asked about enrollment, and Krishna responded that it's not fully adjusted in the latest forecast and will be for next cycle.

No other questions or public comment.

B. Vote to accept the 2020-2021 Unaudited Actuals

D. Leung made a motion to accept the unaudited actuals for 2020-2021.

S. Wang seconded the motion.

Greg shared the unaudited actuals and there were no questions or public comment.

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

Roll Call

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

IV. Academic Oversight Committee

A. Discussion Item - Committee Report

Jan shared the committee's report which includes excitement and support from the members for all the work going on with academic systems and supports for teachers.

Reviewed the 2021 summer program and the great experience those students had while on campus.

Reviewed Spring NWEA MAP scores and saw that there was not as strong growth Fall to Spring as it was earlier in the year, which was common across the country.

Fall assessments as a fresh baseline will be very important.

Regular committee meetings are now at 4:15pm on Tuesdays.

No other discussion or public comment.

V. Family Advisory Council

A. Committee Report

Loren shared the FAC report. Hosted a summer family picnic on campus, mostly new incoming families. FAC is up and running on ParentSquare and the FAC Leadership meeting was yesterday (8/25/21), introducing the FAC to new families, inviting new ideas and projects.

Kara shared more how are parents interested in additional murals, more trees, and programming for parents.

Elections coming up for FAC officer positions and FAC Board members.

Kara shared also that the Readathon is being planned now, too.

Greg asked about timing of Board candidates and Loren is encouraging all to attend upcoming board meetings.

No other discussion or public comment.

VI. Executive & Governance Committee

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

Christina shared that the bulk of the meeting was reviewing many updated school policies, all of which are up for a vote on tonight's General Consent Report.

Greg reminded members about completing Form 700.

Krishna shared about Board Clearance requirements per County about being fingerprinted.

Loren asked amending the COVID safety plan to include families notifying the school about positive results -- so amended prior to tonight's vote, without objection or public comment.

Loren also asked about communications re: COVID, and Krishna responded that it's a balance of maintaining privacy, keeping school orderly and safe, and also absolutely ensuring that the specific people involved have the specific information they are required to have. Melissa commented that she supports school-wide communication. Krishna will review and can update her comms protocol if needed.

No other discussion or public comments.

B. Board and committee officers and members

No discussion needed and no action taken. No public comment.

VII. Other Business

A. Oakland and California Updates

Greg shared about OUSD's recent policy discussion about increased testing, and the county board has moved to hybrid meetings: in-person with board and the public accessing on Zoom, and that we will follow the county's lead over the coming months.

No discussion or public comments.

B. Approve Minutes from June 24, 2021 Regular Meeting

C. Greenberg made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Board Meeting on 06-24-21.

S. Wang seconded the motion.

No discussion or public comment on the minutes.

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

Roll Call

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

C. Action Item - Vote on General Consent Report

G. Klein made a motion to approve the General Consent Report.

D. Leung seconded the motion.

No discussion or public comment on this item.

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

Roll Call

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

D. Collect New Business items for Future Meetings

No new items at this time.

J. Faraguna left at 7:29 PM.

VIII. Closed Session

A. Closed Session Items

The Board went into closed session at 7:31 on Public Employee Performance Evaluation - Head of School.

IX. Return to Open Session

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

The board returned at 8:11pm. No action taken.

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 8:11 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
G. Klein

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.

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