APPROVED

Urban Montessori Charter School

Minutes

Regular Board Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday September 23, 2021 at 6:15 PM

Location
The board will meet at school 4551 Steele Street, Oakland, CA 94611

The public may comment and participate via Zoom. The public may also email comments to board@urbanmontessori.org to be shared by the Board's Secretary during the meeting.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5102904005?pwd=M1kxU2hXSzRSN1dCL3QwYVEzdkJ3Zz09

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This meeting will be audio recorded. The public can find documents related to this agenda either linked directly on the agenda or under "Other files" after selecting the meeting in BoardOnTrack

prior to viewing the agenda. Downloading the "packet" may not include all of the "Other files" that are still otherwise available to the public.

AS ALLOWED BY GOVERNOR NEWSOM'S EXECUTIVE ORDER N-08-21 DATED JUNE 11, 2021 (WHICH IS HERE IN ITS ENTIRETY), AND FOLLOWING THE LEAD OF THE ALAMEDA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION: THE UMCS BOARD WILL MEET IN PERSON AT 4551 STEELE STREET, OAKLAND, CA 94619 AND THE PUBLIC MAY JOIN VIA ZOOM.

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, J. Faraguna (remote), L. Bentley Tammero (remote), S. Wang (remote)

Directors Absent
H. Thomas, O. Couch

Directors who arrived after the meeting opened
S. Wang

Directors who left before the meeting adjourned
C. Greenberg

Guests Present
K. Feeney

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 Sep 23, 2021 at 6:23 PM.

B.

Record Attendance

C. Review of Action/Discussion Items

No reordering needed.

D. Board and Community Appreciations

Board members and community members shared appreciation for Olivia, Loren, and Hae-Sin, all of whom are finishing their board service at the end of the month.

Loren appreciated all the classrooms teachers and staff for Back To School Night. Greg echoed that appreciation.

E. Board Member Comment

None.

F. Presentations from the Floor

Sarah Morrill commented about attending tonight to learn more about board service.

II. Head of School Report

A. Head of School Report

Krishna shared her board report. The report is part of the Other Files section of this meeting.

Krishna shared upcoming events, including PD day, Read-a-thon, presentation for families from Dr. Rachelle Rogers-Ard, and upcoming Fall NWEA testing.

Daniel shared about Back to School Night. A recording and slides are included in the Head of School's report in the Documents section of this meeting.

Daniel shared about 8-8:15am time each morning, which allows students to start at their own pace, and for teachers to support just the students who need help -- much more organic way of starting class. And then school begins at 8:15am.

Daniel shared updates about coaching teachers on work systems: follow up work; work feedback; conferences; work going home; portfolios.

Tomorrow's PD day will include community building, news and updates, reviewing the Nautilus system, along with NWEA preparation and finishing up DIBELS assessment process this fall.

On enrollment, Krishna shared that overall is lower than what we approved in the budget. But in TK-K, it really helps students with distancing -- for the kids furthest away from being vaccinated. Fully staffed, but also staff absences are also up for a variety of reasons and the sub challenge remains very hard. Admin team has been in classrooms more than normal and so communication on email can be much slower than normal.

Greg asked about which NWEA assessments in which grades, and Krishna shared that we will administer 1-8th grade in math and reading.

Loren asked about the staff absences, and Krishna shared that *any* symptoms mean you can't come to work, and then you're waiting for test results -- that are mostly coming back negative -- but it's still time missing work. Krishna shared about talking with staff to support one another to stay well. Daniel added that even with all of that, the work in the classrooms and the amount of lessons happening this year is more than ever before.

Kara appreciated the transparency about the follow-up from lessons.

No other questions or public comments.
S. Wang arrived at 6:56 PM.

B. Discussion and review of COVID-19 procedures and policies

Greg gave an overview of the COVID procedures and policies that are in our posted Safety Plan.

Loren had a question about having a dashboard on the website that is updated more frequently.

Krishna responded that we could get one up and that capacity to update more than once a week is not possible at this time. OUSD updates theirs once week.

Loren also had a question about testing procedures. Krishna responded that we are directly following guidance from the county to accurately use testing supplies when needed.

No other questions, discussion, or public comments.
C. Greenberg left at 7:08 PM.

III. Finance Committee

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

Stacey shared the committee report. Operating deficit is now in the forecast due to lower enrollment in Primary, which is an investment in keeping those classrooms open and students well spaced.

Cash is forecasted to be above our three-month on-hand goal for the rest of this school year.

The committee and Admin team have lots of next steps to mitigate this year's forecasted deficit and lots of time left in the year to shrink it.

Greg shared that the committee reviewed and recommended approval of the fencing contract on tonight's General Consent Report.

Jan asked about enrollment and folks leaving now or just not showing up at the beginning of school -- Krishna shared that it's mostly latter that folks never showed, particularly in Primary. Jan asked about the latest attendance and ADA, and Krishna responded that there are still start-of-school independent study contracts to resolve and factor in before reporting can accurately finished.

No other discussion or public comment.

IV. Academic Oversight Committee

A. Discussion Item - Committee Report

Jan shared the committee's report, heard more details from Daniel about recent coaching themes. Will likely look at DIBELS data in October and maybe NWEA if it's ready. Discussed how to measure more concrete goals which will be revisited in October. Jan called for additional members.

Greg asked about the State's announcement about its new growth model. Jan shared that it wasn't discussed at the committee, but shared a little of the news about it here at this meeting.

Anna asked if the committee reviews data related to Special Education? Jan responded yes, it fits under the committee's purview. Krishna shared that the school tracks the percentage of all goals met across all Individualized Education Plans.

No other questions, discussion, or public comment.

V. Family Advisory Council

A. Committee Report

Loren shared the FAC's report. Elections are in progress, no new Board candidates identified quite yet.

Groups developed based on August community meeting:

○ Community Building/Fundraising
○ Academic Oversight
○ Campus Work Group
○ Disaster Preparedness/Covid Response Team
○ Attendance Awareness Team
○ Traffic Team

On Fundraising, Read-a-thon starts Monday and the fundraising committee is hosting book swaps at school.

FAC Future Planning
● The Campus Work Group is surveying staff to identify their needs and are planning an on-site work day on October 16th. Highest priority: improving the pergola to provide shade and shelter.
● Workshops with Dr. Rogers-Ard calendared for October, November, February, and April.

No other questions, discussion, 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. Discussion on vaccines for students and informally collecting volunteer confidential information status of students. Only 6th, 7th, and 8th grades could possibly be vaccinated at this time.

Listening sessions with staff will be in September and March, earlier than we have done in the past.

We are always looking for candidates for board service. We share key documents to make sure they understand the scope of the school, invite them to attend our meetings, like one did this evening, and to connect directly with board members and Krishna.

Loren had a question of being allowed to share vaccination rate information for staff. Greg responded that we are allowed to share percentages. Krishna responded she nearly has all of that data ready.

No other questions, comments, or public comments.

B. Board and committee officers and members

Greg shared that FAC board members and Hae-Sin will still be board members until the end of the month.

No questions, discussion, or public comment.
G. Klein made a motion to to have Jan as chair of academic committee.
L. Bentley Tammero seconded the motion.
No questions, discussion, or public comment.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

D. Leung made a motion to Add Greg as a member to academic committee.
J. Faraguna seconded the motion.
No questions, discussion, or public comment.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

G. Klein made a motion to Have Jan be the Vice Chair of the Board.
D. Leung seconded the motion.
No questions, discussion, or public comment.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

VII. Other Business

A.

Oakland and California Updates

Greg shared that is a growth model that is being worked on at the California level. They are also cleaning up Brown Act rules during times of emergencies. In general, starting October 1st, the board will transition back to the regular pre-pandemic rules for meetings. We will keep the Zoom option for the public.

Oakland passed a student vaccination mandate and is in the process of being implemented.

Alameda County sent a letter to the chair of OUSD that their budget has been conditionally approved. Their projection (without one-time funding) shows a $93 million structural deficit in 2023-2024.

No questions, discussion, or public comments.

B. Approve Minutes from August 26, 2021 Regular Meeting

D. Leung made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Board Meeting on 08-26-21.
S. Wang seconded the motion.
No questions, discussion, or public comment.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

C. Action Item - Vote on General Consent Report

D. Leung made a motion to approve the General Consent Report.
J. Faraguna seconded the motion.
No questions, discussion, or public comment.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

Roll Call

C. Greenberg	Absent
O. Couch	Absent

D. Collect New Business items for Future Meetings

No new items collected.

VIII. Closed Session

A. Closed Session Items

Davis announced that we are going into Closed Session for the two items on the agenda. There was no public comment on these items.

Jennifer Afdahl Rice from Pacific Charter School Development joined at 8:05pm and left at 8:22pm.

IX. Return to Open Session

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

The Board returned to open session at 8:31pm. No actions 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 8:31 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
G. Klein

Documents used during the meeting

- Webinar-Brown-Act-and-Conflicts-Training-Module-September-2021-Final.pdf
- Interstate Fence Co., Inc 8-16-2021.pdf

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.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION WILL BE PROVIDED FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY Pursuant to the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, any individual with a disability who requires reasonable accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting of the Governing Board may request assistance by contacting UMCS at 4551 Steele Street, Oakland, CA 94619 or info@urbanmontessori.org.

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.