

APPROVED



## Urban Montessori Charter School

### Minutes

#### Regular Board Meeting

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##### **Date and Time**

Thursday February 24, 2022 at 6:15 PM

##### **Location**

4551 Steele Street, Oakland, CA 94619. Signage on campus will direct you to the correct room, generally the Sun Room.

The public may comment and participate [via Zoom](#) if they prefer. The public may also email comments to [board@urbanmontessori.org](mailto:board@urbanmontessori.org) to be shared by the Board's Secretary during the meeting. Please make that intention clear in your email.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82592855160?pwd=cG02OTRoUVdrdngwOTI2WFBrOTBzQT09>

Meeting ID: 825 9285 5160; Passcode 510 842 1181

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Additional teleconference locations: 1623 Sunhill Ct, Martinez, CA 94553; 3125 School Street, Oakland, CA 94602; 5701 Oak Grove Ave, Oakland, CA 94618; 3921 Enos Ave Oakland, 94619; 3385 Herrier Street Oakland, CA 94602

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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.

Members: Jan Faraguna, Kara Fortuna, Christina Greenberg, Greg Klein, Davis Leung, Sarah Morrill, Maru Salazar

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](#).

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**Directors Present**

C. Greenberg (remote), D. Leung (remote), G. Klein, K. Fortuna (remote), S. Morrill (remote)

**Directors Absent**

J. Faraguna, M. Salazar

**Guests Present**

K. Feeney

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**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 Feb 24, 2022 at 6:20 PM.

**B. Record Attendance**

**C. Review of Action/Discussion Items**

No changes needed.

**D. Board and Community Appreciations**

Greg appreciated Sei Hee for material revision support.

Kara appreciated Sita and Ms. Jess for Kindness Challenge.

Krishna seconded that appreciation. Also appreciated Mr. Bissonnette who steps up and subs across the classrooms to help keep school open, and supporting students.

Sita appreciated the Operations Team for handling COVID Testing protocols on campus.

Greg appreciated the teachers for all their work to prepare for Winter Conferences.

Greg appreciated Sita for her support on Moveathon!

**E. Board Member Comment**

No comments on items not on tonight's agenda.

**F. Presentations from the Floor**

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

**II. Head of School Report**

**A. Head of School Report**

Krishna shared her Head of School Report.

Winter Conferences start next week, COVID testing continues every Friday. Spring Break is April 1-8.

Instructional updates: Winter NWEA assessments are done. Integrated and designated ELD in Montessori classrooms, and there will be upcoming trainings with National Center for Montessori in the Public Sector over six 90 minute sessions on supporting English Learners.

Ms. Krishna shared some photos from the classrooms.

On Enrollment, we have over 350 applications so far. Applications can still be turned in, but not included in the lottery and are placed at the end of any waitlists.

On staffing, finishing staff check ins in the next weeks. Actively hiring for next school year. Have multiple interviews scheduled with Montessori trained teachers starting next week!

Greg asked how teachers are involved in hiring other teachers. Krishna shared that the team builds panels of current teachers to help interview candidates.

No other questions or public comments.

**B. Supplement to the Annual Update to the 2021–22 Local Control and Accountability Plan**

G. Klein made a motion to approve the Supplement to the Annual Update to the 2021-2022 LCAP.

D. Leung seconded the motion.

Krishna and Greg shared an overview of the supplement to the LCAP. There were no questions or public comments.

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

**Roll Call**

C. Greenberg Aye

K. Fortuna Abstain

M. Salazar Absent

D. Leung Aye

S. Morrill Aye

J. Faraguna Absent

G. Klein Aye

**III. Finance Committee**

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

Greg shared the committee's report. End of June forecasted fund balance remains above 25%. Our current year projected deficit has increased a bit, mainly due to additional stipends for staff and increased costs of Special Education. Cash on-hand remains strong through the forecast. Overall, we remain in a strong fiscal position. Committee also reviewed the second interim financials, which is on the agenda later for approval by the board. For state-wide updates, Greg shared about a "hold harmless" bill, which if it became law would improve our current-year forecasted one-time deficit. There is another bill that would base school revenue more on enrolled students and less on the attendance of students. The committee also discussed the Expanded Learning Opportunity Program that would increase the amount of necessary instructional hours per year and increase "intersession" days. Committee discussed selecting of an auditor to audit this year's books next fall. Lastly, Greg and Krishna shared about the "Montessori Training Center". This is a "dream" idea for ongoing training for our staff and making it cost effective in the long run by partnering with other Bay Area Montessori schools. The spirit is to train and retain our staff and to build the Montessori programs in the Bay Area. Staff are very supportive of this idea. Further information to come and there are opportunities to seek philanthropic support to cover some of the start-up costs.

Kara shared her support of the Training Center idea. Donald asked clarified about including other Montessori schools and Krishna responded that the idea is to share costs across multiple Montessori schools, as happens with training centers elsewhere. Sarah shared her support of exploring the idea and asked about revenue and costs. Krishna responded that the model is still being built, but ultimately there is a pathway where it becomes revenue neutral after its startup phase. Davis shared that we already spend money on this work, and it could be that we could end up saving money in the long run.

No other questions or public comments.

#### **IV. Academic Oversight Committee**

##### **A. Discussion Item - Committee Report**

Kara shared the committee's report. Panorama and NWEA data were not yet ready. February attendance seemed better at that time.

Kara shared slides on Winter MAP that were prepared since the committee's last meeting. [Included in the Board Packet.]

Davis wondered about the on-going impacts of COVID.

Greg asked Krishna about what comes next with teachers, who responded that teachers have time coming up to look at their own data in their classrooms, plan and inform instructional moves to support students. Sita commented that the data compares to students testing at home.

Looking to student Panorama survey data in March.

No other questions or public comments.

#### **V. Family Advisory Council**

##### **A. Discussion Item - Committee Report**

Kara shared the FAC report. Parents discussed changes to the state-wide mask mandate, and future classroom support. Had the third session of Dr. Rogers-Ard's workshops. Upcoming is workshop #4, monthly FAC meetings, and morning coffee tomorrow. Fundraising, Cards for a Cause raised over \$1000, and upcoming is a bake sale and plant sale. Greg shared initial planning about the May Moveathon.

No other discussion or public comments.

#### **VI. Executive & Governance Committee**

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

Christina shared the committee's report. Discussed board recruitment, LCAP supplement, and the HoS evaluation process. Greg reminded board members to complete their Form 700.

Krishna shared about needing to start planning over the next few months for a board chair transition.

No other discussion or public comments.

**B. Vote on two-year Board Membership term for Donald Williams**

G. Klein made a motion to approve Donald Williams for a two-year term on the Board starting March 1, 2022.

D. Leung seconded the motion.

No other discussion or public comments.

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

**Roll Call**

C. Greenberg Aye

J. Faraguna Absent

S. Morrill Aye

K. Fortuna Abstain

M. Salazar Absent

G. Klein Aye

D. Leung Aye

**C. Board and committee officers and members**

D. Leung made a motion to make Donald Williams a member of the Academic Committee starting March 1.

S. Morrill seconded the motion.

No other discussion or public comment.

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

**Roll Call**

G. Klein Aye

C. Greenberg Aye

J. Faraguna Absent

M. Salazar Absent

K. Fortuna Abstain

D. Leung Aye

S. Morrill Aye

**VII. Other Business**

**A. Oakland and California Updates**

Greg shared about multiple schools, like us, going through the material revision process with the County related to enrollment and the county approved their updated district maps. California is considering a dyslexia screening bill. Greg next shared about OUSD's many recent special board meetings, school closures, and the passionate public comment, many actions and walk-outs, and local leaders involved in seeking to stop school closures. Sarah asked about UMCS families and staff processing and impacted by

these decisions, and Krishna responded that the school has created ways for folks to ask for help, or ask questions. Krishna also shared that we already do dyslexia screening.

There was no other discussion or public comment.

**B. Approve Minutes from January 27, 2022 Regular Meeting**

D. Leung made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Board Meeting on 01-27-22.

C. Greenberg seconded the motion.

No questions or public comments.

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

**Roll Call**

C. Greenberg Aye

D. Leung Aye

G. Klein Aye

K. Fortuna Abstain

J. Faraguna Absent

M. Salazar Absent

S. Morrill Aye

**C. Approve Minutes from February 10, 2022 Special Meeting**

G. Klein made a motion to approve the minutes from Special Board Meeting on 02-10-22.

D. Leung seconded the motion.

No questions or public comments.

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

**Roll Call**

D. Leung Aye

J. Faraguna Absent

S. Morrill Aye

G. Klein Aye

M. Salazar Absent

K. Fortuna Abstain

C. Greenberg Aye

**D. Action Item - Vote on General Consent Report**

G. Klein made a motion to approve the General Consent Report with documents included in the Board Packet (not the safety plan version linked on the agenda itself).

C. Greenberg seconded the motion.

No discussion or public comments.

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

**Roll Call**

J. Faraguna Absent

C. Greenberg Aye

**Roll Call**

M. Salazar Absent  
K. Fortuna Abstain  
G. Klein Aye  
D. Leung Aye  
S. Morrill Aye

**E. Collect New Business items for Future Meetings**

None at this time.

**VIII. Closed Session**

**A. Closed Session Items**

At 7:36pm, Greg announced the Board going into closed session on two topics

1. Public Employee Performance Evaluation - Head of School
2. Conference with Legal Counsel--Anticipated Litigation  
Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) or (3) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: one potential case.

There were no public comments on these items.

**IX. Return to Open Session**

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

The board returned at 8:06pm. No actions were 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 8:06 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
G. Klein

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**Documents used during the meeting**

- Donald R Williams Jr CV.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](mailto: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](mailto: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](#).