

APPROVED



## Urban Montessori Charter School

### Minutes

#### Regular Board Meeting

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**Date and Time**

Thursday January 26, 2023 at 5:30 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; 3921 Enos Ave Oakland, 94619; 2927 75th Avenue, Oakland, CA 94605

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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: Kara Fortuna, Greg Klein, Sarah Morrill, Ann Rhodes, Donald Williams

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**

A. Rhodes, D. Williams, G. Klein, K. Fortuna, S. Morrill

#### **Directors Absent**

*None*

#### **Guests Present**

D. Bissonnette, K. Feeney

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### **I. Opening Items**

#### **A. Call the Meeting to Order**

G. Klein called a meeting of the board of directors of Urban Montessori Charter School to order on Thursday Jan 26, 2023 at 5:37 PM.

#### **B. Record Attendance**

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

No changes needed.

#### **D. Board and Community Appreciations**

Greg appreciated the return of Ms. Rosi.

Sarah appreciated the staff listening sessions that showed up to share direct feedback.

Krishna appreciated everyone for attending in person.  
Ann appreciated the Middle School information night.  
Daniel appreciated the Teacher Trainees and Ms. Tobi, who have been working three weekdays just this month here learning new lessons and talking pedagogy.  
Ann appreciated Ms. Marquita for going the extra mile.

**E. Board Member Comment**

No Board member comments on items not on the agenda.

**F. Presentations from the Floor**

No public comments on items not on the agenda.

**II. Head of School Report**

**A. Head of School Report**

Krishna shared the Head of School's report.

The report began by revisiting the Community Agreements. Krishna shared the [UMCS Land Acknowledgement](#) out loud. Krishna also shared a link to the [anti-bias/anti-racist statement](#).

Sara asked how the Land Acknowledgement shows up at school and Daniel responded that staff wrote it together, and work by Level to create versions in classroom that connect to student learning.

Krishna shared how Staff shared Community Agreements over summer professional development, including reading shared text, and engaging in small groups, and shared the list of current Community Agreements. This process was modeled earlier in the summer by Embracing Equity, and then Admin used the process at the end of summer with all the staff.

Donald asked if Embracing Equity does audits of school, and Krishna responded yes and was completed in March 2022 with staff and informed this process. Daniel clarified that it did not involve students and families at that time.

Sara shared about her and Greg's participation in the Diverse Charter School Coalition community of practice around equity in school governance. Sara asked the Board to read the same text as staff did.

Krishna shared recent and upcoming school events, including tours, information nights, the Great Kindness Challenge, upcoming assessments, and Family Conferences at the end of February.

Krishna shared updates on enrollment applications, with over two hundred new applications so far. Families can still apply. Greg asked about the order in which the

lottery is run across grades and offers are made and Krishna clarified the process about all the waitlists getting generated at once. Sara asked about updated marketing materials and Krishna responded that new postcards and flyers are to arrive this week. Greg asked about if we are considering pushing back the application deadline more in line with a new OUSD deadline if they change the district application due date and Krishna responded that at this time we are not.

Krishna shared an overview of what an LCAP is and the process for monitoring and developing. Krishna shared a link to the current draft of the LCAP that the Board will vote on later in June 2023.

No public comment on this item.

## **B. Material Revision: Enrollment**

S. Morrill made a motion to approve the Material Revision to our Charter related to enrollment.

D. Williams seconded the motion.

Krishna shared an overview of the process of the Material Revision and explained our enrollment-related updates. Krishna and staff worked to update all financials and charter documents to match enrollment currently at the school.

Greg thanked Krishna for her and the team's work to prepare all these materials. Greg commented that the enrollment applications currently create a clear pathway to get to the numbers in the Material Revision, and it's really hard to predict.

No public comments on this item.

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

### **Roll Call**

A. Rhodes Aye

G. Klein Aye

K. Fortuna Aye

S. Morrill Aye

D. Williams Aye

## **III. Finance Committee**

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

Greg shared the Finance Committee Report on the forecast as of December 31, 2022, with an operating income around \$270k. Updates since the prior forecast were to align with enrollment and there were increases in revenue from the after school program. Cash flow remains healthy through the end of the current fiscal year, and the fund balance is forecasted above 32% of expenses. Enrollment has stabilized and attendance was lower in December due to illness.

Greg shared updates from the Governor's January proposal, including a cost of living adjustment in K12. Greg shared about Prop 28 dollars coming for Arts & Music.

No public comments on this item.

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

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

Kara shared the presentation that Daniel shared at the Academic Oversight Committee. This included updates from Oakland Montessori Training Center, DIBELS assessments, and teacher coaching.

Results on Panorama Survey, responses were up overall, but family responses were not distributed equitably across different groups. Results were generally improved across the board for students, staff, and families since last Winter. All areas had a 90% or higher response favorability for families, and UMCS had increases in all but one area. For staff, the greatest increase was related to Safety. Middle School had increases for students across all areas. In general, younger students responded more favorably than older students. Families responded most favorable, then staff, and then students. Students had low ratings for their understanding of norms, rules, and fairness of discipline. Daniel and Krishna shared about interviewing students who gave an example of knowing the "Classroom Agreements" but not the "Rules". Sara shared that there were improvements in how students were feeling about recess. More data is shared in the report.

No public comments on this item.

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

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

Kara shared that there will be an FAC meeting and morning coffee in February. There's a mini work day this coming weekend to build another shade structure, and then are also supporting Ms. Jess next week with the Great Kindness Challenge. Kara and Ann met with Krishna to start discussing how FAC can support with family engagement around renewal.

No public comments on this item.

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

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

Sara gave reminders to complete [Form 700](#), seek new Board members, and complete the Board Clearance process if not already done.

Sara reviewed what we accomplished at the retreat section of the December meeting and shared back notes. Sarah recommended that different committees, FAC, and staff that work on and the various goals and finalizing metrics.

The board discussed having additional board members that could create additional capacity and committees. The board discussed committee next steps of working to finalize metrics for the goals.

Greg shared upcoming Board Training opportunities.

No public comments on this item.

#### **B. Board and Committee Officers and Members**

No changes needed at this time.

### **VII. Public Hearing**

#### **A. UMCS School Safety Plan**

Sarah opened the Public Hearing on the UMCS School Safety Plan at 6:58pm. Greg shared an overview of the public hearing and vote process and the work to update the Safety Plan into the new updated template. Sarah commented about clarifying the information for Active Shooter response.

No other public comments on this item.

Sarah closed the public hearing at 7:02pm.

### **VIII. Other Business**

#### **A. Oakland and California Updates**

Greg shared from the County about the new Superintendent taking office, the new OUSD Board taking office, and the OUSD board voting to rescind school closures.

No questions or public comments on this item.

#### **B. Approve Minutes from December 1, 2022 Regular Meeting**

D. Williams made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Board Meeting on 12-01-22.

K. Fortuna seconded the motion.

No questions on the minutes. No public comments on this item.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

K. Fortuna Aye  
A. Rhodes Aye  
D. Williams Aye  
G. Klein Aye  
S. Morrill Aye

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

D. Williams made a motion to approve the.  
K. Fortuna seconded the motion.  
No questions or public comments on this item.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

G. Klein Aye  
K. Fortuna Aye  
D. Williams Aye  
S. Morrill Aye  
A. Rhodes Aye

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

None.

**IX. Closed Session**

**A. Closed Session Items**

At 7:10pm, Sarah announced that the Board would go into closed session on Public Employee Performance Evaluation - Head of School. There were no public comments on this item before the Board recessed into closed session.

**X. Return to Open Session**

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

The Board returned to open session at 7:46, there were no actions taken.

**B. Board Retreat - Part 1**

Tabled. Mistakenly agendized.

**C. Board Retreat- Part 2**

Tabled. Mistakenly agendized.

## **XI. 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 7:46 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
G. Klein

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### **Documents used during the meeting**

- January 2023 HOS Board Report (1).pdf
- Material Revision 2023-20230126T191324Z-001.zip
- UMCS\_December\_2022\_Cash\_Flow.pdf
- UMCS\_December\_2022\_Balance\_Sheet.pdf
- UMCS\_December\_2022\_FC\_Presentation.pdf
- UMCS\_December\_2022\_Forecast.pdf
- Academic Oversight 1\_11\_23.pdf
- DRAFT\_UMCS Long Term Goal\_Metrics Brain Storm.docx
- Board Retreat Follow Up 1\_26.pptx
- School Accountability Report Card.pdf

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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](#).