

APPROVED



## Urban Montessori Charter School

### Minutes

#### Regular Board Meeting

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**Date and Time**

Thursday November 30, 2023 at 5:30 PM

**Location**

4551 Steele Street, Oakland, CA 94619. Ring the front bell or call/text 510-290-4005 for entry. Signage on campus will direct you to the correct room, generally the Head of School's Office.

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:

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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 "Documents" after selecting the meeting in BoardOnTrack prior to viewing the agenda. Downloading the "packet" may not include all of the "Documents" that are still otherwise available to the public via the Meeting on BoardOnTrack.

Members: Kara Fortuna, Greg Klein, Sarah Morrill (Chair), Amy Ng, 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, G. Klein, K. Fortuna, S. Morrill

#### **Directors Absent**

A. Ng, D. Williams

#### **Guests Present**

D. Bissonnette, K. Feeney

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### **I. Opening Items**

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

S. Morrill called a meeting of the board of directors of Urban Montessori Charter School to order on Thursday Nov 30, 2023 at 5:39 PM.

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

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

No changes needed.

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

Greg appreciated Ms. Melody and ELOP staff for hosting Friday's Game Night.  
Sarah appreciated teachers for all their work conferencing with families.

Krishna and Greg appreciated Trustee Berrick and President Cole for visiting UMCS, and to staff for hosting them.

Sarah appreciated Daniel's rad shoes.

**E. Board Member Comment**

None.

**F. Presentations from the Floor**

No public comments on items not on the agenda.

**G. Community Agreements Discussion**

The board discussed two community agreements and how they might show up in our public work together, "Mistakes are for learning!" and "Be curious, vulnerable and courageous - without judgment"

No public comments on this item.

**II. Head of School Report**

**A. Head of School Report**

Ms. Feeney began the Head of Schools Report.

Successful fall round of family conferences, with 84% of our primary and elementary families signed up for and attended conferences. Tomorrow is the Expanded Learning Opportunity Program (ELOP) family game night 12/1/23 from 5:00 - 6:00. There will be a Family Night on Wednesday, 12/13/23 - Punishments vs Logical Consequences with Parent Mariana Bissonnette. Winter Break 12/25 - 1/8, students return on Jan 9 as there's a PD day on Jan 8.

President Cole and Trustee Berrick have visited this school year from Alameda County Board of Education. Trustee Cooke-Kallio asked for a re-invite in January and Director Hutchinson from the OUSD Board will also soon visit.

The Oakland Montessori Training Center will be in session the weekend before Winter Break for a full weekend of additional training.

The School Leadership Team has been working on a school wide student outcomes goal, that 60% of K, 3, 6th grade students will be proficient or master 60% of Math transition checklist items.

For teachers, by the end of the year, teachers will articulate and calibrate what student proficiency and mastery looks like for specific lessons that support skills mapped to each

level's transition checklist, and how these lessons/skills connect to NWEA results and CA state standards. Also, teachers at each level will be trained or given resources (age-appropriate books, lessons, and discussion topics) to their classrooms connected to and to deliver SEL specific curriculum, the UMCS ABAR commitment, and Land acknowledgement. Sarah asked and Daniel clarified that the topics are school wide, but discussed developmentally appropriately for each Level. Staff connectedness and feeling of inclusiveness will be at 90% or above by May 2024 as measured by staff surveys. Every month staff will have an opportunity to connect at an outside location or on campus event in a way that honors different needs/levels of comfort so we have opportunities to build relationships with each other in new ways throughout the year.

For enrollment updates, we are up to 353 students enrolled and still accepting students in some grades where space is available, with 2 offers out now! Student Attendance has been hovering just over 90%.

For next year's enrollment we are seeing lots of interest in our enrollment tours! The last tour we had about 30 individuals and 48 people registered for our tour next week!

On staffing updates the new OT began a few weeks ago. Currently hiring for: Support Teacher, Student Support Assistant, and Aftercare Program Leaders.

The board discussed scheduling a Special Meeting on December 11th to vote on the audit and the first interim report.

No public comments on this item.

### **III. Executive & Governance Committee**

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

Sarah shared the report, including how Daniel and Krishna are working to codify their long term plans. The listening session with staff this week had to be canceled this week due to childcare issues and will be rescheduled in coordination with the staff PD calendar. The committee also discussed recommending a new term of board service for Sarah.

No public comment on this item.

#### **B. Discussion and votes on Board Members**

G. Klein made a motion to approve a new two-year term for Sarah Morrill from January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2025.

K. Fortuna seconded the motion.

Krishna and the rest of the Board appreciated Sarah for her continued service.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**C. Board and Committee Officers & Members**

No changes needed. No public comments on this item.

**IV. Family Advisory Council**

**A. Discussion Item - Committee Report**

Ann shared the FAC report. The FAC continues to work to build membership and recruit additional leaders. December 13 is the next upcoming FAC Zoom meeting. There's an upcoming Parents Night Out at Left Coast Yoga. Ann shared that Spring Auction is being planned. The Fundraising Committee approved that 10% of last school year's parent fundraising will be donated to the nonprofit organizations named in the school's Land Acknowledgement policy. Next step there is to gather additional staff input and then message school wide.

No public comment on this item.

**V. Other Business**

**A. Oakland and California Updates**

Greg shared that the OUSD Board adjourned a meeting early earlier in November and that the state Dashboard should be published soon. No other discussion or public comments on this item.

**B. Approve Minutes from October 26, 2023 Regular Meeting**

K. Fortuna made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Board Meeting on 10-26-23.

S. Morrill seconded the motion.

No public comments on this item.

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

**Roll Call**

K. Fortuna Aye  
G. Klein Aye  
A. Ng Absent  
A. Rhodes Aye

**Roll Call**

S. Morrill Aye  
D. Williams Absent

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

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

S. Morrill seconded the motion.

Greg commented that the financial documents on this General Consent Report were updated since the Finance Committee last saw them -- the committee discussed the updates to be made and these are the updated documents.

No public comments on this item.

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

**Roll Call**

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

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

None at this time.

**VI. Closed Session**

**A. Closed Session Items**

At 6:17pm, the board announced going into closed session on Public Employee Performance Evaluation - Head of School. There were no public comments on this item.

**VII. Return to Open Session**

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

At 6:56pm, the board returned to open session. No actions were taken.

**VIII. 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 6:56 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

G. Klein

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

- UMCS Oct FY24 Board Presentation.pdf
  - UMCS October 2023 Balance Sheet 11.29.23.pdf
  - UMCS FY24 1st Interim Financials.pdf
  - UMCS October 2023 Cash Flow 11.29.23.pdf
  - UMCS October 2023 Forecast 11.29.23.pdf
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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 BoardOnTrack portal of our website: <https://www.urbanmontessori.org/boardontrackportal>.