

APPROVED



## Urban Montessori Charter School

### Minutes

#### Regular Board Meeting

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**Date and Time**

Thursday April 25, 2024 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: 3225 Bayo Vista Ave Alameda, CA 94501

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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, Evan Sequoia

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. Ng, E. Sequoia, G. Klein, S. Morrill

#### **Directors Absent**

A. Rhodes, K. Fortuna

#### **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 Apr 25, 2024 at 5:41 PM.

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

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

No changes needed.

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

Krishna appreciated Mr. Buck.

Greg appreciated Ms. Brittany.

Sarah appreciated Greg.

Daniel gave huge appreciations to the FAC.

Sarah appreciated the FAC.

Daniel appreciated the LE and UE teams.

#### **E. Board Member Comment**

No board member comments on items not on the agenda.

#### **F. Presentations from the Floor**

No public comment on items not on the agenda.

#### **G. Community Agreements Discussion**

Sarah framed a brief discussion on agreements Mistakes are for learning! and Be curious, vulnerable and courageous - without judgment. Daniel connected an appreciation for Amy's participation in Academic Oversight Committee with her being curious and open. Sarah shared that she appreciated how the Board has tried to create space for new FAC leadership to step in and participate more regularly. Greg shared his about his curiosity about budget and staffing planning details, but how that's not an excuse to reach out all day long to Admin for details that are not within the Board's purview, and how it can make him feel vulnerable to always knowing the details until the details are ready to be shared.

No public comments on this item.

## **II. Head of School Report**

### **A. Head of School Report**

Daniel shared about recent events including the recent Plant and Bake Sale for Earth Day; practice SBAC testing is starting with SBAC in a few weeks; classroom placements for rising students will be shared with families soon; Moveathon is May 18th. Daniel shared about the current 90-91% attendance rate. Krishna shared latest enrollment expectations for the next year, currently at 372, with more applications coming in, more Intents to Return being confirmed this week, and some spots available in TK and 4th. Krishna shared an update about the process and timeline of sharing reasonable assurances or a postponement of reasonable assurances to all staff. Two Lead teachers and one Support teacher have shared with Admin that they do not intend to return. Those classrooms will get communications directly in the coming weeks. Daniel shared about charter renewal process, including the three renewal tracks, and the additional supports the school has made available for students in testing grades. Krishna commented how families with young students may have a hard time getting into their desired Kindergarten if they haven't enrolled in a TK the year prior. The board discussed messaging to families about this new younger enrollment dynamic to help ensure folks make an informed choice. Greg asked and Krishna shared that the staff who are not returning have not yet shared publicly across all staff, but may have with individuals, and that occurs just prior to

families being notified, and then students are talked to in classrooms. Daniel added that the school is hosting an info session for staff to learn about joining the training center to become lead teachers. Sarah asked about low track status and Krishna responded about overall and subgroups matching or being below the state on any indicator, and that our lack of sufficient number of ELPAC test takers years ago during COVID meant the state couldn't assign us a color. Admin is working with the state on that, and also meeting this coming week with County staff to explain and share more data. ELPAC progress was much higher than the state. Daniel added about the work ongoing to strengthen academic plans, support for teachers, and align resources to specific subgroup outcomes.

No public comments on this item.

#### **B. Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) 2024-2025 and Board Agenda planning**

Krishna shared the most recent draft of the LCAP. Still focused right now on one single CA School Dashboard-aligned goal, with aligned metrics, including subgroups. Draft activities are starting to be populated. The document remains available to all community, board, and staff to comment. School Leadership Team has reviewed and is providing feedback.

Krishna reminded the Board about its prior discussion earlier in the school year about streamlining committee report out at regular Board meetings. The board discussed the expectation of shrinking the Executive & Governance Committee's report out and referring community to the committee's minutes, bringing more of the work of the Academic Committee into the Regular Board meeting aligned to a monitoring calendar (that needs to be developed), and keeping the FAC report the same. Greg offered and the Board agreed to do a brief training at the May meeting about what effective goal monitoring can look like during a board meeting. Daniel shared about the need for the board to learn about the data it might not be as familiar with.

No public comments on this item.

### **III. Family Advisory Council**

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

Evan shared that the FAC has been meeting to plan Moveathon, weekly on Saturday mornings. Evan asked and Admin clarified that bouncy houses are not a good option insurance-wise for a school. Greg shared that the planning team will need to discuss shifting to other fun options. Evan shared that the 99pledges part of the Moveathon for donations will go live soon. Daniel shared that there is an upcoming Karaoke Night.

No public comment on this item.

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

### **A. Committee Report**

Amy shared the committee report and updated the Independent Study Policy, and how 4-8th graders are practicing on IXL. The committee discussed LCAP and investing to address chronic absenteeism. Greg asked and Krishna confirmed that the Independent Study Policy still remains below the limit of days allowed after which live daily instruction is required by law.

No public comment on this item.

Amy shared the committee report and updated the Independent Study Policy, and how 4-8th graders are practicing on IXL. The committee discussed LCAP and investing to address chronic absenteeism. Greg asked and Krishna confirmed that the Independent Study Policy still remains below the limit of days allowed after which live daily instruction is required by law.

No public comment on this item.

## **V. Executive & Governance Committee**

### **A. Committee Report and Board roles**

Greg gave the report, including Evan's recent board trainings, and that the Board Assessment and Head of School Evaluation surveys are both out for board members to complete, and that the committee reviewed the Board Statement of Agreement and the Conflict of Interest Policy, with minor updates on both.

No actions were taken tonight on officers or committee assignments. Greg shared that at its next meeting, the Executive and Governance committee should discuss 2024-2025 officer roles and committee assignments, as well as a Board calendar for next year.

Sarah shared that the May committee meeting would be rescheduled, and when it is, the calendar and BoardOnTrack will be updated.

No public comment on this item.

## **VI. Other Business**

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

Greg shared about a recent Agency *by Design* Oakland event he attending. Greg shared OUSD is working through its own multiyear budget work, as well as adopting metrics related to state law and conversations and decision around school mergers, consolidations, and closures. Daniel asked and Greg wasn't sure exactly what the metrics included, but would be part of the OUSD Board's public documents.

No public comments on this item.

**B. Approve Minutes from March 21, 2024 Regular Meeting**

S. Morrill made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Board Meeting on 03-21-24.

A. Ng seconded the motion.

There was no public comment on this item.

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

**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 shared each item was reviewed prior by a committee except the 990 tax form, which staff reviewed and recommends for approval.

There were no public comments on this item.

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

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

Greg will put a discussion on Effective Goal Monitoring on the May agenda. Greg commented that committees should continue to review and update 1-2 policies per month.

**VII. Closed Session**

**A. Closed Session Items**

At 6:59p, Sarah shared that the board would go into closed session on Public Employee Performance Evaluation - Head of School. There were no public comments.

**VIII. Return to Open Session**

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

At 7:19p, the board returned to open session and Sarah shared that were no actions taken.

**IX. 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 7:19 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

G. Klein

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**Documents used during the meeting**

*None*

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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 BoardOnTrack portal of our website: <https://www.urbanmontessori.org/boardontrackportal>.