

SWAN RIVER MONTESSORI CHARTER SCHOOL
School Board Meeting
Tuesday, October 11, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

The school board will hold this meeting in person at Swan River Montessori Charter School in the 503 Maple St. building with social distancing and optional masking in place. An option to join via Zoom will also be available.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82571970247?pwd=eIVCa0FYTjJRZXJ2QVYvQ09NaHJMZz09>

Meeting ID: 825 7197 0247

Passcode: nnA97C

Meeting Agenda

I. CALL TO ORDER by at ___Franco Fanucci___ at _____5:33_____ PM

II. ROLL CALL

- a. Board Members Present: Nicole Perez, Amy Jensen, Franco Fanucci, Julie Halvorson, Amy Savage, Rick Freese
- b. Board Members Absent: Aaron Stonestreet
- c. Other Attendees: Director Annette Vemuri, Jessica Frederiksen (SRMCS Sp. Ed. Director)

III. REVIEW OF SRMCS MISSION AND VISION STATEMENTS

The mission of Swan River Montessori Charter School is to provide a child-centered environment for self-directed and personalized learning in a small, community-based public school with an emphasis on the natural environment.

Swan River Montessori Charter School's vision is to employ an interdisciplinary approach to education by teaching the whole child (heart, mind, and soul). The Montessori learning environment is designed to foster this whole child approach by meeting the child's inherent needs of self-discovery, creativity, independence, and competence. Swan River Montessori Charter School will create a kind, respectful environment where each child has a sense of belonging. Learning at Swan River Montessori Charter School involves the student, the student's family, the teachers, and the larger community. Swan River supports family and community participation in each child's education by utilizing and appreciating community resources and the natural world as a learning environment.

IV. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA- Motion to approve agenda made by Jensen, Seconded by Halvorson . Board Vote- all aye, motion carried unanimously

V. DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS- none

VI. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

- a. 9.20..22- Motion to approve agenda made by Perez, Seconded by Freese . Board Vote- all aye, motion carried unanimously

VII. COMMUNITY COMMENTS - none

VIII. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMUNICATIONS - none

IX. FINANCIAL REPORT

- a. September Financial Report – Motion to approve September financials made by Halvorson, Seconded by Savage . Board Vote- all aye, motion carried unanimously
- b. Enrollment Numbers as of 10.7.22
 - i. Charter School (K-6) = 166
 - ii. Children’s House (EC) = 13
 - iii. Pupil Unit Actual/Budget = 166/163
- c. Review of Bills- reviewed
- d. Donations- tabled to next meeting

X. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION REPORT AS RELATED TO CONTRACTED GOALS -

XI. ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE REPORT AS RELATED TO CONTRACTED GOALS

SRMCS outperformed the state MCA scores but not the Monticello district. Director Annette says to keep in mind that any students that opt out are counted as zero and bring our average scores down. We also have a much smaller number of students taking the test. Annette reports that our math scores are the most concerning. The school uses student FastBridge scores to flag students that need interventions and track their progress as interventions are implemented. A Math Corp volunteer will be starting soon meeting with small groups. Bill is also our math inventionist specialist and works with groups as well.

The teachers observed that new to the school students and those impacted by pandemic related learning loss are likely bringing down our scores. Fanucci would like to see a breakdown of our MCA scores based on students that were new to the school and those that were returning students. Annette will provide this at the next meeting.

XII. STRATEGIC PLANNING & GOAL SETTING

- a. Community Center Update- The MCC has sent SRMCS an amendment to our contract covering our use and fees for the 2022-2023. The board would like our lawyer to review the amendment and advise SRMCS as to when the original agreement ends. Motion to approve the agreement amendment with the MCC pending a favorable review from our lawyer made by Jensen, Seconded by Perez . Board Vote- all aye, motion carried unanimously

XIII. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Employee Health Insurance Coverage Quotes- SRMCS is locked into a 2 year agreement with current health insurance. School pays 50% of the premium for the employee. Insurance has gone up by \$35 per month (\$17 for school, \$17 for employees). Director Annette told the board about a program called Nice that is \$36 per month per employee on the health insurance. This program provides on site (home or school) care for basic health care such as ear infection, strep, and other typical reasons that warrant a doctor office visit. Annette proposes the school pays for this as an added benefit for the employees. Fanucci proposes the employee pays for some (50/50 with school) or all. Perez proposes Annette meets with the employees on the school insurance and see if they want it. Motion to approve offering the Nice program to the employees enrolled on the school health insurance with the school paying 50% of the cost made by Freese, Seconded by Savage. Board Vote- all aye, motion carried unanimously
- b. EdFin quote- Clarification from Dawn on quote. Everything is the same price as when we were with TAG. Motion to approve contract with EdFin made by Jensen, Seconded by Halvorson. Board Vote- all aye, motion carried unanimously

- c. School Director Succession Policy- Board discussed possible changes to the succession plan and qualifications and opted to leave the policy as reviewed with no changes.
- d. Parent/Student Handbook- tabled to November
- e. Student Dress Policy- Nicole will draft a new version of the policy based on student input and bring it to the board in November.

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Whistleblowers Policy- reviewed
- b. Financial & Cash Management Policy- reviewed
- c. Religious Expressions Policy- tabled to November
- d. Credit Card Policy-reviewed
- e. Approve and Submit Annual Report to MDE, Authorizer. Motion to approve the SRMCS Annual Report made by Jensen, Seconded by Savage. Board Vote- all aye, motion carried unanimously
- f. School vs. PTO fundraisers- tabled to November

XV. REVIEW OF NEXT MEETING AGENDA

- a. Date, Time & Location of next Board Meeting – November 15th, 2022 at 5:30 PM at Swan River Montessori.
- b. Upcoming Agenda Items-

New Business

WBWF Summary
2022 Parent Satisfaction Survey Results
Compensation Committee Update
Annual Board Training
Use & Rental of School Facilities Policy
Caseload for Special Education Policy
Bullying Prohibition Policy
Mid-Year Student Enrollment Policy
Extended Care for Staff Children Policy
Review Tuition & Extended Care Rates for Next School Year

Old Business/Tabled Items

Religious Expressions Policy
Parent/Student Handbook
Student Dress Policy
School vs. PTO fundraisers

XVI. MOTION TO ADJOURN by Savage at 7:49 pm, Seconded by Halvorson. Board Vote- all aye, motion carried unanimously