

SWAN RIVER MONTESSORI CHARTER SCHOOL
School Board Meeting
Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at 2:30 p.m.

The school board will hold this meeting in person at Swan River Montessori Charter School at 503 Maple St. building.

Meeting Agenda

I. CALL TO ORDER in 503 Kitchen at Swan River Montessori Charter School by Jana Evink @ 2:35 pm

II. ROLL CALL

- a. Board Members Present: Julie Halvorson, Nicole Perez, Amy Savage, Rick Freese, Claire Belknap, Jana Evink, Amy Jensen
- b. Board Members Absent: none
- c. Other Attendees: Annette Vemuri, school director; Bridget Peterson, EdFin accountant
- d. Recording Minutes : Amy Jensen

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. MEETING AGENDA- Motion to approve meeting agenda made by Jensen, Seconded by Savage. Board Vote- All “aye”, Motion carries

V. DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS- none

VI. FINANCIAL REPORT

- a. February Financial Report – Bridget updated the budget to show a working forecast forFY25. School is in good financial standing with 67% of the school year completed and the budget at 64%. Board will adopt a new FY25 budget at a later date. FY26 budget is in progress and will be brought to the April meeting. Motion to approve February financials made by Belknap, Seconded by Freese Board Vote- All “aye” Motion carries

- a. FY25 Enrollment Numbers as of 3.14.25
 - i. Charter School (K-6) = 167
 - ii. Children’s House (EC) = 14
 - iii. Pupil Unit Actual/Budget = 167/163

- b. Review of Bills- Bridget answered questions about a few of the bills. No errors or anything unusual.

- c. Donations- – Thrivent - \$627.00. Motion to approve Thrivent donation made by Perez, Seconded by Halvorson. Board Vote- All “aye” Motion carries

VII. CONSENT AGENDA - Motion to approve consent agenda made by Perez, Seconded by Halvorson. Board Vote- all aye, motion carries

- a. February Minutes

VIII. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION REPORT AS RELATED TO CONTRACTED GOAL

IX. ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE REPORT AS RELATED TO CONTRACTED GOALS –

X. DIRECTOR GOALS-

XI. STRATEGIC PLANNING & GOAL SETTING-

XII. OLD BUSINESS-

- a. Harassment and Violence Policy- Grammar changes suggested by board, updates to school board contact info. Board will revisit next year to look at adding cyber-bullying to policy. Motion to approve made by Perez, Seconded by Freese. Board Vote- all aye, motion carries
- b. Proposed FY26 transportation/dismissal time change- Staff spent time working on school start/end times and scheduling for next year. Several plans were looked at and decided to keep start/end times essentially the same and tightened up the daily schedule for daily specials. Proposal of official start time 7:50-2:10. Motion to approve made by Halvorson, Seconded by Jensen. Board Vote- all aye, motion carries
- c. Public and Private Personnel Data- added an authorization form. Motion to approve made by Halvorson, Seconded by Belknap. Board Vote- all aye, motion carries
- d. Review Assumptions and Preliminary Numbers for Upcoming Budget Year- reviewed with Bridget. FY26 budget is in progress and will be brought to the April meeting.
- e. Review Annual Report- approved by Osprey Wilds already, Annette needs to correct errors. Motion to approve with changes made by Belknap, Seconded by Halvorson. Board Vote- all aye, motion carries

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

- a. FY26 School Calendar- Motion to approve school calendar made by Savage, Seconded by Halvorson. Board Vote- all aye, motion carries
- b. Compensation for substitute Teachers & Support Staff Policy- table to May meeting
- c. Board Elections- 2 open teacher positions, 2 applications, application period ends on 3/21/25
- d. School Director evaluation committee- committee meeting set for Monday, April 7 at 2 pm. Special Board meeting session to review evaluation with Annette set for Monday, April 7 at 3:15 pm. This will be a closed session.
- e. Committee for budget- Board members will work with Annette to work on FY26 budget. Will set a date in April for a late April or early May committee meeting.

XIV. REVIEW OF NEXT MEETING AGENDA

- a. Date, Time & Location of next Board Meeting – **April 15, 2025 in the 503 building @ 2:30 pm**
- b. Upcoming Agenda Items

New Business

- Approve Preliminary Budget for Coming Fiscal Year
- Extended Care Enrollment for Children of SRMCS Staff Members
- Conflict of Interest Policy
- Use of Potassium Iodide (KI) in the Event of a Nuclear Accident Policy
- Crisis Management Policy
- List of Professional Development for Staff
- Submit Lease Aid Application to MDE

XV. MOTION TO ADJOURN by Savage at 4:07 PM, Seconded by Freese. Board Vote- all in favor ‘aye’, motion carries