

**SWAN RIVER MONTESSORI CHARTER SCHOOL**  
**School Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday, January 20, 2026 at 2:15 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 @\_\_2:20\_PM**

**II. ROLL CALL**

- a. Board Members Present: Rick Freese, Jana Evink, Claire Belknap, Nicole Perez, Amy Savage, Julie Halvorson, Amy Jensen
- b. Board Members Absent: none
- c. Other Attendees: School Director Annette Vemuri
- 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 \_AS\_, Seconded by \_JH\_. Board Vote- all aye, motion carries

**V. PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES-** Motion to approve 12.16.25 Board Meeting Minutes made by \_NP\_, Seconded by \_\_CB\_\_. Board Vote- all aye, motion carries

**VI. DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS-**

**VII. FINANCIAL REPORT**

At finance meeting the board discussed the following:

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Looking very healthy, even though doesn't have lease aid yet, should go through soon  
Working on revised budget, small adjustments to even things out

**Budget Revision**

- 1. Not a lot of changes in revenues. Compensatory revenue went down due to state funding. Lease aid increased with community center contacts and increased amount to building company. School library aid state funding got cut in more than half. We no longer qualify for Title I in FY 26. We got an increase in Title II for teacher training. These are all state wide funding and revenue changes. Overall, revenue in fund balances going up

about \$30,000. Read-a-thon money wasn't in yet and not reflected on future budget, going to put it in for around \$5,000.

2. Expenses. Admin benefits going up because work comp and hourly unemployment gets coded into there too. Increased building lease expense. Issues with bank pulling the higher incorrect amount for monthly payment. Special education moved some funding down to contracted services for about \$19,000. Expenses in all funds going up about \$135,000. Projecting a profit of about \$40,000

ii. Pay and Salary

1. Even this week we have had difficulty hiring due to pay and compensation being too low.  
2. Initially thinking of increasing base salary by \$3,000 and hourly salary by \$2 to be more competitive. Bridget will run the numbers in a proposed FY27 budget so we can see concretely what that would look like and what changes we would need to make to afford it.

FY26 Enrollment Numbers as of 1.19.26

- i. Charter School (K-6) = 171
- ii. Children's House (EC) = 10
- iii. Pupil Unit Actual/Budget = 171/165

Motion to approve December financials made by RF, Seconded by AS. Board Vote- all aye, motion carried

Motion to approve Revised FY26 budget with correction for ADM made by AJ, Seconded by CB. Board Vote- all aye, motion carried

- a. Donations- Thrivent December \$300, Thrivent January \$498, Read-a-thon \$4851.20, Cargill \$1000, Monticello Lions \$500, Square Art \$31.02

Motion to approve donations totaling \$7149.20 made by CB, Seconded by AS. Board Vote- all aye, motion carried

**VIII. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION REPORT AS RELATED TO CONTRACTED GOALS-**

Oct- new EE goals  
Nov- EE check in  
Feb- EE check in  
May/June - EE goals scores

**IX. ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE REPORT AS RELATED TO CONTRACTED GOALS –**

Oct - MCA scores  
Nov- fall fastbridge  
Jan- NAEP test 4th grade only, mandated by MN Department of Education  
Feb-winter fastbridge  
May/June- spring fastbridge

**X. BOARD TRAINING**

**XI. DIRECTOR GOALS**

- a. Set date for Director Goals and Evaluation Committee- Wednesday, February 25, 2026 @2:15 pm in the 503 Building.

## **XII. STRATEGIC PLANNING & GOAL SETTING**

## **XIII. OLD BUSINESS- see consent agenda below**

- XIV. CONSENT AGENDA** - Motion to approve consent agenda consisting of the following revised policies with grammar and spelling revisions made by \_\_CB\_\_, Seconded by \_\_RF. Board Vote- Board Vote- all aye, motion carried
- a. 410 FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE POLICY
  - b. 406 PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PERSONNEL DATA
  - c. 401 EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
  - d. 418 DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE/DRUG-FREE SCHOOL
  - e. 420 STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES WITH SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS AND DISEASES
  - f. 421 GIFTS TO EMPLOYEES AND CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS
  - g. 426 NEPOTISM POLICY
  - h. 502 SEARCH OF STUDENT LOCKERS, DESKS, PERSONAL POSSESSIONS, AND STUDENT'S PERSON
  - i. 503 STUDENT ATTENDANCE- removed from consent agenda, moved to new business for discussion

## **XV. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Review next batch of 10 policies
  - i. 506 STUDENT DISCIPLINE- tabled to February
  - ii. 507.5 SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS- this policy does not pertain to SRMCS as we do not have a school resource officer. The school will not be adopting this policy.
  - iii. 509 ADMISSION AND ENROLLMENT- tabled to February
  - iv. 512 SCHOOL-SPONSORED STUDENT PUBLICATIONS AND ACTIVITIES. Motion to approve with revisions made by JH, Seconded by CB. Board Vote- all aye, motion carried
  - v. 514 BULLYING PROHIBITION POLICY- tabled to February, waiting for guidance from MSBA
  - vi. 515 PROTECTION AND PRIVACY OF PUPIL RECORDS- tabled to February
  - vii. 516 STUDENT MEDICATION AND TELEHEALTH- Motion to approve with revisions made by JH, Seconded by CB. Board Vote- all aye, motion carried
  - viii. 520 STUDENT SURVEYS- tabled to February
  - ix. 521 STUDENT DISABILITY NONDISCRIMINATION- tabled to February
  - x. 522 TITLE IX SEX NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY, GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE AND PROCESS- tabled to February
  - xi. 503 STUDENT ATTENDANCE (removed to here from consent agenda)- Motion to approve with revisions made by RF, Seconded by CB. Board Vote- all aye, motion carried
- b. Parent Survey Results- board reviewed responses to the parent survey

## **XVI. REVIEW OF NEXT MEETING AGENDA**

- a. Date, Time & Location of next Finance Committee Meeting: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at 2:15 PM
- b. Date, Time & Location of next Board Meeting: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 2:15 PM

Upcoming Agenda Items- FY26

Old Business

506 STUDENT DISCIPLINE

509 ADMISSION AND ENROLLMENT

514 BULLYING PROHIBITION POLICY

515 PROTECTION AND PRIVACY OF PUPIL RECORDS

520 STUDENT SURVEYS

521 STUDENT DISABILITY NONDISCRIMINATION

522 TITLE IX SEX NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY, GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE AND PROCESS

New Business -

Next batch of 10 policies- approve/review

**XVII. MOTION TO ADJOURN at \_\_\_4:19\_\_ PM by \_AJ\_, Seconded by\_NP\_. Board Vote- all aye, motion carried**