

Isthmus Montessori Academy Public
Governance Council Meeting Agenda

Date: 3/10/21

Time: 4:39 pm

Location: virtual - Google Meet Link

Time	Item	Actions
	Call To Order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Roll Call: Andrew Tolstedt, Carrie Marlette, Melissa Droessler, Allison Bloom, Maureen Anderson, Jeff Bowen, Kjerstin Gurda ● Absent: Rose Trondson
	Consent Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes ● Unanimous approval
	Heads of School Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Carrie describes the positive energy going into the preparation of the environment. Careful layout of the shelves and stocking shelves. ● All staff are eagerly anticipating the start date on April 12 and orientation weeks. ● Newsletter students are excited and interested in doing an article about adaptability. ● Procedural Compliance for Self Assessment training. Student Services will be going through all IEPs next year for compliance. Our goal is inclusivity with the Student Services team. We had a Student Services session during our staff inservice last week. ● IB training is underway. ● Interviews for new positions.
	Discussion & Action Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Checking in on action items ● KG Community outreach update ● KG was in email, phone, or Facebook contact with community groups around the school to make people aware of what was going on with enrollment in the school. Starting conversations that will continue during the next enrollment cycle. MD asked about what people already knew about the school. KG said various folks were surprised at where the school was and that it was available, some nerves about the enrollment deadline being so soon. ● MD mentioned that next wednesday is another virtual information session.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">● KG asked about the enrollment update.● Capital Campaign update: MA and AB had a preliminary meeting. First to do list is to meet with Bill Walsh to talk numbers and structure.● AB suggested brainstorming potential people or organizations who want to increase Montessori in Madison, invest in public IB in Madison, thinking of people or organizations nationally who want to support broadening access to public Montessori nationally.● AB is thinking about who in the school community we could ask to join the capital campaign committee.● Marketing plan is in the works.● MA said they also discussed how we will structure the campaign to safeguard the school. Thinking of starting a foundation that will grant money to the school so we don't lose any status with the school district or the state. Also preparing for the future, 10-15 years down the road there may be a great purpose and the foundation could fund another school.● AB and MA attended a webinar about how to structure a capital campaign. Secure big donations first, small next.● A potential AMI training center is a goal of the school which could also be a source of potential donors.● MD said MA and AB should meet with Bill ASAP. MD also discussed goal of purchasing the building because we then would not have to pay property taxes.● MD has met with two builders. Pros and cons for each builder. Findor comes with Capital Campaign fuel for marketing. Harmony comes with experience (we have worked with them before) and usually come in under budget.● MD spoke to the AMI training center goal. MD and CM did a panel recently and everyone who spoke talked about the success of their teachers going hand in hand with having a training center in state. Connecting a training center with a university. In the new building, there is space available for a training center. AMI now has information on their website about people who want to start training centers.● Enrollment numbers update: MD says we found an increase in attendance during the last few information sessions. The trend was that there was a dramatic curve up in that nearly
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		<p>every person in the information sessions at the beginning of our information sessions was not sure what Montessori was. This year, everyone knew something about Montessori. Also noted an increase in attendance from families who had learners already enrolled in a Montessori school.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● MD shared that the last two information sessions were the most white demographically. The increase in size of the final two information sessions was not proportional demographically. ● 4K has 2 open spaces. All other program levels are full. ● Less than 3% of families are leaving the school next year. 2% is due to moving out of city. ● 25% representation of global majority ● No change in Title 1 status. ● Adolescent focus group: AB reports the focus groups from JH and HS students. RT organized the groups and gave a report to AB to share. ● AT will reach out to some contacts about making video content for the school ● MD asked about timeline re: capital campaign. Talk with Bill before 3/23/21. Have a plan before April 12 for when we would reach out to big donors. AB said it would be good to have some communications materials, pitch package prior to reaching out to donors. Updating website. We spoke a little bit about what different content might look like in a pitch package. ● MD will get a list for in-community possible donors. GC members will think of members outside community. ● MD wants to work with someone on the vision with the IB program, possibly Caleb. ● JB asked about potential testimonials from students who have gone through IB programs ● MD referenced a recent study that has testimonials from Montessori students. ● KJ asked about contacts at Rufus King in Milwaukee. ● Set the next meeting for April 20 5:00-6:00
	Adjourn	AT motioned to adjourn MD second

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