

Montessori Del Mar Board

Meeting minutes from Closed and Open Meetings, taken by Rebecca Yaffe
March 10, 2022

Attendees at Open: Board members Justine Lemos, Zoe Sheppard, Havana Davidson, Rebecca Yaffe, Susana Jung, Chloe Reed as well as public members Bess, Holly, Jennie, Ali and Siena

Closed

A motion was made to approve a leave of absence for Elika Freeman. Voting not yet complete.

Will complete voting in next closed meeting.

Open

1. Move to approve February minutes. Rebecca abstained because not present at last meeting. Minutes approved. Discussion of Rebecca's learning to put minutes, prior and future, in Slack for ease of access.

2. Report from closed. A preliminary budget was discussed. We discussed tuition with no motion made. From our previous session a motion was made involving COVID protocols and masking but didn't pass because it wasn't voted upon.

3. Directors report presented by Chloe

Feeling consistent in sending out weekly/midweekly information so just telling current state of school. She reported on current major efforts and involvement in preparation for upcoming trip to NYC as well as the 2 night nature education trip planned for the younger upper El kids.

Staff have professional development time as well next week.

Lower el classroom is right on target with Laviva and kids thriving. Primary classroom context of "pandemic kids" with no history of being in school prior to this acknowledged.

Enrollment is coming up. March 25th for returning and wait-listed families. April 1st for the public. There have been recent campus tours and perhaps open houses are possible again in April and May.

There might not be many, or any, spaces in upper or lower el classrooms.

Working to get immunization records in order. Addressing the several reason they are out of order in the first place. Now asking for records in September or with application. Going forward, being up to date places you in a better enrollment position. For health data privacy reasons only Susana can help with immunization records.

COVID: Policy updates and changes

Considering the following:

March 23rd outdoor masking is optional.

April 6th indoors is optional.

Chloe pulled up current protocols so could discuss that staff had discussed preference for keeping current contact and isolation protocols with masking changes.

Discussion ensued covering

- Staff preferences and the board's desire to support them
- Varying comfort levels with unmasking and concern for more vulnerable community members and their families
- Concerns over school disruption
- Clarifying how close contact and exposure would be understood with optional masking
- How certain inter-classroom interactions may need to be modified
- Re-iterating that we continue to choose policies that do not differentiate between vaccinated and unvaccinated students.
- Logistics of changing habits (popping masks on and off) as well as staff being clear about not being able to have role of monitoring masking once it is optional.
- How to craft something that reflects core MdM values of engaging as a whole community. A survey was brought up with questions of how to convey the ramifications and layers of any decisions with an answer being that it is the task of the board and staff to think about that portion.
- Discussion of other possible changes to policies in line with shifting requirements and recommendations with current conclusion to continue post travel test requirements and have testing but not masking for sports.

A motion was made to remove the outdoor mask mandate on March 23, 2022 and have the board reconvene March 30th to re-assess the indoor mask mandate with any new information available at the point, looking towards April 6th.

Motion seconded and passed unanimously.

Rebecca nominated Jennie Bowers to become a board member. Justine seconded motion. Passed unanimously.

4. Publicity presented by Justine.

Justine reports that publicity is skyrocketing, amazing and fabulous.

5. Fundraising

Month of giving brought in approximately \$3,100 and was nice low impact fundraising.

Community clean up launched and gaining momentum after a slow start. Spring Fling now in person and in action. Reaching out for raffle prizes. Lots of needs still for Spring Flight help.

Other ideas in the works. Orchids for Mother's Day rather than bouquets because it is less labour and a %100 markup and all sold out at last sale. A tamale drive through dinner, ongoing bake sales (\$810 raised at last one) and party at Jade's place with music and performers.

6. No more public comments.

Welcome Jennie!

8. Next meeting set for March 30, 2022.