

Family & Community Engagement Committee

Date: 05.14.2024

Committee Co-chairs: Mariah White and Drew Althoff

Committee Members: Megan Baker-Hunger, Sandy Borkowski, Trisha Bozadjieva (Bluffview Parent), Chris Dubis, Cindy Smith, Tina Smith (Bluffview Parent), Jeff Van Fossen (Bluffview Parent)

Vision Statement

To foster strong and sustained connections with families and community partners to best serve BMS students.

Mission

Bluffview Montessori School empowers self-directed learning through a materials-based Montessori curriculum that encourages independence and natural curiosity. Bluffview cultivates learners' deep respect for self, community, and a peaceful environment, while nourishing the intrinsic desire for academic, civic, and personal fulfillment.

Goal Focuses

- Community outreach and public relations
- Volunteer recruitment and retention
- Family/Parent/Guardian events at BMS
- Increasing attendance at student conference nights
- Staff and student wellness
- Wellness policy review and compliance

ATTENDING: Megan, Sandy, Chris, Cindy, Tina, Jeff, Mariah, Drew

NOTES BY: Drew

| Topic | Notes |
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| WELCOME | <p>Check-in circle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How does the circle find you and what is something that's distracting you in the moment? |
| <p>Committee Member Departure:</p> <p>Trisha Bozadjieva informed us that she will be moving on from the committee and BMS next year. We wish her and family all the best! Thank you for being with us to start this work. It's been great having you!</p> | |
| EVENTS 2024-25 | Actionable items for next year |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Montessori-related education for parents (Start of the year)• Continued tech talks (ongoing)• Staff/Student/Family Wellness• Partnering with Tina and Ark Wellness |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Group agreed to arrange a meeting with Tina to discuss wellness work at BMS next school year<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Set for early June (first week of summer break)b. Logistics planning and report back to committee2. Wellness focus on stress management and positive habits<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Micro-habits - working on one thing and building from there3. Talked at length about offering more parent education nights next year<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Work on a short list of “experts” to bring in and lead eventsb. Focus on things parents can do to help their kids AKA “tech life hacks”c. Group agreed on moving forward with TWO events next year <p>ACTION: arrange meeting with Tina to start planning</p> <p>ACTION: begin thinking of professionals to bring in for talks on tech habits and ways to help improve</p> | |
| OPEN DISCUSSION | Keep in Mind for Next Year: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Mural @ BMS and community collaboration with Sarah J.2. Swap meet idea3. Take home meals idea4. Happy Harvest and the FCEC5. Engagement at BMS around Restorative Practices6. Education on substance use – alcohol example7. Rewriting the code of conduct8. Parent info library - resources and Montessori related materials<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Front entry bulletin board9. School Beautification of common spaces |
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MINUTES:

NOTES FOR FUTURE:

10. Mural @ BMS and community collaboration with Sarah J.
11. Start of the year "Swap Meet" next Fall
12. Happy Harvest and the FCEC
13. Engagement at BMS around Restorative Practices
14. Education on substance use – alcohol example
15. Rewriting the code of conduct
16. Parent info library - resources and Montessori related materials
 - a. Front entry bulletin board
17. School Beautification of common spaces

NEXT MEETING: TBD