



Bluffview Montessori

Bluffview Montessori Board of Directors Meeting
September 19, 2024
6:30 PM

Vision:

Empowered learners unfolding their full potential as whole and unique persons in a global community.

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.

School Board Procedures; Rules of Order Policy 203.1

Call to order: Director Booth called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM on 9/19/24.

I. Roll Call Attendance (Secretary)

Board Members Present or Absent:

Name	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
Meghan Booth	Y	Y	Y									
Anna Aarre	Y	Y	Y									
Shelly Merchlewitz	Y	Y	Y									
Jessican McIlrath	Y	Y	Y									
Marcy Faircloth	Y	Y	Arrived 6:36, joined at agenda item VI									
Kim Bell	Y	-	Y									

Stephanie S. Dunn	-	Y	Y									
Henry Schantzen	Y	Y	Y									

Guests and Community Members Present:

Name	Relationship to Bluffview
Roderick Haenke	Authorizer (VOA) Representative

II. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

None indicated

III. Approval of Agenda as per Policy 203.5

Action Item: Approval of this Board Meeting Agenda:

Motion:

Made by: Shelly Merchlewitz Seconded by: Kim Bell

Discussion notes: none

Vote: passed Yea: unanimous Nay: 0 Abstain: 0

Decision notes: none

IV. Approval of previous months Minutes as per Policy 204

Action Item: Approval of Board Minutes from previous meeting:

Motion:

Made by: SM Seconded by: AA

Discussion notes: none

Vote: passed Yea: unanimous Nay: none Abstain: 0

Decision notes: none

Old Business

V. Policy 531 Review

A. This policy review is tabled for further review by Academic Practices.

New Business

VI. Open Forum/Public Comment as per Policy 206

A. Speaker name and comment summary: n/a

●

VII. Consent Agenda as per Policy 203.6

A. Administration Report(s)

B. Committee Reports

C. Other/General information docs

Action Item: Review and approve the consent agenda.

Motion:

Made by: AA

Seconded by: SD

Discussion notes: Meghan Booth requested clarification on CORE process/ deadlines; have teachers been told they can pay extra for grad credits? Henry Schantzen answer: yes

Meghan Booth- Question regarding staff handbook paragraph stating teachers must stay on campus for lunch- Henry Schantzen: insurance agent/ school attorney recommended removal
Jessica McIlrath: engagement comte Tina Smith- parent member and consultant? Conflict of interest?

Anna Aarre: buses *not* running through fire lane typo

HS: vol PK details explained, how would this impact enrollment, would be lottery/ path to Kdg, these children will count toward lease aid also; would need EC SpED- could train existing staff rather than hire add'l staff, details regarding state vol PK program requirements- age, reimbursement, etc.

Vote: Yea: unanimous Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

Decision notes: none

VIII. Financials Report

A. Financial and Supplemental Reports Review: August 2024

Action Item: Review and approve the monthly financial and supplemental reports.

Motion:

Made by: KB

Seconded by: SD

Discussion notes: EDM 210; errors in various line items- NED grant, staff salaries, tuition- have been reported to CP; K one overenrolled, two spots being "held" for students en route;

Vote: passed Yea: unanimous Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

Decision notes: none

**on financial matters, if vote is not unanimous it must be recorded as a roll call vote.*

IX. Policy Review (NA this meeting)

A. Second Read: Approve the following policies:

● Policy # NA

Action Item: Approve policies.

Motion:

Made by:

Seconded by:

Discussion notes:

Vote: Yea:

Nay:

Abstain:

Decision notes:

B. Introduce policies for first reading. Please read the following policies and make edits prior to the next meeting. The following policies will be approved at the next meeting:

- Policy #: NA

X. Board Training (annual cycle of review)- information only

- A. Legal Topic Review: Authorizer-Submission Calendar, Annual VOA Revenue/Expenditure Report, Site Visit Rubric and Compliance Binder DRAFTS; Henry Schantzen presenting
- B. Montessori Philosophy: Independence, Anna Aarre presenting
- C. Academic Data: MCA level scores doc, MN Report Card, presented by Shelly Merchlewitz
 - 1. <https://education.mn.gov/MDE/index.htm>
 - a) Select "Data Center"
 - b) Select "Minnesota Report Card"

XI. Announcements/Additional Business

- A. Notes: Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) visit
 - Recommendations noted, options for signage/ security fencing at back entrance
- B. Further discussion on covering \$8,000 for report delineating funding disparities between Charter and traditional public schools
 - 1. VOA observer recommended checking with authorizers to determine if this is an acceptable use of funds
 - 2. HS states the report would assist school and community, help board work toward goals of increasing advocacy and legislative work

XII. Adjournment

Motion: Move to adjourn the meeting at _8:15_ PM

Made by: SM

Seconded by: SD

Discussion notes: none

Vote: passed Yea: unanimous Nay: 0

Abstain: 0

Decision notes: none