

Bluffview Montessori Board of Directors Meeting Minutes-August 26, 2021

BMS Board Members Present- Shelly Merchlewitz, Ann-Marie Dunbar , Katie Kinneberg, Meghan Booth, Crystal Hegge, Mariah White, Dan Kirk

Non-board Members Present- Henry Schantzen, Sherry Lohmeyer, See sign in sheet for open forum

Members Absent- none

1- Meeting was called to order at 6:33 PM.

2- Approve Agenda -

Moved - Ann Marie, 2nd - Shelly, approved unanimously

3- Approve Minutes

Moved - Crystal, 2nd - Shelly, approved unanimously

New Business

4- Open Forum

Heather Teichroew -- concerns about mental health and masks impact on student learning and mental health. Over time +1:22

Susan Koo -- Mental health, son has developed depression, many of their other children struggle with wearing masks. "Perceived risks" - children are at minimal risk. Believe Covid is real, masks should be optional. Over time +0:22

Jo Koo -- Board Certified Emergency Medicine Professional: gives summary of data and research showing that masks have minimal impact on spread of Covid. Over time +4:05

Stefanie Boebel (not wearing mask during meeting) -- masking should be optional. Cites risks of dying of Covid is minimal, causes mental health toll. Students (own child) with disabilities need to see whole face for developmental and speech needs. WHO recommendation up to 5yrs should not wear masks. Over time +2:25

Annie Casselman (not wearing mask during meeting) -- Student with significant disability needs to be able to see people's full face to communicate and understand her surroundings. No overage

AJ Crawson (not wearing mask during meeting) -- talks about testing, false/positives negatives, CDC study shows masks does not limit influenza transmission. Mask mandates should not be based on positive cases. No Overage

Carrie Heckman -- concerns about mental health, and mentions low risk to children. No Overage

Davin Heckman -- Used to support masks, over time opinion has changed. Mentions that you can find studies for either side. Describes how his youngest children are losing interest in school and having negative connections to school due to masks. Creating too much responsibility placed on children. Weigh real harms vs. hypothetical possibilities. Over time +1:46

Ann Marie moves for 5 minute recess to review parent emails sent to the board, 2nd Meghan, unanimous approval.

Adjourned at 7:09pm

Called back to order at 7:14pm

5 - SY2021 Covid Plans (see board folder for current proposal)

Henry reviews plan

Ann-Marie asks for information regarding other areas schools - all are recommending masking.

Crystal recommends removing masking for CH citing Main Square Montessori.

Meghan asks for clarification on spacing mitigation measures.

Ann Marie - shares points that parents who were not able to attend but in favor of masking have made.

Dan - concerned about repercussions for going against city mandate, masks will not stop closures

Katie - would prefer distancing if it allows removal of masking

Mariah - sees all avenues

Crystal moves to adopt the learning plan with a provision that masking is provisional in CH, no 2nd, motion fails.

Ann Marie moves to adopt back to school learning planning pending city or state mandates, 2nd Shelly

Dan clarifies that this would be adopted in lieu of a city or state mandate

Crystal - Yay

Shelly - Yay

Mariah - Yay

Meghan - Yay

Katie - Yay

Dan - No

Motion Passes

6- July financials

Ensure that finance committee is trained, will be covered when Branda comes down to board training this fall.

Title 2 funds will be maxed out covering teacher trainings and is already at 50%
Montessori Training reimbursement error has been corrected.

ORC sent a 40% increase for contract

Crystal moves to approve financials, 2nd Dan, unanimous approval

7- Consent Agenda

See documents in board folder

--Katie needs to leave the meeting, Vice Chair Ann Marie takes over

8- Job Descriptions: Floating Sub. Teacher

Crystal moves to approve, 2nd Meghan,

Discussion - adjust education to strike MA/MS

Unanimous approval of amended job description

9 - Letter of employment

Padgett, Johnson, Grove-Grzenia

Dan moves to approve, 2nd Mariah, unanimous approval

10- Policy Audit Process: 206, 208, 410, 413, 414, 415, 514, 522, 524, 616

Everyone should review for vote in September meeting

11- Annual Cycle of Review

See documents in board folder

Crystal moves to adjourn, 2nd Mariah, approves

Adjourned at 8:52