

**Meeting Agenda**  
**East Cooper Montessori Charter School**

**Wednesday, November 14, 2022**

**Executive 5:00 pm Open Meeting 5:30 pm**  
**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://charleston.zoom.us/j/83941659159>

**Meeting ID: 839 4165 9159**

**Passcode: 322817**

**Executive Session:**

**I. Administrative -**

**A. Meeting was called to order at 5:34pm**

**B. Board Members Roll Call:**

Abby Kazley- Year 2 of 2 -Chair Present  
Kristen Rising - Year 2 of 2 -Secretary Present  
DJ Barnhill - Year 2 of 2 Treasurer Present  
Denise Runza - Year 2 of 2 Present  
Chris Hagy- Year 1 of 2 Present  
Anne-Merle Bryant- Year 1 of 2 Present  
Deidre Ostrander- Year 2 of 2 Present

**C. Ex-Officio Members:**

Jody Swanigan, Principal Present  
Billy Koll, Financial Director Present  
Brooke Johnson, Teacher Member Present

**D. Mission Statement:** Provide a rigorous Montessori education guiding the children toward academic excellence, lifelong learning, and stewardship of the greater community.

**E. Freedom of Information Compliance: In compliance**

**G. Public Comment: NA**

**II. Presentation/Discussion Items:**

**A. Financial/Development**

a. **AUDIT**

Emily Temple from Elliot Davis spoke for about 30min regarding the recent audit. Elliot Davis issued an “opinion” unmodified through the GASB (Government Account Standards Board). In the audit world this equates to an A+. General fund increase in balance by \$65K. Fund balance is 47%; state minimum is 8.33%. Additional information on her presentation is available in Google Drive

b. **Dashboard**

Cash \$3.1M, current assets: \$453K, Equity \$2.68M. Remaining financial data available on the Google Drive folder. Plan to change display for ESSR spend. 432 ADM for 22-23 school year.

Discussion around the ADM (Average Daily Membership) versus enrollment. This is calculated based upon the first 185 days of the school year, and how the school is paid by the state. Opportunity to share this

information with the broader school family so that the importance of attendance as it relates to school funding is understood. Share this in a future office notes message, link it to giving?

- c. ESSER updates  
ESSER I spent 100K; II \$596K on technology and HVAC projects; III \$1.345M interventionist, testing coordinator, LPC/Guidance, and gym/classroom updates
- d. Development for the year: Goal: \$75K, \$6,467 YTD. Giving Tuesday upcoming.

**B. Educational Program:**

- a. Principal Presentation  
Auction was planned for March 31, now planned for Apr 28, 2023 Friday evening  
Shared logo for 20th celebration... Save The Date! May 13, 2023 2-5PM, food trucks, alumni, and entertainment
- b. SEL/Cultural Competencies  
Angie to lead Human Rights #25, Food insecurity

**C. Administration/HR**

- a. Open Positions  
Zero open positions. 3FT substitutes to support the existing ~300 staff absences YTD

**D. Community & Public Relations**

- a. PTN  
Leaders: Merissa Elisei & Kimberly Riggs Initial kickoff was great, list sent out to volunteer for different events throughout the school year.
- b. Board/parent committees Room parent leader: Amanda Bowsher
- c. Strategic Planning Committee Assignments NA
- d. Safety updates  
Signage/striping/lights are they adequate for the front carpool loop? Jody submitted a request to DOT to review. Also tracking the flu cases.

**E. Facilities:**

- a. Driveway  
Tree root protection delayed project timing until Jan 1, 2023
- b. Playground  
Complete
- c. Gym  
Meeting with Cumming and architect Geoff Clever on 12/6 to discuss option #2 further, mid-late January final cost
- d. HVAC  
To be installed Dec/Jan

**Action Items:**

Votes

September & October meeting minutes: Approved

Technology purchase: 30 chrome books ~\$16K & 10 staff devices ~\$18K: Approved

Meeting adjourned at: 7pm

## **Your Governing Board**

The governing board recognizes that public support and open lines of communication are the keys to our school's success.

We encourage you to become involved in our school, to be informed about issues that affect students, parents, and our staff, to inform board members about your concerns, and to attend board meetings. The responsibility of the Governing Board of East Cooper Montessori Charter School is to ensure excellence in the governance of a quality educational program by supporting the school's mission and charter, analyzing needs, establishing policies, allocating resources, and monitoring progress.

## **Board Meetings**

Regular meetings of the Governing Board are held the second Thursday of each month, beginning at 5:30 pm at East Cooper Montessori Charter School or on Zoom. Special-called meetings are scheduled as needed.

## **Citizen Participation**

Anyone wishing to speak to the Board must register in person the night of the regular meeting. The opportunity to address the Board at each regular Board Meeting is 20 minutes at the beginning of the meeting.

- Each speaker has three minutes.
- Speakers may not ask questions of board members.
- Board members may not engage speakers in discussion.
- Disruptive behavior is not permitted.
- Personal attacks aimed at students or staff are not permitted.
- Scurrilous, obscene, or recklessly defamatory language aimed at any board member is not permitted.

**The board will follow up on all matters presented by speakers.**