

BOD Agenda
East Cooper Montessori Charter School

Thursday, Sep 7, 2021

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

<https://charleston.zoom.us/j/84217686303>

Meeting ID: 842 1768 6303

Passcode: 852807

Executive Session:

I. Administrative -

A. Meeting was called to order at 5:39pm

B. Board Members Roll Call:

Abby Kazley- Year 1 of 2 -Chair Present
Kristen Rising - Year 1 of 2 -Secretary Present
DJ Barnhill - Year 1 of 2 Treasurer Present
Denise Runza - Year 1 of 2 Present
Abe Gutting- Year 2 of 2 Present
Merissa Elisei- Year 2 of 2 Present
Deidre Ostrander- Year 1 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: This was discussed at the start of the meeting.

G. Public Comment: No official comments; introduction of those in attendance.

II. Presentation/Discussion Items:

A. Financial: Financial Report

A. Dashboard

Not available in time for the meeting. Financials will be discussed with the Treasurer separately.

B. Budget

Ed Tech position proving to be valuable. A school-wide tech plan will be available for January (retirement for devices)

B. Administration/HR

- A. ARPA6 (American Rescue Plan Act) provides 80hr COVID-19 sick leave for teachers
- B. Discussed new hires and open positions
- C. HR Contract

D. HR Workers Compensation: 3 recent claims. Two due to a water fountain issue of excess water on the floor. A solution has been put in place.

C. Community & Public Relations

1. Overnight trips have been postponed until the Spring.
2. MUN → Not attending this year. However, many options are being discussed for local and virtual opportunities to still create an experience for the 7th graders.

D. Development: This has not launched yet. ECMCS asked parents annually for donations. Year over year this amount has increased.

E. Educational Program:

1. Distance Learning Update
 - a. Nightly check-ins (phone/e-mail) with teachers for students under quarantine
2. COVID Protocols and quarantines
 - a. New DHEC guidelines from September 7, 2021, were released.
 - b. Mask compliance at the school is good
 - c. Possibility to begin testing for COVID-19 at ECMCS
3. School Report Card
 - a. Reviewed 2019 compared to 2021 for ELA & Mathematics (SC Ready & SC Pass). ECMCS saw improvement in both categories.

F. Diversity and Enrollment: NA

G. Facilities:

- A. Updates: All new cabinetry replacement completed. HVAC shortage for parts... new units will be required in the future. Courtyard updates still in progress. Driveway planned for next summer.

H. Strategic Plan Process Discussion-

1. Update: NA

I. Misc:

- A. Brooke Johnson joined as the teacher member for the board for this school year effective this month.
- B. Current shortage of School Resource Officer (SRO) throughout the district... trying to maintain traffic control. This is covered in the town budget.

J. Administration/HR

- a. Contract Issue- Discussed in executive

III. Voting

- A. Meeting Minutes for August- Approved
- B. New hires- Approved
- C. Move forward with resolution to contract matter- Approved

Meeting adjourned at: 6:30pm

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.