

NOTES ON SPARTA MONTESSORI SCHOOL GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING, Monday, November 8, 2021

1. **Meeting began at 6 pm. ATTENDANCE:** Rachel F., Daryl B., Nancy S., Dr. Wendy, Becky Solberg, Alicia Gaunky, Amy Stockert. **ABSENT:** Nikki Edmond; Sue James
2. **September Minutes:** Motion to approve by Rachel, seconded by Daryl; approved by vote
3. **NEW MEMBER VOTE:** Discussion over application by Katie Randall; Motion to approve by Rachel, seconded by Daryl; approved. Dr. Wendy let Katie into the meeting and we all introduced ourselves and told what committee we are on.
4. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Sue James sent in her report and Nancy read it.
 1. \$7,874.17 in account at present.
 2. **SENDING CHECKS TO SUE:** Dr. Wendy will check to see if we can send checks to Sue, or does it have to be to a school address.
 3. **TAX EXEMPT:** \$200 and requires either a credit card or debit card. District will not let us use their credit card, so Sue will ask the bank for one.
 4. **HOW TO SEND CHECKS OUT:** Sue would like to buy postage and envelopes for this purpose; most will be given to teachers and parents at school. Motion made by Rachel to buy a few and seconded by Nancy. Most should be dropped off at school.
5. **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:**
 1. **BROCHURE IS DONE** and only needs to have the new Montessori logo replaced on it. Dr. Wendy showed it to us and it looks very professional. She will see about having a Spanish version made, too.
 2. **CONFERENCES:** Went well; The food for the teachers was a huge hit, especially the pizzas.
 3. Dr. Wendy is going before a School Board committee to ask for more hours for **Reading Intervention Specialist** now that we have E2 in our school; if this goes well, she will go before the Full Board.
 4. **PAL** scores were down because of COVID; working on how to support teachers to help students.
 5. **End of trimester** is 11/23 and **report cards** go home 12/3.
 6. **PBIS:** working on "If student exhibits (this behavior) happens, then (consequence is same for everyone).
 7. **VETERAN'S DAY:** On Facebook school site, 7 posts every hour of service members who are special to students and teachers and their name and branch of service and anything else they want to add about that person; also doing Wall of Stars

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **RETREAT DATE:** Evaluations from last retreat showed moving the date to a later date would be preferred; handbook says it has to be in May; don't want to conflict with Hi Point's graduation on May 14th and the last day of school is May 27th. Discussion ensued and a motion was made by Rachel to change the handbook policy from "May" to "May or June" and schedule it for SATURDAY, JUNE 4TH, AT SPRING BANK. Nancy seconded it. Approved unanimously.
2. **PTO:**
 1. Report on the **food offered for teachers during conferences.** Amy Stockert said, "It was the best conference food we've ever had! Simply amazing!" so thank you to all.
 2. **SAFETY PATROL:** Nikki Edmond has been in touch with Frederick Schnitzler, who has the supplies once we get set up. She also spoke with Joann Hagen, who said it is up to us how we set it up.
 3. SAT, 11/13: **Sparta Movie Fundraiser** for "Clifford the Big Red Dog." \$5.25 kids, \$6.25 adults.

4. **Papa Murphy's Nite** in December fund-raiser. A certain percentage of sales goes to the school.

5. **HOLIDAY GREENERY FUNDRAISER:** On 11/20, they will make the greenery. The Sat. after Thanksgiving they will sell them: \$25 undecorated; \$30 decorated; \$35 garland of 20 feet. Cost estimated at \$1280 for permit, balsam and gas; bows; berries; clamps. If we sell 185 items=\$5,000 profit. Discussion ensued about how to coordinate with Hi Point on this fundraiser. Motion was made by Nancy and seconded by Katie not to exceed \$1280, and percentage would be determined by number of participants in creating the items and selling them from both schools. Approved.

6. **FUTURE WORK:** Teacher Appreciation; Fund-raising; Safety Patrol; Outdoor Classroom.

7. **NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING: 11/15 5:30 PM**

3. **PARENT RELATIONS:**

1. **SILENT JOURNEY** was put on hold due to so much stress on teachers right now.

2. **INFORMATION NIGHT DURING CHILD DEVELOPMENT DAYS:** No one knows when it is, but Dr. Wendy will check on this. All will meet in gym for a short slide show on "What is Montessori" by Nancy. Our brochure and an application will also be handed out. High Point students who are Montessori alumni will give adults a tour of the 3 levels, then adults will attend one level's Q & A Session with teachers. The sessions will end with hearing from some Montessori parents. Rachel and Katie and Becky volunteered to help.

4. **STUDENT PERFORMANCE/TEACHER ADVISORY** tabled until January

5. **TEACHER REPORTS:** Amy said they were overworked and it was hard to do more with less time.

6. **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:** Alicia will check if any staff want to attend the UW-L or WMA conferences and, if so, the GB will pay their fees. Rachel made a motion not to exceed \$1400 for this and Nancy seconded it. Unanimously passed.

NEXT MEETING WILL BE MONDAY, JANUARY 10TH, ZOOM, AT 6 PM.