

HIGH DESERT MONTESSORI CHARTER SCHOOL

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, November 28, 2018 @ 5:00 P.M.

Star Peak Room

2025 Silverada Blvd, Reno, NV

MINUTES of MEETING

Members Present	Terry Fowler Doug Whitener Max Haynes Scott Hernandez Bryce Ganes
Excused Absence	Amanda Baldwin Linda Aaquist
Also Present	Principal Rhonda Turnipseed Assistant Principal Tamra Hopkins Bookkeeper Adista Elmer

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairperson Terry Fowler called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. with a quorum of five board members.

2. Public Comment

NONE

3. Chairman's Report

Doug Whitener introduced Reid Riker who is a local CPA being considered for a position on the HDMS Board of Directors. Mr. Riker is very interested in learning more about the Montessori philosophy.

Chairperson Terry Fowler stated that there were two major events for the board since the October meeting. First, the board held its annual retreat, which was very helpful. Gretchen and Dina from the Blueprint Collaborative attended the retreat and helped the board with strategic planning. The board looked at priorities, identified consensus, reconnected, and recommitted to following making High Desert Montessori a great school. Second, members of the board and

HDMS Staff met with local real estate agents to begin the process of listing Orovada building and the adjoining vacant lot.

4. Adopt the Agenda

Max Haynes moved to accept the agenda as presented. Doug Whitener seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The adopted agenda is attached to these minutes as Exhibit "A."

5. Approval of Minutes from October & Board Retreat Minutes from November

Chairperson Terry Fowler stated that the board retreat minutes from November would be approved at January's board meeting.

Scott Hernandez moved to approve the minutes from October as presented. Max Haynes seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The approved minutes for the October 2018 board meeting are attached to these minutes as Exhibit "B."

6. Approval of October Cash Disbursements

Scott Hernandez moved to approve October's cash disbursements as presented. Max Haynes seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The approved cash disbursements are attached to these minutes as Exhibit "C."

7. Approval of October Financials

Max Haynes move to approve October financials as presented. Doug Whitener seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The approved financials are attached to these minutes as Exhibit "D."

8. Updated Financial Polices

Tabled

After some discussion, it was agreed that the board needs additional time to evaluate this issue. Max Haynes will put some scenarios together for HDMS's attorney, Kerry Eaton. Scott Hernandez let the board know that they should their comments to Ms. Eaton directly and separately in order to comply with the Nevada Open Meeting Law.

9. Real Estate Bids

Four groups of real estate agents presented to the Building Committee, which is comprised of members of the board and HDMS staff. The pricing received by the committee from each group varied as much as \$500,000. Max Haynes explained the reason behind the pricing difference.

When a property is sold with a multi-year lease back, there is significant value for investors. During the discussion, members of the Building Committee provided information about each of the groups of Real Estate agents, including which groups appeared most prepared, creative, and motivated, as well as having interest in HDMS and HDMS community. The board also agreed that it is incredibly important for the sale of HDMS's real estate holdings needs to pay off outstanding debt obligations and provide an additional financial cushion to support the capital campaign and the remodeling of the Silverada Campus. Ideally, the board requires a 3-year lease back option when selling the properties.

Doug Whitener moved to select Coldwell Banker Real Estate Company to list our Orovada building and adjacent land and to appoint a committee to maximize our returns on the sale. Scott Hernandez seconded the motion. The motion carries with Max Haynes abstaining.

10. Strategic Blue Print

Tabled

11. Governance Report

Doug Whitener explained the governance committee is tasked with expanding the board. Earlier in the board meeting Mr. Whitener introduced Reid Riker. Max Haynes and Principal Rhonda Turnipseed provided the governance committee potential board candidates. Mr. Whitener explained the board needs candidates with two specific types of qualifications. First, the law requires that there must be a financial expert on the board. Mr. Riker would fulfil such a requirement. Second, the bylaws require a trained Montessori Educator to serve on the board; Linda Aaquist fulfills that requirement. Moving forward, the board will seek board members with a significant network and substantial connection in the community. The governance committee is also beginning the process of evaluating Principal Turnipseed 's performance. Mr. Whitener and Mr. Fowler will meet to organize and initiate this process.

12. Principal and Vice Principal Update

Principal Rhonda Turnipseed presented a printed handout of her report to the board, which is attached to these minutes as exhibit "E". Vice Principal Tamra Hopkins informed the board that there will be testing in January for EL learners.

13. Public Comment

Kim Franchi informed the board that the PTO has procedures and by-laws as the board does. The PTO has processes and the school and the board needs to make sure they are being followed. Ms. Franchi wants to make sure the school, the board and the PTO are working together. Ms. Franchi also encouraged the board and the school to get tapped into all available community resources.

14. Possible Board Meeting for December

There is no need for the board to hold a special meeting in December.

15. Adjournment and Future Agenda Items

Executive Session
Financial Policy
Financials
Strategic Planning Update
Building Update
Board Position

**Max Haynes moved to adjourn the meeting. Scott Hernandez seconded the motion.
Motion carries.**