

**Board of Directors  
November 10, 2014 Meeting Minutes**

**In attendance:** Maureen Treichel Julie Tokheim Stephanie Ehlers Sue  
Carr Jodi Schmitt Krista Massian Cori  
VandKieft  
Jessica Carlson Lara Kenny Alison Downey  
Margo Duffy  
Sara Jorgenson Marcia Hoke Juli Huston Diana  
Roehr  
Stacey Neuman

**Call to Order by Alison at 7:06**

**Approval of October Minutes:** Minutes were approved

**Director's Report (Sue Carr):** Sue had many updates.

Accreditation: Teri Strong was a guest at the meeting. She briefed the board on the City of Madison accreditation process. Her comments were positive and including the following:

Play-based curriculum is nice. Wonderful program. Sue is great. Strong, competent teaching staff. Sue and staff have a good relationship. Children receive an amazing experience here. Accreditation is demanding; requires a lot of self-assessment. No issues at MGNS."

Classroom Update: Sue provided numbers of students budgeted for versus enrollment.

4K: 4 more students than budgeted

Pre-school: 5 fewer students than budgeted

Toddler Time: Session 1 has 41 students and budgeted for 25

Lunch Bunch: Has 35 plus a few drop-ins but had budgeted for 48

Email: MGNS email has experienced difficulties for last few weeks. Sue is considering changing host for email and website and this change would require additional funds. Lara motioned, Diana seconded the motion and the board voted unanimously to "Authorize Sue to spend up to \$55/month on web and email hosting and report back to Board at next meeting with decision on hosting."

Wireless signal problem: There is a weak wireless signal. Sue proposed spending \$300-400 for a router wiring in the office. Alison made a motion to authorize to spend funds as described to set p a router. Cori seconded the motion and the board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Classrooms had a visit from Monona Fire Department last week.

The book fair earned \$372 in Scholastic dollars. Sue thanked the staff for hosting the PJ reading night. Attendance was comparable to last year's event.

Milk audit was completed.

Garden: MGNS was awarded a \$400 grant for the garden. The garden committee needs to decide how to spend the funds. Alison will serve as the lead on the committee. The committee will decide on next steps for this project.

Toddler Time Session 2: Sue and Cori are bringing back Thursday late TT. Monday and Thursday will have two session each day. Session 2 starts on December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Alison made a motion to change the toddler time schedule for next year to a two-session schedule, from a three-session schedule. Jessica seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

In order to be consistent in scheduling, the board decided to switch recess and lunch bunch sessions to be the same at new toddler time schedule.

Staff appreciation: Diana made a motion to use the re-sale funds for staff appreciation in December. Juli seconded the motion and the board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

**President (Alison Downey):**

School Schedule for 2015-2016: Will hold discussion at next meeting (December), once the MMSD calendar is available.

Tuition for 2015-2016: Last year raised tuition by \$15/month. Tuition has been raised every year to some degree. A vote on tuition rates will be voted on at the December meeting.

Diana and Juli proposed that the Seahorse class (Tuesday & Thursday) be changed to a Tuesday & Wednesday schedule. The board had a long discussion about this. Sue will send out a survey to parents to learn more about why people chose the pre-school schedule that they do. This will be an agenda item at the December meeting.

Kindergarten Exploratory Committee: Marica gave an update about the research she did on this topic. She provided a hand out with an explanation of certification and requirements. Sue discussed the results of the survey sent to MGNS parents to gauge interest in an MGNS Kindergarten. Marica will do more research about the 875 hours required are counted.

Twin discount: The board briefly discussed offering a tuition discount for families with twins. This will be added to the December meeting agenda.

Sunday November 23 is the Fired Up Pottery fundraiser (11am-3pm). Board member should let Alison know if they are available to help out.

**Vice President (Maureen Treichel):** Maureen led a discussion about the educational parent nights. The Vice President picks the dates and they do not have to be in January. The Board will vote at the next meeting on which topics to pursue for the parent nights. Possible topics include:

Summit Credit Union: teaching children about money and 529 presentation

Jost MMSD handwriting

Clean eating- possibly led by MGNS parents

Discipline for children

How to handle the discussions with children about upsetting topics/crisis

Board also discussed ideas for how to make the parent nights more interactive and less lecture. Parents are good resources for each other and should have ability to exchange ideas at these events.

**Treasurer (Katy Kaufman):** No Report, Katy was absent. Sue did provide handouts from Katy.

**Fundraising Coordinator (Krista Massian & Sara Jorgensen):** Krista led a discussion about Scrip. A parent approached her about doing Scrip with Willy Street Co-op. MGNS needs to purchase \$1000 to participate with the Co-op and gets 10% back. Krista will investigate the details of this opportunity, at the request of the Board.

**Secretary (Lara Kenny):** No report

**Event Coordinator (Teresa Bentler):** No report, Teresa was absent.

**Volunteer Coordinator (Jessica Carlson):** November 12 is clean up night.

**Purchaser (Julie Tokheim):** No report

**Equipment and Inventory Coordinator (Stacey Neuman):** No report.

**Advertising Coordinator (Margo Duffy):** No report

**New Business:** A board member raised the idea of setting up a swap among parents for daycare on helping parent days. Alison will look into options.

**Adjournment:** at 9:30pm

**Next Meeting:** December 8<sup>th</sup> 7pm