

Monona Grove Nursery School Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, December 14th, 2020
7:00 pm.

** Due to social distancing requirements, this meeting was conducted via Zoom.

In attendance: Sue Carr, Kathryn Mingione, Kate Brown, Juli Huston, Nicole Blattner, Sarah Hackett, Meaghan Cibarich, Chelsea Fait, Aimee Wendt, Jodi Schmitt, Zachary Barber, Erin Drewes, Amanda Rudningen, Sarah Kopczk, Danielle Goldsmith, Dawn Van Horn , Stacey Neuman

1. Call to Order

- a. President Mingione called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

2. Routine Business

- a. Approval of Minutes from November Meeting
 - i. Chelsea Fait made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Nicole Blattner seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- b. Report from the School Director
 - i. Sue shared a link for MMSD 4K information. Over the next year or so we will need to start thinking about full day 4K.
 - ii. Sue sought feedback on interest in a possible parent yoga event. The board expressed enough interest that she will look into it further.
- c. Financial Reports
 - i. Amanda reported on current financial information. We recently received payments from MMSD and grants. Amanda had nothing too significant to report on the balance sheet or expenses report. At the moment we are showing a net income. Amanda noted that the forgiveness of debt is bumping up revenue.

3. Roundtable Check-In

- a. Chelsea Fait (vice-president):
 - i. Checked in about mental health stuff with Sue's sister's organization for possible parent meetings in February.
- b. Kate Brown (secretary)
 - i. Kate shared an update on the google workspace. Potentially moving forward on creating gmail accounts through our mgns.org domain and doing some google advertising. During the discussion there was some staff concern with having email that functions through the domain. In the past they had bad experiences with lots of spam, etc.

4. Items for Discussion

- a. Re-opening -moving to in person instruction
 - i. Sue and Kathryn shared that a survey will be sent to parents regarding opening on the 1st or 2nd of January. That survey is intended to get information about parent interest in in-person classes (should MMSD move to in-person instruction)
 - ii. Discussion:
 - 1. A question was raised regarding the "magic number" of children we would need to be able to hold in-person classes. Between 8-10. That number of students would need to commit to coming in person to re-open. There was discussion about the timing of our survey. After discussion a vote was held on whether to follow MMSD's lead on moving to in-person instruction or continuing distance learning.

- iii. Toddler Time possible late start
 - 1. Discussion was held regarding delaying the toddler time session start until after in-person 3K and 4K classes have been open for some time. This would allow for some time to figure out logistics of drop-off, etc. Board members seemed to express agreement with this proposal. After some discussion a vote was held.
- iv. Open House (Saturday, February 6, 2021)
 - 1. Discussion occurred regarding options for an open house. The following were key points:
 - a. Virtual or in-person or both? Hold enrollment in February with virtual stuff now (ie video, etc). Then we could do an open house in person later in the spring. The idea was shared to do a possible outside “meet your teacher” or an event on the playground. And if/when it is safer to have indoor gatherings, then we could host a traditional open house. For now Sue will remove the 2/6 open house from the calendar but hold the enrollment dates in February (Feb. 8 and Feb.15).
- v. Advertising updates:
 - 1. Yard Signs
 - a. Nicole gave a presentation about a virtual yard sign kick-off event. Could be in conjunction with brown bag pick up. There will be a family fun pack raffle for those who join.
 - 2. Social Media
 - a. Nicole shared she is thinking of doing a weekly introduction of board members on Facebook. Members shared a preference for sharing a picture and small blurb over a video. Nicole also shared that she did get information from HulaFrog.
 - 3. Referrals
 - a. Historically we give people a gift card when they make a referral. Now we are going to put in the added layer of entrance into a pizza party raffle.
- vi. Alumni Communication -
 - 1. Sarah shared she is working with Nicole on sharing advertising stuff with alumni families. Communication will be going out as a New Years greeting.
- vii. Tuition Rates for 2021-2022
 - 1. Discussion occurred regarding tuition rate increases. Amanda made a recommendation of a 3% increase across the board. After discussion a vote occurred.

5. Items Up for Vote

- i. Following MMSD’s school opening decision:
 - 1. Kathryn Mingione made a motion to follow MMSD’s lead on continuing virtual instruction. Chelsea Fait seconded the motion. 11 board members voted yea. 6 members voted no. The motion passed.
- ii. Minimum student requirement for MGNS in-person classes:
 - 1. Chelsea made a motion that 8 students would be the minimum needed to hold in-person classes. Sarah Hackett seconded the motion. The motion passed without objection.

- iii. Toddler time session start:
 - 1. Kathryn Mingione moved to delay the beginning of a toddler time session until March (dependent upon the movement of 3K and 4K to in-person learning). The motion was seconded by Zach Barber. The motion passes without objection.

- iv. Tuition rates for the 2021-2022 school year , (3K, 4K, Lunch Bunch, Toddler Time)
 - 1. Chelsea Fait made a motion to increase tuition 3% for 3K, 4K. Nicole Blattner seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously.
 - 2. Sarah Hackett made a motion to follow the recommendations for toddler time increase (\$5 increase across the board) Chelsea Fait seconded the motion and it carried without objection.
 - 3. Kathryn Mingione moved to make the current rate for single day Lunch Bunch \$7 and the session day rate \$6.75 . Chelsea Fait seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Adjournment

- a. President Mingione adjourned the meeting at 8:51pm.

Next Meeting: Monday, January 11 @ 7:00pm via Zoom

Note this is the 2nd Monday of January