

Monona Grove Nursery School
Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, October 17, 2022
7:00pm

In attendance: Kathryn Mingione (President), Juli Huston (Teacher), Sue Carr (School Director), Clint Cecil (Fundraising Coordinator), Beth Kernan (Vice President), Denay Czerniecki (Fundraising Coordinator), Elise Gokey (Member at Large), Nicole Smialek (Events Coordinator), Maria Keegan (Advertising Coordinator), Sara Brellie (Secretary), Chyna Benzine (Equipment and Inventory Coordinator), Sarah Hackett (Alumni Coordinator)

1. Call to Order

President Kathryn Mingione called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.

2. Routine Business

a. Approval of Minutes from September

Beth made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Chyna, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

b. Report from the School Director

There were no initial questions about the report from the Board. Sue highlighted that the Meet and Greet went well. It ended on time and families who were there at the end helped clean up toys in classrooms before leaving. Nicole reported that ordering food for two shifts of eating went well.

Sue mentioned that the butter braid sale was very successful, and pickup went well. Chyna recently did some childproofing in the kitchen at the school, as well.

A discussion was had about field trips and buses. Sue mentioned that buses are the biggest cost associated with field trips and this year, it continues to be difficult to find buses, particularly for the afternoon class. It was decided that the school will not hire busses for any of the classes. Parents can drop off and pick up at Aldo Leopold for that trip since it is close to the school.

c. Financial Reports

Treasurer Brooke Logan was not in attendance, so Sue went over some highlights from the budget. No questions or concerns were noted by the Board.

3. Roundtable Check-In

a. Upcoming Fundraisers (Culver's, End of Jellyfish Jaunt, Fired Up Pottery, Madison Capitols Game)

i. In addition to the fundraisers listed in the agenda, there will be a fundraiser at Ians on Nov 16 from 5-9. Families who participate will need to mention they are part of the fundraiser when making orders.

ii. The Fired Up Pottery fundraiser is back to a one day event on Sunday, November 6. There was a discussion about possibly recruiting volunteers to greet people and remind

them to mention MGNS at checkout.

- iii. Culvers now has a few more volunteers but still needs one additional volunteer per shift. Board members planning to cover those shifts were asked to sign up so that it is clear who is expected to show up at what times.
- iv. Fundraising Coordinator Clint Cecil brought up the Madison Capitols fundraiser, which is new this year. MGNS gets money from ticket sales and from a 50/50 raffle at the game. In a 50/50 raffle, MGNS can set up a raffle and collect money. A winner will take home half of the money collected and MGNS gets the rest. There is a suggested price for raffle tickets but MGNS gets to decide how much they will cost.
- b. Kathryn brought up zoom storytime, which has one slot left for a Board/parent volunteer. Denay mentioned that her husband wanted to volunteer for the last slot. Kathryn clarified that in addition to volunteers there will be a facilitator dealing with the zoom piece so that presenters do not have to deal with letting people join.
- c. Nicole shared some numbers from the Meet Greet and Eat, 2019 versus 2022. There was a similar level of participation, though participation was slightly higher this year than in 2022. Nicole highlighted that there was less than \$100 profit this year, even though MGNS did not have to buy paper products. There was a discussion of the pizza raffle that happened as part of the Meet Greet and Eat for a couple of years pre-pandemic. There are pros and cons to soliciting more pizza donations for a raffle in the fall, and it would have to work a little differently with families eating in shifts.

4. Items for Discussion

- a. Parent Meetings

Sue mentioned that the possibility of a teacher panel as a parent meeting was discussed at a staff meeting. Only one teacher showed an interest in being part of the panel. It is unclear whether offering money will change the interest level. Other options and contacts were discussed, including a possible mental health professional presenting on dysregulation. In past years, parents have been surveyed regarding their interests. Given how hard it has been to find presenters, it might make sense to move straight to scheduling this year. The possibility of a panel to discuss the transition to kindergarten was also discussed. There is a lot of interest in a panel discussion like that, even if it is separate from the two parent meetings.
- b. All-school + Alumni Brainstorming meeting on ideas increasing diversity at MGNS

Options for soliciting feedback/ideas from current and former families regarding increasing diversity at MGNS were discussed. There was consensus that a google form might be the best way to get the most feedback. Advertising coordinator Maria Keegan suggested starting with a Board discussion and then creating a google form to solicit feedback and ideas from current and alumni parents.
- c. Potential Addition of Space - LEUCC Library
 - i. Change Lease

Sue emphasized that MGNS already has a lease for the next several years, so we do not have to make changes unless we want to and are willing to. The Church is exploring the possibility of installing a door that would block the MGNS side of the building off from the rest of the church during school hours. In addition to the space MGNS already uses, the current LEUCC library would be part of the blocked off space and therefore available for MGNS to use. MGNS made use of the possible additional room for

picture day. Sue noted that it is about 25x17ft. Currently the outlets don't work and there are some chipped tiles that likely contain some asbestos. So a decent amount of work would need to be done to make it a useful space for the school.

ii. Increase of rent

MGNS pays rent by the square foot, so making use of the library would mean an increase in rent. If LEUCC installs a door, there will also be an expectation of increased rent. At the recent meeting between MGNS and LEUCC, the desire to increase revenue for LEUCC was discussed.

A discussion was had about how the extra space might be used - it could become an extra room if we need one for a future full day 4K or a second toddler time. We could also rent it as storage space and give up a room we use downstairs for storage. Work would have to be done to make the room usable before adding it to the lease.

Kathryn explained that she and Brooke will be looking at lease and other budget issues much earlier than usual this year. The plan is to have some numbers to look at alongside the tuition discussion next month.

5. Adjournment

Beth made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Clint. President Kathryn Mingione adjourned the meeting at 8:13pm.

Next Meeting: Monday, November 21, 2022