

**Monona Grove Nursery School
Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, May 15, 2023
7:00pm**

In attendance: Kathryn Mingione (President), Denay Czernecki (Fundraising Coordinator, Nicole Smialek (Events Coordinator), Sara Brelie (Secretary), Chyna Benzine (Equipment and Inventory Coordinator), Maria Keegan (Advertizing Coordinator), Sarah Hackett (Alumni Coordinator), Brooke Logan (Treasurer), Beth Kernan (Vice President), Robin Smekal (Volunteer Coordinator) Dawn Van Horn (Teacher), Erin Drewes (Teacher), Juli Huston (Teacher), Sue Carr (School Director), Jodi, Schmitt (Teacher), Patrice Stadler (Teacher), Kate Brown (Teacher), Sarah Firchow (Teacher)

New Board Members in Attendance: Claire Huntley-Schwartz (incoming equipment and Inventory Coordinator), Jake Kozelek (incoming Member-at-Large), Claire Schurtz (incoming Fundraising Coordinator)

1. Call to Order -

President Kathryn Mingione called the meeting to order at 7:02pm

- a. Introductions - Welcome new board members! All members in attendance introduced themselves to the group.

2. Routine Business

- a. Approval of Minutes from April - Beth moved to approve the minutes as submitted, and Chyna seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the April minutes were approved as submitted.
- b. Report from the School Director - There were no questions about the report. School Director Sue Carr summarized enrollment details and there was a short discussion about the parent survey.
- c. Financial Reports - There were no questions about the financial reports. Treasurer Brooke Logan gave a brief summary of the report.

3. Roundtable Check-In

- a. Kathryn reminded outgoing and current Board Members to update job descriptions if they have not already done so. She also thanked Beth for organizing a successful Teacher Appreciation Week.
- b. Alumni Coordinator Sarah Hackett updated the Board that she has heard from 10-12 alumni since sending an email about the building situation. Emails have been supportive - MGNS has alumni who have ideas and are ready to help and support.
- c. Advertising Coordinator Maria Keegan asked for thoughts and ideas about advertising toddler time. Maria summarized places toddler time is currently promoted. There was a suggestion to put something in the Eastmorland/Lake Edge neighborhood newsletter. Sara offered to send contact info for that newsletter.

- d. Volunteer Coordinator Robin Smekal discussed going to shared play-doh in shared classrooms next year, as was done pre-Covid, as a way to open up some volunteer slots next year.
- e. Fundraising Coordinator Denay Czernecki gave a fundraising update. Ians seemed like a good turnout, but we do not have numbers yet. Brat numbers are in, and plans are already in the works for butter braids next year and an October Culvers night.
- f. Starfish Teacher Dawn Van Horn asked about considering April 20th or 6th instead of April 13th for the Spring Fling. After a brief discussion, it was decided that the Spring Fling will be April 6, 2024.

4. Items for Discussion

- a. Updates from Building Search Committee - Members of the Committee went to Life Center Madison. They reported that it has strong potential as a viable option if staying in the current building does not work. More details are available in the Committee's notes. Teachers hope to visit the building in the coming weeks.
- b. Updates regarding rent/investment financials post-LEUCC lease - Treasurer Brooke Logan went over some numbers in terms of what money might be available and what we can make available for a potential move.
- c. Revision of language in Policy Regarding Staff Bonuses - Kathryn explained that the proposed change is not meant to change the policy so much as clarify the Board has discretion to decide whether and how much of a surplus is allotted to bonuses. The specific proposed change adds the following language to the Policy Regarding Staff Bonuses that was approved in May 2020:

Taking into account the financial factors and situation of the given year, the board may also decide not to award bonuses and keep all surplus funds within school financial accounts.

5. Items Up for Vote

- a. Approval of revised Policy Regarding Staff Bonuses - Kathryn moved to approve the proposed update to the language of the May 2020 policy. Beth seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Adjournment

Beth made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and that motion was seconded by Robin. President Kathryn Mingione adjourned the meeting at 8:13pm