

Monona Grove Nursery School
Regular Board of Directors Meeting
April 20th 2026

In attendance: Nicole Blattner (Vice President), Maria Keegan (President), Haley Clark (Member at Large), Lindsay Baer (Advertising Coordinator), Jordan Skoda (Fundraising Coordinator), Brooke Logan (Treasurer), Sarah O (Purchaser), Jessica Murphy (Member at Large), Sue Carr (School Director), Juli Huston (Teacher), Jodi Schmitt (Teacher), Sarah Thompson (Fundraising Coordinator)

One parent/future board member was also in attendance.

1. Call to Order - President Maria Keegan called the meeting to order at 7:07pm.

2. Routine Business

a. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- i. There was a brief discussion about section about section 3.b.i.3.c. from the draft minutes, clarifying board members' understanding of staff's role in parent meetings going forward - staff will plan topics and speakers for parent meetings,, but not facilitate (or 'run') them.
- ii. Maria made a motion to approve the draft minutes as submitted. Brooke seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

b. Report from School Director

- i. There are still a few toddler time and starfish slots open for next year.
- ii. Brat fest - Sue mentioned that so far, she only knows of one family that has signed up so far other than Sue and Juli. There have to be a minimum of 20 volunteer hours for an organization to earn money. There is concern that there will not be enough volunteers to earn any money. The Board briefly discussed ways to encourage sign-ups. There is no way to know for certain how many have signed up before the event
- iii. Renting out the playground this summer - Sue has drafted a contract/waiver according to what insurance said MGNS would need. Sarah O reported that most places do \$100-300 for 2-hr rental. Maria suggested it might make sense to wait until next spring/summer to start rentals, particularly since the facilities board position is still open.
 1. There was a discussion of whether there would be kitchen access and/or bathroom access with rentals. The consensus was that the bathrooms would need to be available and the kitchen could potentially be available for an additional fee, but that would require thought about what rules to put into the contract for kitchen use.
 2. Jessica suggested having a lock box for the necessary keys and capping rentals at two hours.

3. The Board decided to reassess playground rental options with the new Board, with the potential to launch rentals this fall or next spring after Phase 2 construction is finished.
- iv. Sue highlighted future events with the other groups in the building:
 1. August 22 there will be a celebration of one year of partnership. MGNS will invite 2026-27 families and alumni to that.
 2. October 25 will be a Trunk or Treat event with all three groups in the parking lot
- v. Sue also led a brief discussion of the pancake breakfast in the new space - the plan had been for rooms to be open 9-10 with classrooms closed after, but that did not work because people generally ate first. Sue suggested next year David Landau could perform 15 minutes earlier and classrooms could be open after the performance.
- c. Financial Reports - Brooke let the Board know that as of today, MGNS is 80% through the fiscal year, but there is also one more large MMSD payment outstanding. Brooke does not currently have concerns about the budget. She does plan to revise some of the fundraising numbers for next year's budget based on what was earned this year.
- d. Roundtable Check-In
 - i. Nicole reported that she is still recruiting Board Members for next year. The Board still needs two fundraising coordinators, one events coordinator and a facilities coordinator. Nicole also noted that Teacher Appreciation Week is coming up and details will be coming in an email to parents on the Board
 - ii. Maria reported that there was a decision to maintain the regular Board meeting for May and have a transitional meeting in June. June 22 will be Board appreciation at the Biergarten
 - iii. Haley reported that the Move n Groove event was very successful. There were no baked goods left at the end. The self care event currently has two people signed up and people who plan to come should be encouraged to sign up soon.
 - iv. Sarah T reported that the final dine-out night is MAY 19 at Culvers. The silent auction went well, and most things sold. Maria mentioned there was good feedback on having a booth with silent auction items and info at the pancake breakfast.
 - v. Brooke reported that MGNS's taxes are filed.

3. Items for Discussion

- a. Phase Two Update
 - i. Sue updated the Board - there was a walkthrough recently to clarify plans. Things are moving forward as planned for this summer. There is no final plan yet, or final number, or start date. The plan we started with is close to what the final plan is

expected to be, and there is confidence it can get done in July or August before the school year starts.

- ii. Maria asked whether there are materials that MGNS can source. Sue does not think that will work for anything in Phase 2 - there are no new lights or other items that are not specific to the space.
 - iii. Sarah T noted that many families do not seem to know about the Phase 2 plans, and there was some confusion about why MGNS had items for Phase 2 listed in the auction. The Board discussed putting plans up in the cubby room and, maybe even making a specific, tailored request to donate for the hallway. Sue said updates and info has been in the newsletter, but many families are not reading that.
- b. Present Plan to Strategize Fundraising/Anchor of Events for 26-27
- i. Maria presented a draft timeline of suggested events and plans to be more strategic in the coming year
 1. Maria has been working on a document to outline yearly 'anchor' events for MGNS.
 2. The document shared with the Board shows events that have been around for a long time and events that were planned this year with the help of parents who have not said yet that they want to plan similar future events.
 3. Maria led a discussion of specific events and what is worth keeping
 - a. Board consensus was that the Muskie event seemed successful and therefore good to continue and try to develop
 - b. Roll n stroll - there was a decent amount of summer work for this event but it also made a decent amount of money.
 - i. A suggestion was made that MGNS could do the Roll n Stroll without sponsors to lessen the workload if that is an issue. Many kids and families enjoyed the event.
 - c. Bingo was also fun and successful. People who came enjoyed, and it was good for our partnership with the church because church members attended, too.
- c. 2026-2027 Budget Discussion
- i. Brooke led us through the proposed budget for 26-27
 1. Brooke is working to consolidate some items to simplify the budget, so the draft budget will not match this year's budget line to line.
 2. Pieces highlighted in the current draft in yellow are still in progress.
 3. Grants that MGNS has received the last few years will not be around next year, so they are being removed from the budget.
 4. For income, Brooke usually plans on every class being full minus one.
 5. Board Members should look closely at the line items that apply to their role and let Brooke know if changes seem necessary

6. Brooke will also put new events that MGNS plans to continue as budget items
7. The proposed budget will be up for a vote next month.

4. Adjournment - Maria moved to adjourn the meeting. Brooke seconded the motions, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:27pm.