

Coulee Montessori SET

October 10, 2017 / 5:30pm / Northside LMC

ATTENDEES

Bennett Myers, Brian Merkey, Elaine Phillips, Vie Matty, Alyssa Boardman, Jim Carlson, Laura Huber, Sara Jorgensen, Amanda Luedtke, Nikki Rislow, Nell Saunders-Scott, Danielle Sprain, Ty Striebel

Absent: Erin Hoy, Melissa Murray, Michelle Sulentic

Bennett called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

AGENDA

Recognize Those in Attendance / Public Comment

None

Board Education Minute

Bennett tabled this topic, nothing new to report.

Bennett noted the streamlined agenda – he will be tying coordinating items to committee reports instead of creating separate agenda items.

Student Work

Nikki noted Children's House focus on social/emotional learning. UWL students have been involved with their classes. She also mentioned the Family Visitation Night planned for November 28 in preparation of priority placement. Teachers are requesting financial support to provide a meal for families.

Motion to approve \$250 for Family Visitation Night meal.

***Bennett Myers/Amanda Luedtke
Motion Carried***

Sara provided an overview of E1 learning, including their time researching types of volcanoes. She also shared a volcano model made by 3rd grade students.

The topic of tardiness was revisited. Nikki felt Children's House has improved. Ms. Huber will provide a report at the November meeting.

Secretary's Report

Elaine shared minutes from the September meeting, and noted that Michelle will be taking minutes at the November meeting.

Motion to approve minutes from September 19, 2017.

***Bennett Myers/Brian Merkey
Motion Carried***

Treasurer's Report

Vie provided an overview of the treasurer's report. She noted an operating balance of \$4,313.30. She researched and clarified the discrepancy of outstanding checks from last month. Classroom fund accounts have been set up at Northside and Lincoln. She is still trying to meet with Heartland regarding credit card processing.

Motion to approve treasurer's report for September 2017.

***Bennett Myers/Nell Saunders-Scott
Motion Carried***

Principal's Report

Ms. Huber provided an update on several topics. She noted no news on the possible move. Trane has information from the La Crosse school District, and is reviewing the ideas and creating a plan.

Children's House students have been learning about and reviewing work with the globe and world map in Cultural Studies. The E1 classes are studying Astronomy and are looking forward to visiting the Planetarium at Central next week.

The E1 and E2 teams met with Tami (Instructional Coach) and mapped out lessons for teaching narrative writing and vocabulary.

4th graders are intrigued by Charles Darwin's journey around the world and his observations. They are beginning their own study of the process of evolution. 5th graders are excited about starting their hominid ancestor research.

Laura had her first lunch with Montessori students. She is also leading our first Montessori Ukulele club on Wednesday. The first Muffins with Laura was a huge success! Test results on the school level have not been released yet; she will bring this information to SET when it's available.

No update from Melissa Murray.

Committee Reports

1. Finance: Bennett provided a preliminary budget for review. He asked for feedback, and will continue to refine. A current budget would be helpful in strategic planning and would provide a role for the board in fundraising. Old records will be shredded this month. Vie will pursue online banking for ease and accuracy of financials.

2. Fundraising: Amanda has scheduled the Burrachos fundraiser for Monday October 30. This will be advertised on Facebook, fliers, and email. Box tops and labels are current. She would like to have a discussion before the November meeting regarding the Soup Supper. Amanda explained the scrip card process and requested a trial amount of \$300 to be offered at upcoming conferences.

Motion to approve \$300 for a Scrip Card trial.

***Amanda Luedtke/Danielle Sprain
Motion Carried***

3. Outreach: A new Facebook *page* (instead of *group*) was created for clearer messaging. Families are encouraged to like/follow! Regular posts will be scheduled 5-8 times a month, more as needed. Amanda will be added as an admin to assist with messaging. A School Store table will be staffed during conferences. The question arose regarding families leaving Montessori, and a possible survey to collect information. This will be discussed again in the future.
4. Education: Jim provided a summary of upcoming events. He also asked for feedback regarding a possible Parent Education night in the spring. Suggestions were made. It was felt childcare should be provided, with possible help from UW-L students. Pioneer parents and teachers could also be involved.
5. Relocation Committee: Danielle summarized their meeting with Pioneer parents and teachers. It was a very thoughtful, informative session with many suggestions and ideas gathered. Their next step is to have a meeting with teachers about their needs and concerns, then meet with Randy Nelson and Dr. Troy Harcey.
6. District-Wide Parents: Nothing current to report.

Continuing Business

1. Montessori conference funding: Approved in September
2. By-Laws revisions: Tabled

New Business

1. PT Conference – teacher dinner: Danielle will contact Michelle for an update

A card was received from Rene thanking the Board for the plants and flowers. She's looks forward to returning to school!

***Motion to adjourn.
Time 7:20 pm***

***Bennett Myers/Elaine Phillips
Motion Carried***